



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT  
RAILWAY STREET, SLINGSBY, NORTH  
YORKSHIRE**

By Ben Savine

*WATCHING BRIEF REPORT*

Report Number 2016/71    November 2016



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. We manage projects, provide professional advice and fieldwork to ensure a high quality, cost effective archaeological and heritage service. Our staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York, Sheffield, Nottingham and Glasgow the Trust's services are available throughout Britain and beyond.

**York Archaeological Trust, Cuthbert Morrell House, 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX**

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

Email: [archaeology@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:archaeology@yorkat.co.uk) Website: <http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk>

© 2016 York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited  
Registered Office: 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX  
A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England No. 1430801  
A registered Charity in England & Wales (No. 509060) and Scotland (No. SCO42846)

## CONTENTS

<b>NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>KEY PROJECT INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY &amp; TOPOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5 RESULTS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6 DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>LIST OF SOURCES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>APPENDIX 2 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>PLATES.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>FIGURES.....</b>	<b>18</b>

### Abbreviations

BGL	Below Ground Level
BGS	British Geological Survey
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
YAT	York Archaeological Trust

## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Commencing on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016 York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief on ground works on the site of a small scale housing development. The site was situated to the rear of a former car dealership located on the east side of Railway Street, Slingsby, North Yorkshire, YO62 4AH, NGR SE 6985 7497 (Figure 1).

The watching brief was undertaken on behalf of LHL Group and continued intermittently as and when required through to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The monitored ground works encompassed the excavation of service trenching ranging along the southern boundary of the site and a series of percolation test pits located to the rear of plots 1 – 3 (Figure 2). Former yard surfaces and associated 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century activity was present across the area where the percolation test pits were located. In addition homogeneous plough soils, dating to the medieval and post medieval periods, were found to overly natural sands across the entire site.

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	Railway Street, Slingsby
YAT Project No.	5929
Document Number	2016/71
Type of Project	Watching Brief
Client	LHL Group
Planning Application No.	14/01377/FUL
NGR	NGR SE 6985 7497
OASIS Identifier	yorkarch1-267866

## REPORT INFORMATION

Version	Produced by		Edited by		Approved by	
	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
1	BS	07/11/16	DA	08/11/16	DA	08/11/16

### Copyright Declaration:

York Archaeological Trust give permission for the material presented within this report to be used by the archives/repository with which it is deposited, in perpetuity, although York Archaeological Trust retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports, as specified in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the repository to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

### Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the commissioning body and titled project (or named part thereof) and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of the author being obtained. York Archaeological Trust accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than that for which it was commissioned.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief on behalf of LHL Group intermittently between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 on groundworks associated with a small scale housing development. The principle on site contractor was Crossman Ltd. The site was situated to the rear of a former car dealership on the east site of Railway Street, Slingsby, North Yorkshire, YO62 4AH (NGR SE 6985 7497). The site covered an area of approximately 0.1 hectares, within which the area of monitored ground works totalled c.31.5m<sup>2</sup>.

Where encountered natural sands were found at a depth of approximately 1.0m BGL. Homogeneous plough soils were found overlying natural deposits. This plough soil was found to extend to all of the interventions, varying between 0.55m – 0.75m in thickness. In addition the presence of previous yard surfaces and associated 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century activity was apparent across the central part of the site where the percolation test pits were positioned.

The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by YAT. The WSI was produced in response to conditions stipulated in the planning consent (reference number, 14/01377/FUL) and approved by Peter Rowe, Senior Archaeologist North Yorkshire County Council. All work was carried out in accordance with the WSI and in accordance with the principles of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA) Codes of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

The site archive is currently stored by YAT under project code 5929.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

The WSI states that the aim of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological deposits and features that may be present are identified and recorded appropriately and the results of the investigation disseminated as appropriate to their significance. Specific objects will be to:

- Record the extent of ground works that have taken place without archaeological monitoring.
- Ensure archaeological site attendance as required for the remaining duration of the project.

The WSI goes on to outline that the intention of the work is that it will comprise a continuous/comprehensive 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 or curtailed, depending on the results, and following agreement from the Development Control Archaeologist.

During the course of the watching brief a 3 tonne tracked mechanical excavator, operated by the principle contractor, was used to carry out much of the excavation. A 0.5m wide toothed bucket was employed in the excavation of three 1m<sup>2</sup>, 1m deep test pits each with a 0.4m deep hand dug section at the base. Two further test pits were machine excavated to a length of c.1.6m, a width of 0.3m and a depth of 1m, in this case with a 0.3m wide toothed bucket.

Where access allowed the service trench running along the southern boundary of the site was also machine excavated. The majority of the trench, extending from near the frontage of Railway Street continuing to the east, a distance of approximately 33.5m was machine

excavated. From the east side of the building occupying Plot 1, extending across the southern frontage of Plots 2 and 3, the presence of scaffolding necessitated hand excavation of the remaining 22m of the service trench (Figure 2). Of this hand excavated section the eastern most 10m, and a length extending 1m north along the east side of Plot 3, was completed prior to archaeological monitoring commencing. This part of the trench however was left open for inspection. There was little variation in the depth of the service trench. Across the frontage of the plots excavation was consistently to a depth of between 0.75 and 0.8m. From the point at which the alignment of the trench deviated to the southwest the depth of excavation gradually decreased to approximately 0.6m.

Remediation of contaminated land and the excavation of building foundations had already taken place on site prior to provision being established for archaeological monitoring. It is understood that the building foundations were excavated to a depth of around 0.8m by a mechanical excavator employing a 0.5m wide bucket. Using the extent of the buildings shown on the site layout plan, provided by the client, as a guide it can be established that approximately 70 m<sup>2</sup> of trenching was undertaken for the foundations of the buildings in plots 1, 2 and 3.

Archaeological deposits excavated were recorded using the standard YAT single context recording system. All contexts were recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 and in section at 1:10 or 1:20 as deemed appropriate. Photography was used to capture general views of the site and details such as sections. The photographic register comprises 35mm format black and white prints supplemented with digital photography taken at a resolution of 10 megapixels. All site photography adheres to accepted photographic record guidelines. The recording methodology employed is laid out in detail in Appendix 3.

The site records are currently stored with York Archaeological Trust under the project number 5929.

### **3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY**

The site is situated to the rear of a former car dealership located on the east side of Railway Street, Slingsby, North Yorkshire and covers an area of approximately 0.1 hectares. The site is bounded to the west by buildings ranging back from the eastern frontage of Railway Street. To the north and east lie residential buildings and gardens. A lane, providing access to a residential property, lies across the southern limit of the site, beyond which are further residential buildings.

Generally the site is fairly flat with the ground falling away very slightly to the north and with a slightly steeper gradient from the west.

The British Geological Survey describes the underlying superficial deposits as sand and gravel of uncertain age and origin. The bedrock is listed as, 'Amphill Clay Formation And Kimmeridge Clay Formation (undifferentiated) – Mudstone'.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies within a landscape known to contain prehistoric activity and approximately a quarter mile to the southeast lies a Scheduled Iron Age barrow cemetery (List entry Number 1004067). The B1257 follows the line of a Roman Road linking Malton and Aldborough. Slingsby as a village can be dated to around the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> century. Slingsby appears in the Domesday Book and approximately 550m to the south-west west lies the Scheduled Monument of Slingsby Castle (List entry Number 1004178), (D. Aspden 2016).

## 5 RESULTS

### 5.1 East/West Aligned Service Trench

A service trench was positioned along the southern periphery of the site. It measures 55.5m long, with a slight change in alignment to the south at a point 41m from the east. It was 0.5m wide with a depth of approximately 0.75m where it passed in front of the building plots (Figure 2). The depth decreased steadily to around 0.6m along the western part of the trench.

The sequence of deposition was consistent across the entire length of the trench. The lower 0.55m was occupied by two horizons interpreted as being plough soil. A typical profile would see, extending from the base of the trench, the lower plough soil. This deposit consisted of firm, mid orange/brown, slightly silty fine sand measuring c.0.35m thick. It contained occasional inclusions of charcoal and small limestone fragments. Two small abraded fragments of green glazed pottery were recovered and likely date to the late medieval or post medieval periods. Next an upper plough soil was identified which consisted of firm, mid to dark brown clayey sand ranging between 0.18m and 0.25m thick. It contained occasional fragments of charcoal and small limestone fragments. A single sherd of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from close to the top of this deposit.

A layer of 19<sup>th</sup> /20<sup>th</sup> century made ground overlay the plough soil. Ranging from 0.1m - 0.15m thick this deposit consisted of firm, dark grey/brown clayey silt. It contained frequent cinder and mortar fragments as well as occasional fragments of brick and limestone.

Where the trench passed in front of the new houses the top of the sequence was of loose, light brown/grey gravel and concrete fragments, up to 0.1m thick. Further to the west the trench cut through the existing access road surface. The surface was tarmac overlying a bed of crushed limestone, together totalling a thickness of c.0.1m (Plate 1, Figure 3).

### 5.2 Percolation Test Pits

A total of five test pits designed to measure water percolation rates were excavated at the rear of the new buildings (Figure 2). Of these three, measuring 1m X 1m, were machine excavated to a depth of 1m, a small hand dug slot at the base extended the depth to 1.4m BGL (below ground level).

#### 5.2.1 Test Pit 1

In Test Pit 1 natural light orange/brown clayey sand was encountered at a depth of 1.0m BGL. Observed overlying the natural were two horizons of plough soil. The plough soil consisted of compact, mid orange/brown sand containing inclusions of limestone and charcoal. The lower deposit was 0.47m thick with the upper plough soil being 0.3m thick. Although the boundary between the two horizons was diffuse a distinction was drawn because of the greater frequency of limestone fragments within the upper deposit.

The disturbed remnants of a wall were encountered above the plough soil. It was aligned east/west and was positioned across the southern edge of the Test Pit. The wall consisted of limestone blocks a single course in height arranged along its southern face. Small angular limestone fragment in a loose, brown sand matrix ranging along the northern face of the block work. Together these elements measured up to 0.19m high and 0.58m wide.

At the top of the test pit hardcore made up of loose limestone fragments was seen to support a 50mm thick tarmac surface. This material extended over the top of the wall to a depth of c.50mm. Beyond the northern extent of the wall the thickness of the hardcore increased to 0.22m. This material overlay the top of the plough soil at the same depth as the base of the wall, approximately 0.27m BGL (Plate 2, Figure 3).

### 5.2.2 *Test Pit 2*

The depositional sequence in Test Pit 2 was similar to that seen in Test Pit 1. Natural sand was encountered at a depth of 0.95m BGL. That was over laid by a horizon of plough soil 0.65m thick. Within the plough soil a 0.13m thick pocket of angular limestone fragments was present at between 0.64m and 0.77m BGL. Other than that no distinction between an upper and lower plough soil, as seen elsewhere, could be determined.

Overlying the plough soil three layers likely dating to the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> centuries were present. These consisted of a 70mm to 100mm thick deposit of firm, mid grey, gritty sandy silt containing frequent small limestone fragments and occasional cinder fragments. Above that was a 40mm thick layer of horizontally laid crushed tile, above which a firm, dark grey/black silt and cinder layer measuring between 30mm and 90mm was present. The top of this material was at 0.17m BGL.

Limestone hardcore supporting a 30mm thick tarmac surface was present at the top of the sequence (Plate 3).

### 5.2.3 *Test Pit 3*

Pit 3 was broadly similar to the other test pits, there was however significantly more modern intrusion into the top 0.7m of the trench.

Natural clayey sand was encountered at c.0.95m BGL. Above that the interface between the natural and the overlying plough soil was represented by a firm, mixed mid grey/brown and mid orange clayey sand sub soil. This was very defuse at both top and bottom largely the result of extensive macroturbation caused by root action.

The plough soil was approximately 0.4m thick, extending from 0.38m to 0.8m BGL. It consisted of firm mid grey/brown, slightly clayey sand and contained charcoal and limestone inclusions.

What is most likely 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century activity was represented by a thin lens of lime mortar, overlain by a 0.2m thickness of loose, mid brown sandy silt containing limestone and brick fragments. Next in the sequence was a 20mm to 60mm thick layer of concrete which appeared to be a former surface. A service trench containing a ceramic pipe was encountered at the north-west end of the test pit. It extended to 0.7m BGL, cutting through each of the later deposits and the top of the plough soil.



As seen elsewhere, limestone hardcore bedding material and a tarmac surface accounted for approximately the top 0.1m of the sequence (Plate 4).

#### 5.2.4 Test Pits 4 and 5

Test Pits 4 and 5 were exclusively machine excavated. They measured approximately 1.6m long, 0.3m wide and 1m deep. In both cases the depositional sequence established in Test Pits 1 – 3, consisting of the current tarmac surface overlying 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made ground to a depth of 0.3/0.4m BGL, followed by plough soil, was observed to continue.

## 6 DISCUSSION

No archaeological features, structures or deposits were encountered during the course of observed ground works. Fairly homogeneous plough soil, probably in use as such throughout much of the medieval and post medieval periods, was present across the site. This material ranged from 0.6m - 0.8m thick, extending to around 1.0m BGL. The later build-up, services and wall fragment appear to be relatively modern and are likely to be associated with the standing buildings and yard space which ranged back from the Railway Street frontage. In all likelihood these deposits relate to the construction, use and later modification of those structures.

The distribution of the test pits and service trench have provided an extensive window into the underlying sequence, including a complete transect across the southern part of the site. Very little discrepancy was evident in that sequence, and as such it is very unlikely that archaeological monitoring of the building foundations would have revealed any substantial variation to that observed to the north and south of the buildings.

### LIST OF SOURCES

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>  
accessed 07/11/2016

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1004067>  
accessed on 07/11/2016

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1004178>  
accessed on 07/11/2016

### REFERENCES

Aspden, D., 2016. 'Written Scheme of investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief, Slingsby, North Yorkshire' YAT WSI 2016

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation

English Heritage, 2008, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*. PPN 3: *Archaeological Excavation*

Historic England. 2011. Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (second edition).

Historic England. 2015. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide.

Institute for Archaeologists. 2008. Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.

Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM). 2007. Health and Safety in Field Archaeology

Neal, V., and D. Watkinson (eds). 1998. First Aid for Finds: practical guide for archaeologists. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works, Archaeology Section; 3rd Revised Edition.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

YAT wish to acknowledge the assistance of the principle contractors, Crossman Ltd and the client, LHL Group.

**APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE**

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	-
Levels register	-
Photographic register	1
Sample register	-
Drawing register	1
Original drawings	5
B/W photographs (films/contact sheets)	1/9
Colour slides (films)	-
Digital photographs	18
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

**Table 1 Index to archive**

**APPENDIX 2 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION****WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF****Site Location:** Railway Street, Slingsby**NGR:** SE 6985 7497**Proposal:** Residential development**Planning ref:** 14/01377/FUL**Prepared for:** LHL Group**Document Number:** 2016/63

Version	Produced by		Edited by		Approved by	
	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
Final	DA	08/09/16	IDM	08/09/16	DA	08/09/16

**1 SUMMARY**

1.1 Planning permission has been granted for the erection of 1 no. 4 bedroom and 2no. 3 bedroom dwellings and 2 no. detached carports for plots 2 and 3, together with change of use and alteration of existing outbuilding to form garage and workshop for plot 1, following demolition of existing lean-to building.

1.2 The following archaeological condition has been place on the planning permission:

*15 No demolition shall take place/commence until a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:*

*1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*

*2. Community involvement and/or outreach proposals*

*3. The programme for post investigation assessment*

*4. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*

*5. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*

*6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*

*7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*

*The demolition/development hereby approved shall subsequently be carried out in complete accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation.*

*The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis and publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.*

*Reason: This condition is imposed in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF as the site is of archaeological interest, and Policy SP12 of the Ryedale Plan – Local Plan Strategy.*

3.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to the condition and has been approved by Peter Rowe Senior Archaeologist for North Yorkshire County Council. The work will be carried out in accordance with this WSI, and according to the principles of the Chartered 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 NGR SE 6985 7497, off Railway Street, Slingsby, North Yorkshire (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the west by a former car sales garage formed from converted cottages, and to the south east and north by residential properties.

## **3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS**

3.1 The site lies within the Slingsby Conservation Area as identified in the Ryedale Local Plan. A large number of listed buildings run along both sides of Railway Street. The site itself contains no Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST**

4.1 The site lies within a landscape known to contain prehistoric activity and approximately a quarter mile to the southeast lies a Scheduled Iron Age barrow cemetery. The B1257 follows the line of a Roman Road linking Malton and Aldborough. Slingsby as a village can be dated to around the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> century. Slingsby appears in the Domesday Book and a short distance to the west lies the Scheduled Monument of Slingsby Castle.

## **5 AIMS**

5.1 The aim of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological deposits and features that may be present are identified and recorded appropriately and disseminate the results of the investigation as appropriate to their significance. Specific objects will be to:

- Record the extent of ground works that have taken place without archaeological monitoring.
- Ensure archaeological site attendance as required for the remaining duration of the

project.

## 6 GROUNDWORKS TO BE MONITORED

6.1 Remediation of contaminated land and excavation for foundations and possibly drainage has already taken place at the site without provision for archaeological monitoring. These works will be recorded and included in the final report.

6.2 This work will comprise a **continuous/comprehensive** 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** or **curtailed**, depending on the results, and following agreement from the Development Control Archaeologist.

## 7 DELAYS TO THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

7.1 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. To assist in this a toothless ditching bucket must be used during the stripping process. If natural deposits are encountered with no archaeological feature cuts into them then this can be switched to a toothed bucket, but this must only be undertaken with direct instruction from the attending archaeologists.

7.2 It is 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.

7.3 Plant or excavators shall not be operated in the immediate vicinity of archaeological remains until the remains have been recorded and the archaeologist on site has given explicit permission for operations to recommence at that location.

## 8 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

8.1 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 the location of the monitoring will be determined using a hand-held GPS, which will provide accuracy to c.2m.

8.2 Unique context numbers will only be assigned if artefacts are retrieved, or stratigraphic relationships between archaeological deposits are discernable. 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.

8.3 Archaeological deposits 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. Cross-sections of features will be drawn to 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 possible. 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

8.4 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. The photographic register will comprise 35mm format black and white prints. Digital photography and/or 35mm colour slides may be used in addition, but will not form the primary site archive. All site photography will adhere to accepted photographic record guidelines.

8.5 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.

8.6 All finds will be collected and handled following the guidance set out in the IfA 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.

8.7 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.

8.8 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 English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2002). 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).

8.9 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-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets) (English Heritage 2001).

8.10 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with ArcHeritage 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.

8.11 In the event of human remains being discovered during the evaluation these will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, in the first instance. The removal of human remains will only take place in compliance with environmental health regulations and following discussions with, and with the approval of, the Ministry of Justice. If human remains are identified, the Ministry of Justice and curator will be informed immediately. An osteoarchaeologist will be available to give advice on site.

- If **disarticulated** remains are encountered, these will be identified and quantified on site. If trenches are being immediately backfilled, the remains will be left in the ground. If the excavations will remain open for any length of time, disarticulated remains will be removed and boxed, for immediate reburial by the Church.
- If **articulated** remains are encountered, these will be excavated in accordance with recognised guidelines (see 6.12) and retained for assessment.
- Any grave goods or coffin furniture will be retained for further assessment.

8.12 Where a licence is issued, all human skeletal remains must be properly removed in accordance with the terms of that licence. Where a licence is not issued, the treatment of human remains will be in accordance with the requirements of Civil Law, IfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and English Heritage guidance (2005).

## 9 REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION

9.1 Upon completion of the groundworks, 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 if available, grid reference and dates when the fieldwork took place.
- c) An account of the methodology and results of the operation, describing structural data, associated finds and environmental data.
- d) A selection of photographs and drawings, including an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the areas monitored.
- e) Specialist artefact and environmental reports as necessary.
- f) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a 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 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body and the HER/SMR (also in PDF format).

9.3 The requirements for archive preparation and deposition will be addressed and undertaken in a manner agreed with the recipient museum. In this instance the Yorkshire Museum is recommended and an agreed allowance should be made for the curation and storage of this material.

9.4 Provision for the publication of results in a local journal will be made if appropriate.

9.5 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the County Council 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.

## **10 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH**

10.1 Given the nature of the project the extent of archaeological remains that may be found at this time is not known. In the first instance if archaeological remains of any interest are recorded a public presentation will be offered to local historic societies or heritage groups.

10.2 Should significant archaeological remains be revealed opportunities for public engagement will be broadened and could include further presentations, a site open day, interpretation board and journal articles.

## **11 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

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

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

## **12 TIMETABLE & STAFFING**

12.1 The timetable for monitoring of archaeological works will be agreed upon by consultation with the client and principal contractors.

12.2 Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:

- Human Remains – Malin Holst
- Palaeoenvironmental remains – Dr Jennifer Miller
- Head of Curatorial Services - Christine McDonnell
- Finds Researcher - Nicky Rogers
- Pottery Researcher - Anne Jenner
- Ceramic Building Materials – Jane McComish
- Finds Officers – Nienke van Doorn
- Archaeometallurgy & Industrial Residues – Dr Rod Mackenzie

- Conservation – Ian Panter

### **13 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK**

13.1 The Senior Archaeologist for North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) was informed of the ongoing groundworks on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and that these had not been subject to archaeological monitoring. Following the initial site visit by an archaeologist the Senior Archaeologist for NYCC will be informed of the extent of groundworks that have occurred and any archaeological deposits that have been noted during the initial visit. The Senior Archaeologist for NYCC will be afforded the opportunity to visit the site during and prior to completion of the on-site works so that the general stratigraphy of the site can be assessed. York Archaeological Trust will notify the Senior Archaeologist for North Yorkshire County Council of any discoveries of archaeological significance so that site visits can be made, as necessary. Any changes to this agreed WSI will only be made in consultation with the curator.

### **14 COPYRIGHT**

14.1 York Archaeological Trust retain the copyright on this document. It has been prepared expressly for the named client, and may not be passed to third parties for use or for the purpose of gathering quotations.

### **15 KEY REFERENCES**

Brown, D. H. 2007. Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation. IfA/AAA

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Code of Conduct

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Regulations for professional conduct

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014 Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials

Department for Communities and Local Government 2010 Planning Policy Statement 5: planning for the Historic Environment.

Historic England. 2011. Environmental Archaeology (2nd edition)

Historic England. 2015. Geoarchaeology: Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record

Historic England. 2015. Where on Earth Are We? The role of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) in archaeological field survey

- Historic England. 2014. Animal Bones and Archaeology - Guidelines for Best Practice
- Milsted, I. 2016. Archaeological Evaluation at The Laurels, Church Fenton. York Archaeological Trust Report No. 2016/46
- Museum and Galleries Commission. 1992. Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections.
- Neal, V., and D. Watkinson (eds). 1998. *First Aid for Finds: practical guide for archaeologists*. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works, Archaeology Section; 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Edition.
- Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM). 2007. *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology*
- Swinbank, L. 2016. Geophysical Survey at The Laurels, Church Fenton, North Yorkshire

See also the Historic England website for a full list of Historic England Guidance documents.

<http://historicengland.org.uk/advice/>

## PLATES



**Plate 1- Section 6, service trench along southern boundary of the site, facing south, 0.1m scale units.**



**Plate 2- Test Pit 1, Section 2, facing east, 0.5m scale units.**



**Plate 3- Test Pit 2, Section3, facing east, 0.5m scale units.**



**Plate 4- Test Pit 3, Section 4, facing north-east, 0.5m scale units.**

FIGURES



Figure 1 - Site Location