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MAP Archaeological Practice

High Eastfield – Middle Deepdale (School Area)
Eastfield
Scarborough
North Yorkshire

11/01914/OL
Archaeological Watching Brief

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Non-technical Summary

MAP Archaeological Practice carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief in June 2020 on land at High Eastfield- Middle Deepdale, Eastfield, Scarborough, North Yorkshire in advance of the erection of a primary school. The Watching Brief was carried out in order to partly discharge condition 6 attached to the planning permission 11/01914/OL

No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered during the Watching Brief.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report describes the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief which was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice in June 2020 prior to the erection a primary school at High Eastfield- Middle Deepdale, Eastfield, Scarborough (HA2) (NGR TA 04851 84681).

1.2 Outline planning permission for the development was granted by Scarborough Borough Council in September 2012. The decision notice (11/01914/OL) issued was subjected to various conditions, including condition 6 relating to archaeology:

"No development shall take place within: b – The land on the eastern side of Deep Dale, shown as Ha2 on the 1999 Local Plan proposals and the land to be landscaped or laid out as roads or open space around it until the

applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works."

- 1.3 The work was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (June 2019) on 'Archaeology and Planning' and according to the Written Scheme of Investigation that was prepared Peter Cardwell (archaeological and heritage consultant) and approved by the Principle Archaeologist at North Yorkshire County Council
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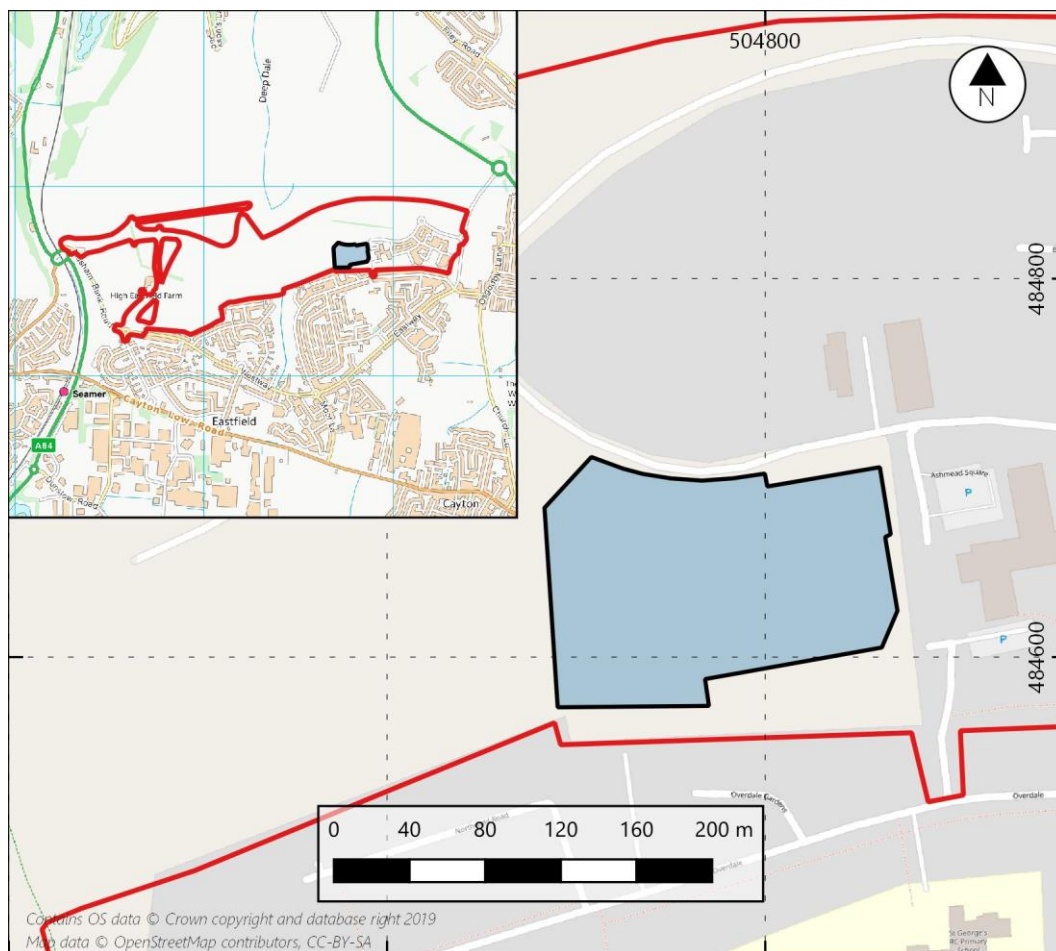


Fig 1. Site Location.

2. Topography and Geology

- 2.1 Ha2 is situated in the civil parish of Eastfield, 7km south of Scarborough, North Yorkshire (TA 04851 84681centre – Fig. 1). This location is immediately east of the post-glacial steep-sided valley known as Deep Dale and north of existing housing to the south and east, with ongoing development associated with HA2, extending to the north.
- 2.2 The site lays on deposits of Devensian till consisting primarily of bolder clay (BGS 2022).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The earliest recorded archaeological features in the environs of the site are represented by the pits with associated grooved ware pottery and lithics recorded during the Trial Trenching on the west side of Deep Dale. Further Neolithic flints were recovered during the original site walkover, as well as to the east, near Manor Farm, Osgodby. Bronze Age round barrows are located on the higher ground to the north of the site boundary.
- 3.2 There is extensive Late Iron Age / Romano-British settlement within the vicinity of the site. A Late Iron Age / Romano-British settlement with pits, ditches and ring gullies was excavated in advance of the construction of the Eastway link road, immediately east of the development (NAA 2007a). A Romano-British farmstead, consisting of a ditched enclosure containing a roundhouse with internal pits and postholes was identified at Cow Leys Farm, Osgodby, 1.2km southeast of the site (NAA 2007b). Features of similar date were recorded during the Trial Trenching of Areas B and D,

where enclosure boundaries were identified, with internal activity consisting of gullies, pits, 'ovens' and metal working areas, some within the excavated area (MAP 2010). An extensive open area excavation was carried out in 2015 on the eastern part of Ha2 (MAP 2016), which identified a basic level rural settlement, the enclosures of which had been added to the southern side of a pre-existing landscape boundary / trackway in the early 2nd century AD. The interiors of the enclosures contained round houses, pits and postholes indicating settlement and craft activity. There was an increase in material culture from the mid-late 4th century, which coincided with the construction of two sunken-floored buildings.

- 3.3 Excavation to the west of the site (MAP. 2020) identified Neolithic pits, three assumed Middle Iron Age square barrows, Late Iron Age / Romano-British enclosures with associated structures and light industrial / craft pits, medieval and post-medieval agricultural features. Additionally, a significant number of residual Mesolithic struck flints was recovered.

4. Methods

- 4.1 All groundworks associated with the reduced level excavation, prior to the erection of the school and associated outdoor areas, was carried out under direct archaeological supervision and all removed spoil was visually scanned for archaeological material.
- 4.2 All overburden and topsoil was removed to reveal natural clay deposits.

4.3 All work was carried out in line with the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (CIFA 2019).

4.4 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the Watching Brief on digital format camera.

5. Results

5.1 The Watching Brief took place over five days in June 2020.

5.2 All overburden and topsoil was removed to reveal natural clay deposits across the site. The vast majority of the site, particularly the eastern area, close to Jazz Court Retirement Living consisted of made ground which contained material such as modern pieces of piping, likely laid as a result of development in the immediate vicinity. A mid grey brown clayey silt topsoil was largely restricted to the western portion of the site.

5.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified on the site. It is possible that previous ground disturbance may have compromised and destroyed any archaeological features which may have been present on the site.

6. Conclusions

6.1 Although archaeological finds, features and deposits are well documented in the vicinity of the site, none were present within the development area.

7. Bibliography

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MAP 2016 Middle Deepdale (Ha2), Scarborough, North Yorkshire. Assessment Report of First Stage of Open Area Archaeological Excavation.

NAA 2007a Scarborough Integrated Transport Scheme: Fieldwork Area B and Former Play Area. NAA 07/69.

8. Project Team Details

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Plate 1. Development Area,



Plate 2. Development Area.



Plate 3. Typical Section Through Topsoil.



Plate 4. Natural Clay Deposits.