

maparch
MAP Archaeological Practice

Land at Cherry Farm Close
York Road
Malton
North Yorkshire

SE 7710 7050
15/01236/FUL
MAP 10.04.2016

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Summary

An Archaeological watching brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd, on the 18th of April 2016. This was at the request of Mr Sean Harrison (DH Group), to fulfil a condition associated with the erection of two buildings to form 8no. Units to form B2 use together with formation with associated parking spaces (Planning reference: 15/01236/FUL)

The exposed area revealed no archaeologically sensitive materials or features, save for two north-south aligned land drains.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief, to fulfil a condition associated with the erection of two buildings to form 8 no. Units to form B2 use together with formation with associated parking spaces (Planning reference: 15/01236/FUL).

1.2 The Archaeological observation, investigation and recording was designed to provide the appropriate level of recording for archaeological remains, deposits or finds that might be affected by the development, in accordance

with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012).

- 1.3 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, Licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site was located to the south of the York road, west of an extant road leading to Cherry farm, and bounded to the west by an extant hedged boundary. The site was covered by stone hardcore, forming a suitable temporary surface for industrial use. The stripped area laid to the west of the site adjacent to the extant field boundary

3. Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The aim of this archaeological watching brief is to gather sufficient information to establish the presence/absence, date, sequence, nature depth, quality of survival and importance of any archaeological deposits to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of the archaeology of the site to be made, and the impact which development will have upon them.

a) To locate, sample, record and interpret any archaeological features and deposits exposed during topsoil stripping and any excavation associated with the development.

b) To locate, recover, identify and conserve (as appropriate) any archaeological artefacts exposed.

c) Provision should be made for the full Post-excavation, recovery and analysis of any finds or eco-facts recovered from the excavations. Where appropriate it is intended to undertake a Post-excavation assessment after completion of fieldwork to assess the potential for further analysis and publication, and to undertake such analysis, reporting and publication as appropriate.

d) To prepare and submit a suitable archive to the appropriate museum.

e) An informed decision can then be taken regarding the future treatment of the remains and to establish any mitigation strategy in advance of any groundworks should significant archaeological finds deposits be encountered.

4. Methodology

4.1 The site was stripped using a back acting 360 machine; using initially a toothed bucket in order to remove the bulk of the stone hardcore. When the majority of the stone was removed, the machine utilised a toothless bucket to remove the remaining stone and plastic sheeting used to protect the lower horizon to expose the level of archaeological interest (Figure 2, *Plates 1*). The area in question measured 43m by 14.7m and was aligned north-south against the eastern edge of the extant site boundary.

4.2 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

4.3 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the investigation on a high resolution digital camera

5. Results

5.1 The earliest encountered material was that of the underlying geology, some 0.3m BGL (Below Ground Level) which consisted of pale yellow orange silty clay.

5.2 Cutting into this material were two north-south aligned linear forms which were up to 0.12m wide; consistent with cuts associated with modern land drains.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The results of this watching brief have shown that no activity has occurred within the excavated area until the post-medieval period with the excavation for land drainage. Therefore, this investigation has revealed no archaeologically significant forms, and should not impede the project going forward.



Figure 1. Site Location

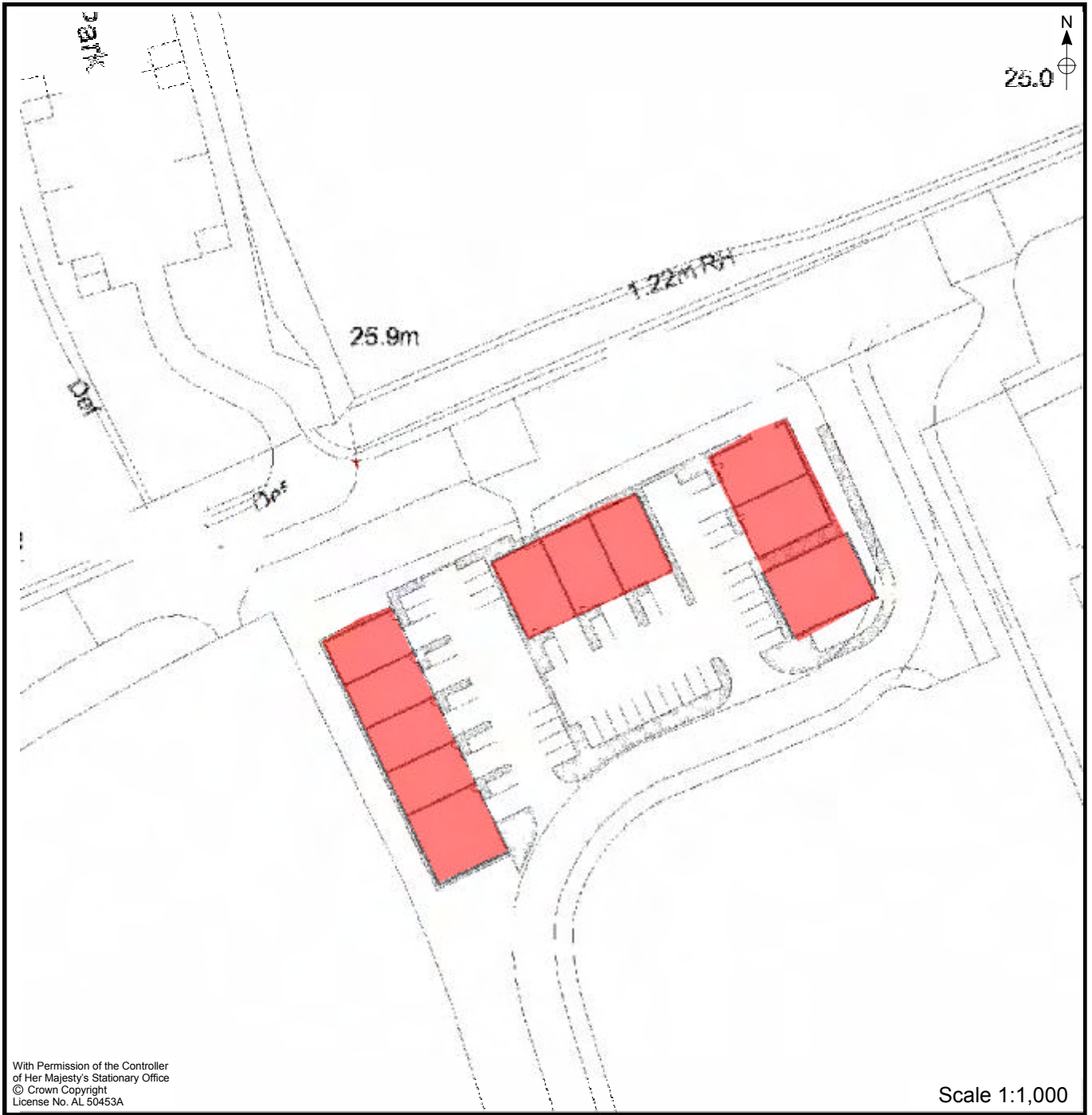


Figure 2. Area of Archaeological Watching Brief.



Plate 1. General site view. Facing south.



Plate 2. General view of stripped area. Facing north.

