

**MAP  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

**Rectory Farm  
Scrayingham  
York**

**Planning App 06/01232/FUL**

**MAP 10.41.14  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Summary**

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd, in January 2015. This was at the request of J.P Wild to fulfil a Condition associated with the erection of 2 no. four bedroom dwellings with detached double garages, 4 no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with detached single garages and formation of vehicular accesses (Planning reference: 06/01232/FUL).*

*The exposed area revealed no archaeological deposits or features.*

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief, to fulfil a condition associated with the erection of 2 no. four bedroom dwellings with detached double garages, 4 no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with detached single garages and formation of vehicular accesses (Planning reference: 06/01232/FUL: Fig 1 &2).
- 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 lies is located in Scrayingham, York, North Yorkshire (Fig.1).
- 2.1 The Site lies within the historic core of the village, an area with potential for the survival of remains of an early settlement and activity. A recent Watching Brief carried out through the village in connection with pipework associated with the construction of a new wastewater treatment works recovered a number of sherds of pottery which dated from the medieval and post-medieval periods, as well as early to mid-Anglo-Saxon pottery indicative of activity in the vicinity during the period AD 450-700.

## **3. Aims and Objectives**

- 3.1 The aim of the 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 an untoothed bucket down to natural deposits. A mixture of modern material was removed in spits including hard standing and modern foundations to a depth of 0.7m (*Plt 1 & 2*).

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 A mixture of modern material was removed in spits including hard standing and modern foundations to a depth of 0.7m. At this point natural deposits consisting of sands and gravel were encounter. No archaeological deposits, finds or features were encountered.

## **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1 The results of the Watching Brief revealed no archaeological deposits but the site had been severely truncated in the modern period with extensive intrusions. No further archaeological work is required on the site.

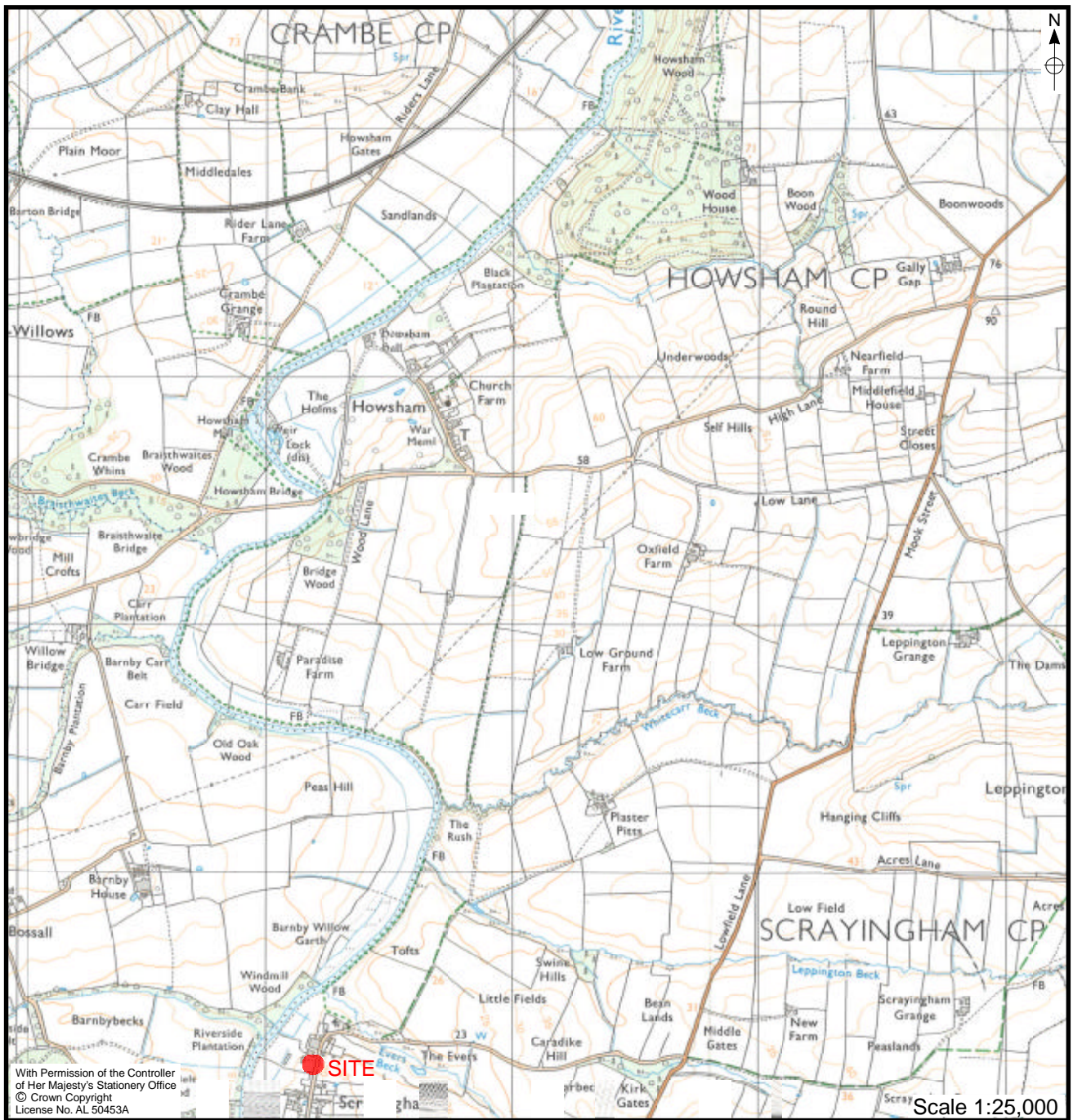


Figure 1. Site Location.



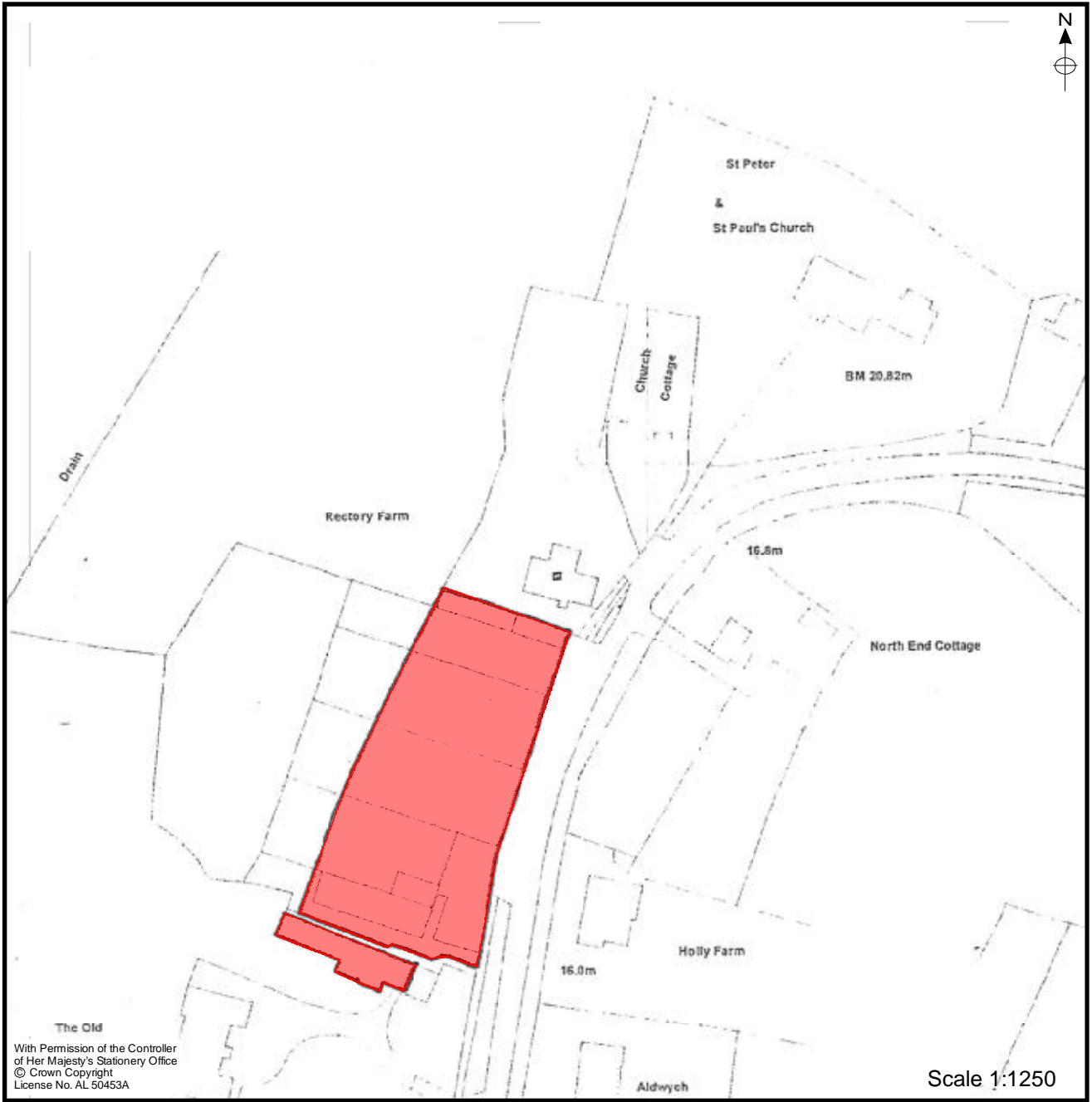


Figure 2. Archaeological Watching Brief Area.



Plate 1. General View of Site.



Plate 2. General View of Site.

# MAP

## Archaeological Practice Ltd

### WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR LIMITED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING (“WATCHING BRIEF”)

**Rectory Farm, Scrayingham, York, YO41 1JD - 06/01232/FUL**

This Written Scheme of Investigation is for an Archaeological Watching Brief to be carried out during groundwork's associated with the erection of 2 no. four bedroom dwellings with detached double garages, 4 no. three bedroom semi-detached dwellings with detached single garages and formation of vehicular accesses.

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 will not require the construction programme or development to be held up while archaeological investigation takes place, although some developers may give such a facility.

1. The WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements needed to comply with an archaeological planning condition or obligation. This is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012). 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 agreement between the Client and the selected archaeological contractor. 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 will 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.
2. The Archaeologist should notify by letter or e-mail the Historic Environment Team of the County Council at least 10 working days in advance of the start of work on site.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 (DCMS 2008).

6. 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. The English Heritage Science Advisor will be contacted at Tanner Row, York if appropriate.
7. 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.
8. 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 Historic Environment Team of the County Council at the discretion of the District Council 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.
9. A summary report will be produced following the Council's guidelines on reporting. The report will 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 will be accurately mapped with respect to nearby buildings, roads and field boundaries. All significant features will 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.
10. Copies of the summary report will be provided to the client(s), The Historic Environment Team of the County Council (HER), to the museum accepting the archive in this instance Malton Museum, 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.
11. Upon completion of the work, the Archaeologist will 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 Historic Environment Team of the County Council of the details of the work and to provide the Historic Environment Record (HER) with a summary report on the work.
12. 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.
13. At the discretion of the District Council, the Historic Environment Team of the County

Council will 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 will be obtained from the Ministry of Justice Exhumation Licence, 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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