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North Sea Winches Ltd.
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Eastfield
Scarborough
North Yorkshire

TA 03529 83422 13/00118/FL MAP 10.12.2014 Archaeological Watching Brief

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Contents		Page
Figur	e List	2
Plate List		2
Sumr	mary	3
1.	Introduction	3
2.	Site Description	4
3.	Historical and Archaeological Background	4
4.	Aims and Objectives	5
5.	Methodology	5
6.	Results	6
7.	Conclusions	6
8.	Bibliography	6

Figure List		Page
1.	Site Location. Scale 1:25,000.	7
2.	Location Plan. Scale 1:2,500.	8
Plate List		
1.	General View of Site. Facing East.	9
2.	View of Stripped Area. Facing South-west.	9

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Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land at North Sea Winches Ltd., Dunslow Road, Eastfield, Scarborough, North Yorkshire (TA 03529 83422) on the 29th January 2014. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the erection of an industrial unit (13/00118/FUL).

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

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief that was carried out on the 20th March 2014 during groundworks associated with the erection of an industrial unit on land at North Sea Winces Ltd, Dunslow Road, Eastfield, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, (SE 03529 83422, Fig. 1). The Watching Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (Ref: 13/00118/FL).
- 1.2 The Archaeological Watching Brief 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 work was funded by North Sea Winches Ltd.
- 1.4 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 at the southern end of the Eastfield industrial estate along Dunslow Road which leads off the A64. The site is bounded by industrial units to the north and east, Dunslow Road itself to the west and an agricultural field to the south (Figs. 1 & 2).
- 2.2 The landform of the site rises gradually towards the east and drops off at the southern boundary into a large drainage dyke. The site lies on the soils of the Burlingham 2 association, "Deep fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soils. Some well drained fine and coarse loamy soils" (Mackney *et al.* 1984).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

3.1 The site lies within an archaeologically sensitive area. The nationally-important Mesolithic site of Starr Carr lies over 2km south of North Sea Winches. Here, a large timber platform on the edges of a large prehistoric lake (Lake Seamer) acted as a seasonal camp for hunters who exploited the wildlife on its margins. Further evidence of Mesolithic and probable Mesolithic exploitation of the lake margin is known at Flixton Carr. Further evidence for prehistory derives from a number of stray finds including a flint burin typical of the late Palaeolithic period found just south-west of the site and a fragment of a Neolithic polished gritstone axe found on the western side of the A64.

- 3.2 The important site of a possible Roman fortlet or Villa and settlement were revealed south-west of the Proposed Development Site on the southern side of Dunslow Road. Excavations undertaken in a gravel pit uncovered the remains of a ditched rectangular enclosure and timber building of the 1st-4th century. The finds recovered from site were indicative of a Villa site whilst the enclosure ditch may represent a fortlet. Furthermore an archaeological evaluation and excavation undertaken by AOC in 2006 for the proposed Scarborough business park revealed Neolithic and Iron Age/Romano-British activity.
- 3.3 Further to the west, extensive excavations conducted by MAP at Crab Lane, Seamer, have identified an extensive Romano-British enclosure system that originated in a field system of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date. The north-eastern Romano-British enclosure ditch was a massive feature of sub-rectangular plan (MAP 2001). Four circular buildings enclosed by ring-gullies, a large number of pits and postholes, a pottery kiln and a 'corn dryer' were identified within the settlement.

4. Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Recording Brief were to record and recover any archaeological remains that were affected by the development, and to prepare a report summarising the results of the work.

5. Methodology

5.1 The installation of the new industrial unit involved the preliminary topsoil strip of an area 13m by 37m by a 360° tracked excavator using a broad, toothless ditching bucket, operating under close archaeological supervision. Machining ceased at the top of archaeological or naturally-formed deposits, depending upon which was located soonest.

- 5.2 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).
- 5.3 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the Watching Brief on a high resolution digital camera.

6. Results (Pl. 2)

- 6.1 The new industrial unit measured approximately 13m north to south and 37m east to west. Stratigraphy within the footprint of the building consisted of a deposit of dark brown loamy clay topsoil which lay directly above the natural clay. The topsoil deposit had a maximum depth of 0.16m. Removal of topsoil across the site revealed some areas of modern infill possibly associated with the insertion of the original industrial building.
- 6.2 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered throughout the archaeological Watching Brief.

7. Conclusions

7.1. The absence of any archaeological deposits may be due to the disturbance of the site from modern dumping. Areas of modern disturbance cut through the natural appear to represent a dump or infill of demolition material more than likely associated with the insertion of the original industrial building.

8. Bibliography

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MAP	2001	Crossgates Phase III, Crab Lane,

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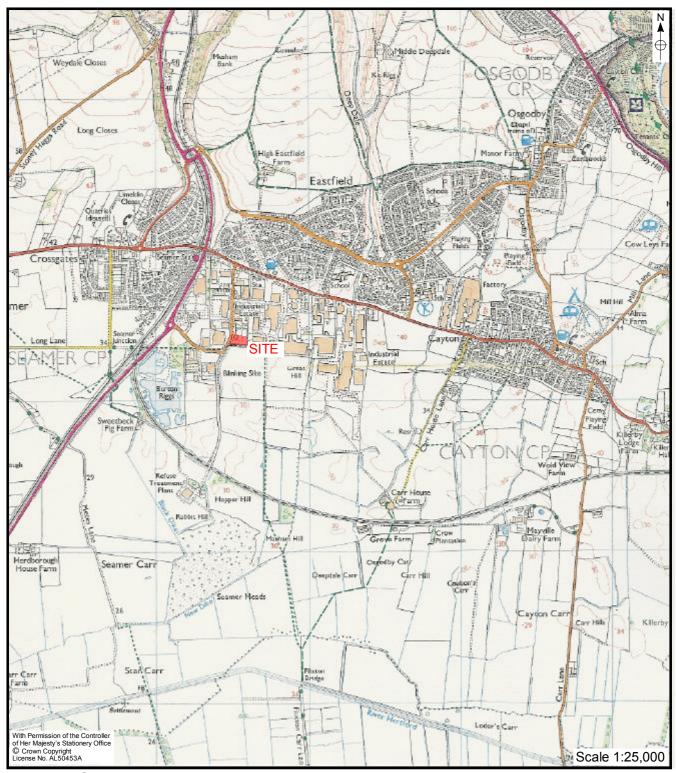


Figure 1. Site Location.

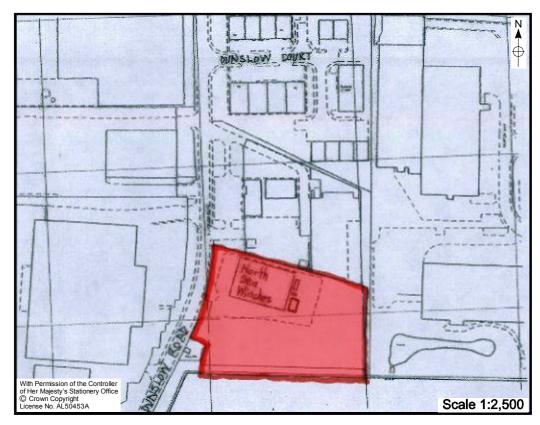


Figure 2. Development Area.



Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing East.



Plate 2. View of Stripped Area. Facing South-west.

MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR LIMITED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING ("WATCHING BRIEF")

Planning Application 13/00118/FL North Sea Winches Ltd, Dunslow Road, Eastfield, Scarborough, North Yorkshire

This Written Scheme of Investigation is for an Archaeological Watching Brief to be carried out during groundwork's associated with the erection of an Industrial Unit at North Sea Winches Ltd, Dunslow Road, Eastfield, Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

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), Scarborough Borough Council, The Historic Environment Team of the County Council (HER) and to the museum accepting the archive, 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.

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.

14. References and Guidelines

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