

**MAP**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE Ltd.**

**Manor Farm  
Leppington  
Malton  
North Yorkshire**

**SE 76489 61075**

**MAP 10.36.2013**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**MAP  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

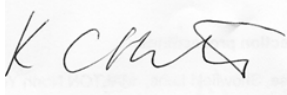
**Manor Farm  
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**SE 76489 61075**

**13/00592/FUL**

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**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

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<b>Date:</b> <b>18/12/2013</b>	<b>Date:</b> <b>18/12/2013</b>

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**Summary**

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. on land at Manor Farm, Leppington, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 76489 61075) on the 8th October 2013. The work involved monitoring the groundworks for change of use of land to form a 60m x 20m ménage for private domestic use (13/00592/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 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013 during groundworks for change of use of land to form a 60m x 20m ménage for private domestic use on land at Manor Farm, Leppington, Malton, North Yorkshire, (SE 76489 61075, Fig. 1). The Watching Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (Ref: 13/00592/FUL).

1.2 The 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 Mrs S Ashton.
- 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 centrally within the small village of Leppington, approximately 12.9km south of Malton and 3.2km east north east of Scrayingham. Manor Farm is on the eastern side of Leppington Lane and can be accessed via a small private gravel drive (Fig. 1). The application site is surrounded by agricultural land to the north and east, a paddock to the south and Manor House Farm itself to the west.
- 2.2 The application site slopes gently from west to east and was previously utilised as a grass paddock for open grazing enclosed by post and rail fences (Pl. 1).

## **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.1 The site of the proposed development lies within the historic core of the medieval settlement of Leppington. Leppington is mentioned in the Domesday Book as *Lepinton*. There is only one indirect reference, "*In Sittenham were was a Roberto de Lepinton and possibly under Guisborough a Stephano de Lepington*" (Smith, 1937).
- 3.2 Just north of the application site, in the adjacent field, lies a Scheduled Ancient Monument moated site which was the residence of the medieval lords of the manor of Leppington. The moated site is well preserved, the island retaining undisturbed below-ground evidence of medieval buildings and the moat ditch containing silts. As well as the remains of the moat there are also remains of the medieval parish church. Adjacent earthworks include former medieval ditched

boundaries, toft boundaries and possible house platforms associated with the medieval village. A Watching Brief by YAT in 2006, further south of the application site, at Havelock House, encountered ditches of medieval date, assumed to be field boundaries. There was little evidence of occupation, indicating that the site lay beyond the southern limit of the medieval village. Archaeological investigation at the Former Methodist Chapel revealed pits which showed evidence of human activity from the early 13<sup>th</sup> century (MAP, 1998).

#### **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 ménage involved the preliminary topsoil strip of an area 60m by 20m by a 360<sup>o</sup> 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 Recording Brief on a high resolution digital camera.

#### **6. Results (PI. 2)**

- 6.1 The new ménage measured 60m east to west and 20m north to south.
- 6.2 A uniform deposit of dark greyish brown sandy clay topsoil lay directly above the natural clay, and had a maximum depth of 0.24m.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered throughout the archaeological Watching Brief.

## **8. Bibliography**

Hunter-Mann, K. 2004 Land North of Havelock House, Leppington, North Yorkshire. Report on Archaeological Watching Brief. 2006/65.

MAP 1998 Former Methodist Chapel, Leppington, North Yorkshire.

Smith, A.H. 1937 The Place Names of the East Riding of Yorkshire and York. Cambridge University Press.



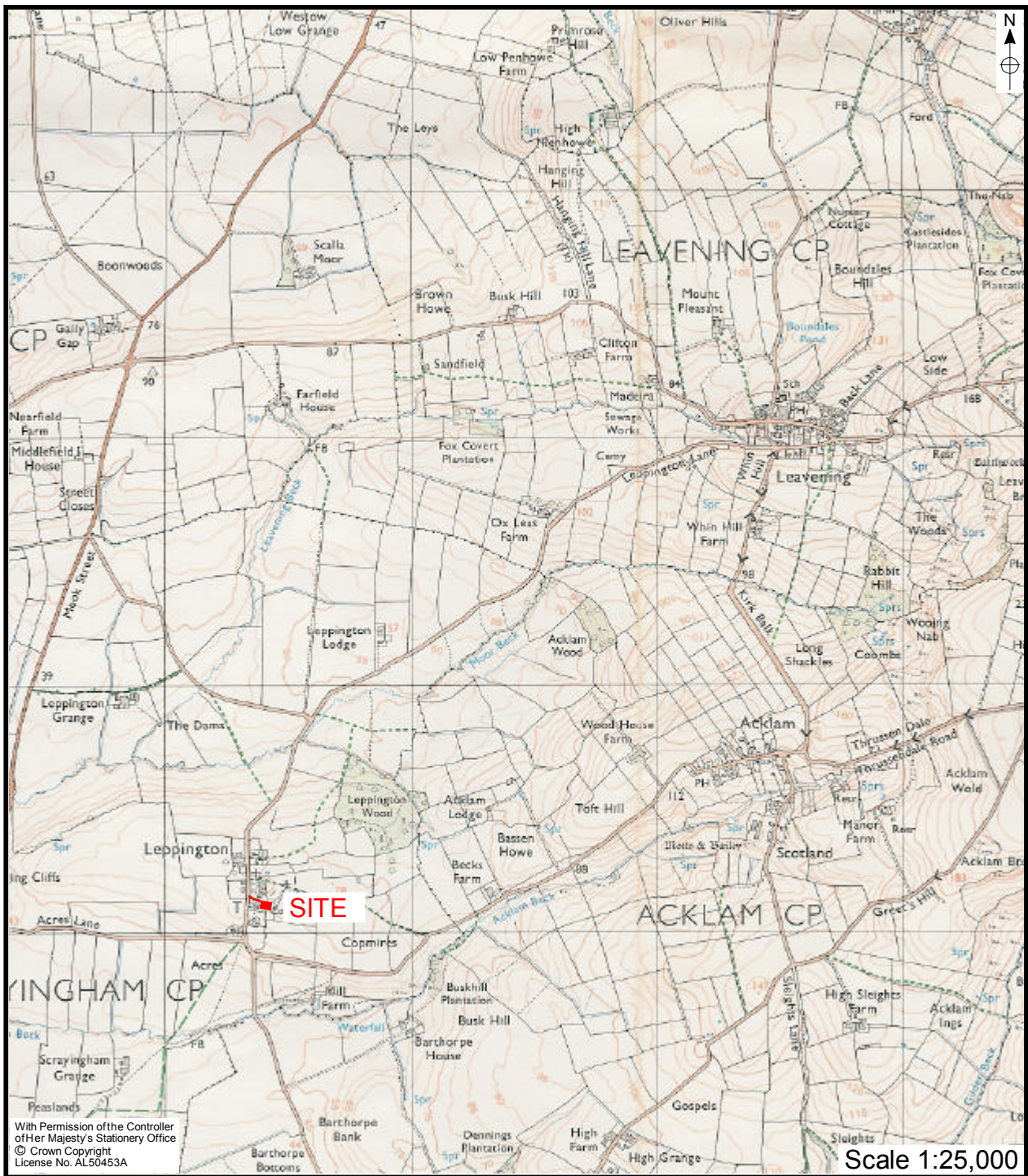


Figure 1. Site Location.

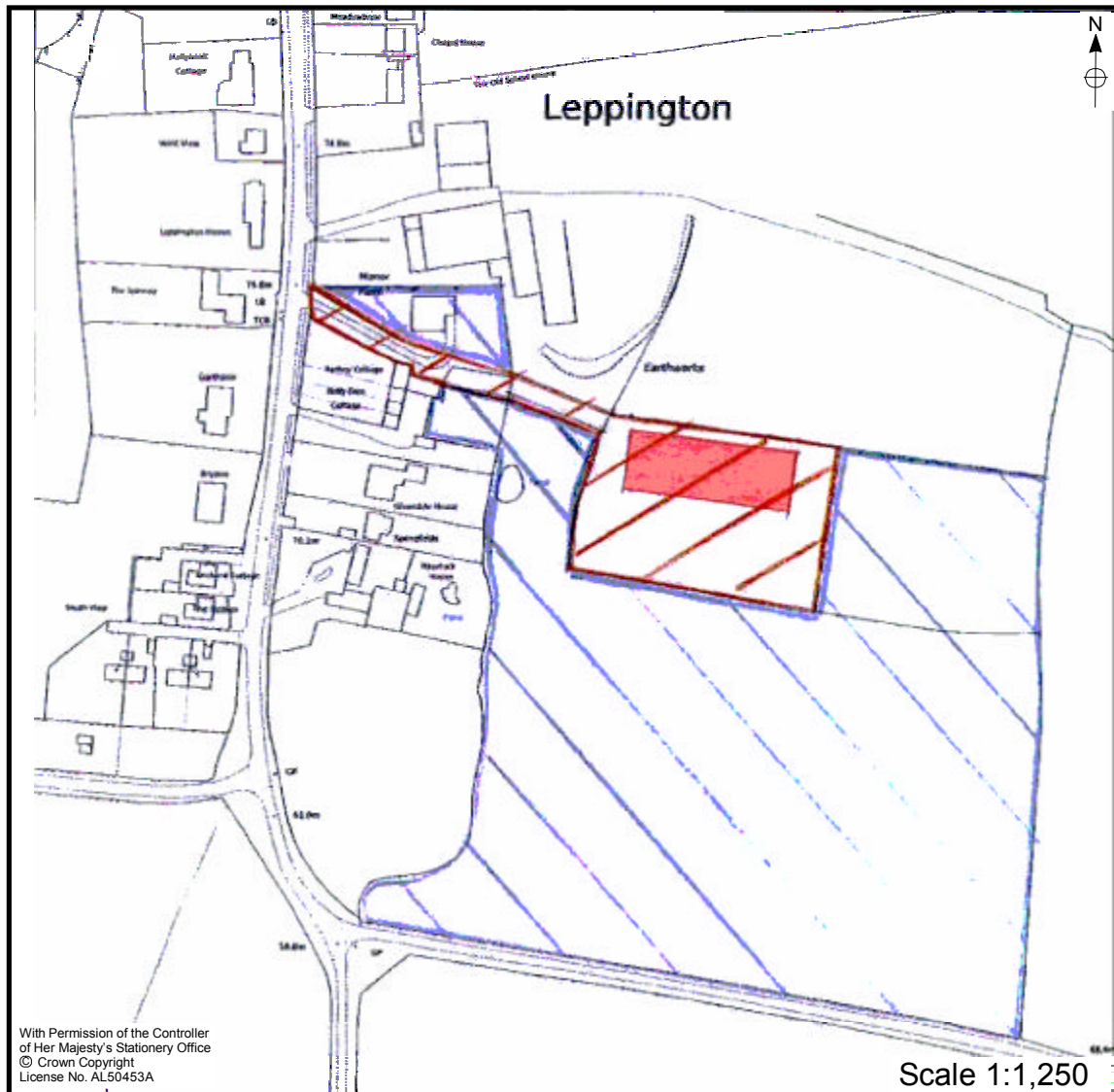


Figure 2. Location of Archaeological Watching Brief Area.



Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing West.



Plate 2. Ménage after Topsoil Strip. Facing East.

