

MAP

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE Ltd.

**Land to the Rear of the Cross Keys
Main Street
Thixendale
North Yorkshire**

**SE 8503 5935
09/00366/REM
MAP 10.17.2013**

Archaeological Watching Brief

**MAP
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

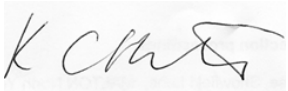
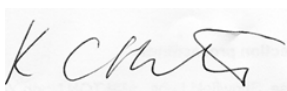
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Malton
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Report Prepared By 	Report Authorised By 
Date: 18/10/2013	Date: 18/10/2013

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Archaeological Watching Brief

Non-technical Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief that was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd during the excavation the strip foundation trenches for the construction of three detached dwellings and associated services on Land to the Rear of the Cross Keys Public House, Main Street, Thixendale, North Yorkshire in June and October 2013.

No archaeological finds or features were uncovered during this Archaeological Watching Brief.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief that was carried out in June and October 2013 during observations on the groundworks associated with the construction of three detached dwellings, access road and associated services at Land to the Rear of the Cross Keys Public House, Main Street, Thixendale, North Yorkshire (SE 8503 5935; Fig. 1). The Archaeological work was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (09/00366/REM).

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 Steve Ainsty.

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 in the village of Thixendale, (SE 8454 6010) (Figs. 1 and 2). The site is located directly behind the Cross Keys Public House, to the south east of the village itself.

2.2 The site stands on soils of the Icknield soil Association, and is a shallow, mostly humic, well-drained calcareous soils over chalk (Mackney et al 1983).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 The village of Thixendale is an area of specific archaeological interest noted by the sites and Monuments Records. The eastern end of Thixendale has potential for medieval settlement remains, and the possibly earlier prehistoric features.

4. Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Watching 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 initial site visit was to observe the excavation of the main drainage along the route of the access road. Two site visits were made to observe the strip footings for the three detached dwellings (Plots 1-3; Fig. 2).
- 5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 2013).
- 5.4 The topsoil and overburden was recorded overlying natural chalk gravel.
- 5.5 A photographic record was undertaken on the observed groundworks on a high resolution digital camera.

6. Results

- 6.1 Topsoil and overburden was up to 800mm deep across the site and the chalk gravel natural was observed in the base of the drainage trench and the strip foundations (Pls. 1-8). A disused septic tank was observed in the drain trench to the rear of the Cross Keys Public House. The area had previously been overgrown gardens for the properties on Main Street.
- 6.2 No archaeological finds or features were present.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 No features of archaeological importance were revealed during the Archaeological Watching Brief.

8. Project Staffing Details

Fieldwork and Report: Kelly Hunter

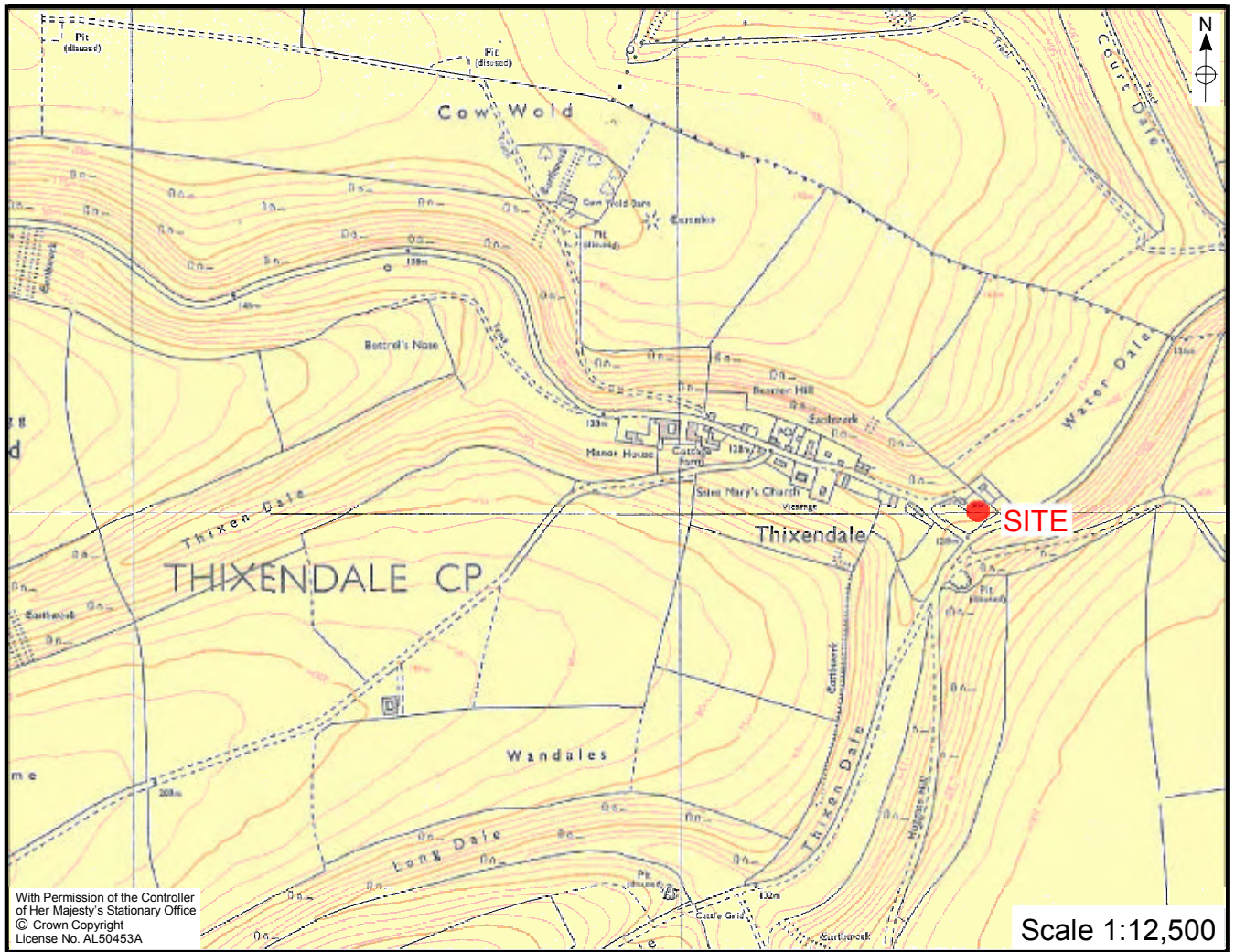


Figure 1. Site Location

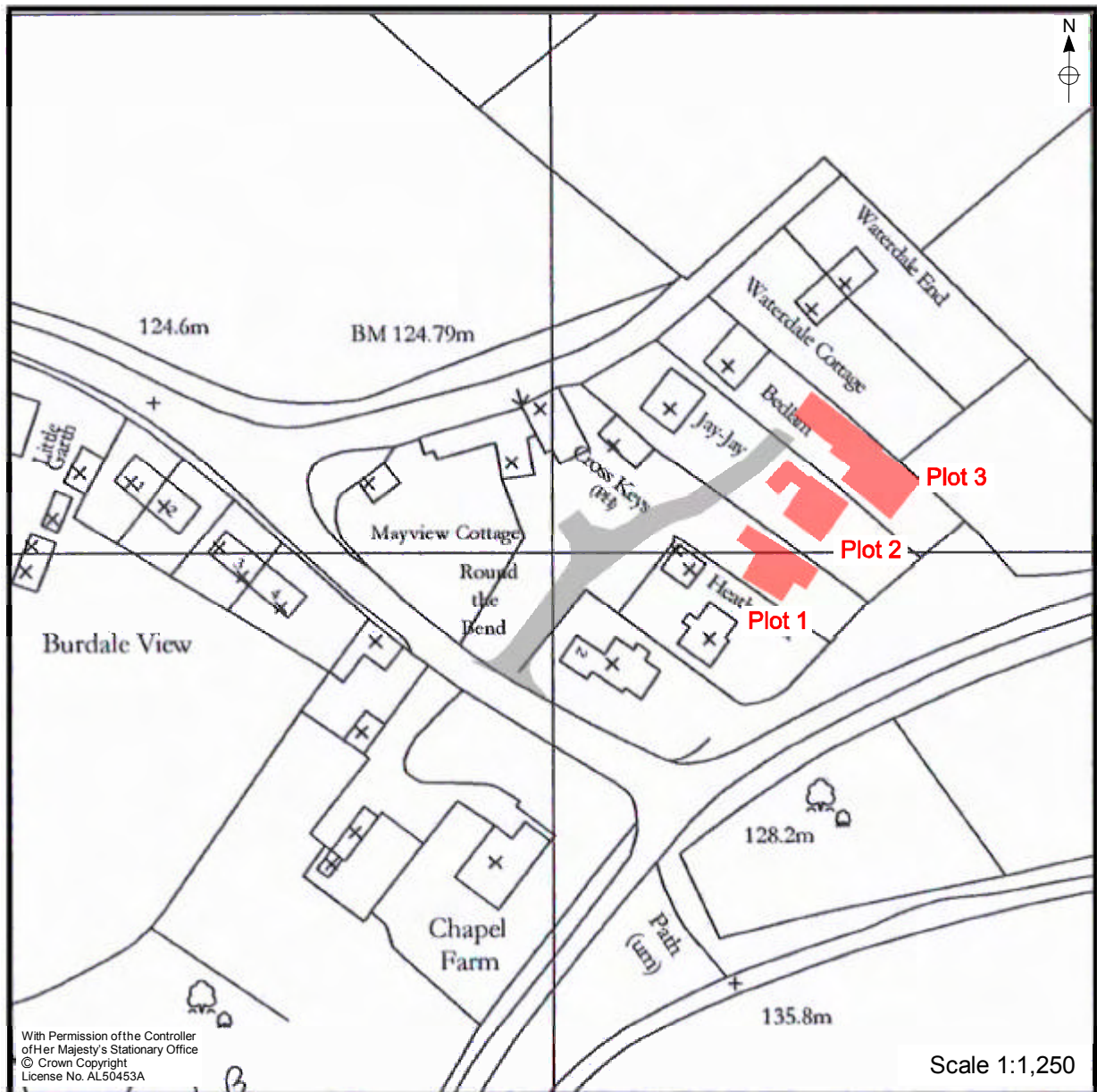


Figure 2. Area of Development and Watching Brief Area



Plate 1. Drainage Trench. Facing North-east.



Plate 2. Drainage Trench. Facing South-west.



Plate 3. Drainage Trench. Facing South-west.



Plate 4. Plot 3. Facing North-west.



Plate 5. Plot 3. Facing North-west.



Plate 6. Plot 1. Facing South-east.



Plate 7. Plot 1. Facing West.



Plate 8. Plot 2. Facing South-east.

