

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

**63-35 Church Street**  
**Whitby**  
**North Yorkshire**

**NZ 90122 11006**  
**13/00817/FUL**  
**MAP 10.17.2014**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

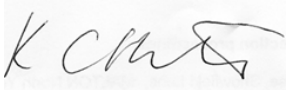
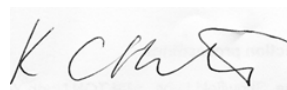
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

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**NZ 90122 11006**

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**Archaeological Watching Brief**

<b>Report Prepared By</b> 	<b>Report Authorised By</b> 
<b>Date:</b> <b>26/16/2014</b>	<b>Date:</b> <b>26/06/2014</b>

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**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Summary**

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd. at Land to the rear of Ammonite House, 63-65 Church Street, Whitby, North Yorkshire (NZ 90122 11006) on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> April and the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the erection of two .*

*No archaeological features, deposits or finds 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>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> April and the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014 during groundworks associated with the erection of two dwellings on Land to the rear of Ammonite House, 63-65 Church Street, Whitby, North Yorkshire, (NZ 90122 11006, Fig. 1). The work was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, sent to the Ryedale District Council Planners (Ref. 13/00817/FUL).

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 The archaeological work was commissioned by Mr M. Mohamad.
- 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 Whitby is a town on the North Yorkshire Coast, approximately 20 miles north of Scarborough, on the River Esk (Fig. 1). The site is located on the north-east side of Church Street, in an area of terraced gardens to the rear of Snaithes Yard and 59-61 Church Street (Fig. 2).
- 2.2 The site lies on the soils of the Salop Soil Association (711m) described as "slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged reddish fine loamy over clayey, fine loamy and clayey soils associated with fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging" (Mackney *et al.* 1984).

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

- 3.1 Whitby has its origins in the Saxon period with the origins of the town and the foundation of an Abbey (DNY12: National Monument 13284; MNY8758) Whitby was noted in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (MNY8771) as 'Witebi'. The Place name Whitby is derived from the Old English for 'Hviti's farmstead'.
- 3.2 Church Street is located in the historic core of Whitby, which consisting of high density housing partly built along the coastal slopes on the banks of the River Esk. This area has its the origins in the Medieval period, with charters for a twelfth century recording a market and a fair. The layout of Church Street, Baxtergate and Flowergate has possible planned burghage plots. The oldest part of the town was likely to be associated with the Abbey. There was an expansion of the town during the seventeenth or nineteenth centuries due to alum, jet, ship building, whaling and tourism, which has created a mixed character in the

historic core, ranging from small cottages to very large terraced houses. Whitby has a very large number of listed buildings, the vast majority are eighteenth century with approximately twenty from the seventeenth century. There are approximately five or six medieval buildings remaining but the main character of the area is post medieval.

- 3.3 Excavations at New Quay Road Whitby found evidence of medieval occupation (MNY24209).

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The aims of the Archaeological Watching Brief was 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 archaeological work involved monitoring the removal of overburden and topsoil and underlying stone to level the area prior to construction of the two houses.
- 5.2 The area of terraced garden was excavated under close archaeological supervision.
- 5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).
- 5.4 A photographic record of the monitored groundworks was maintained throughout the Archaeological Watching Brief on a high resolution digital camera.

**6. Results (Pls. 1- 4)**

- 6.1 Area of the Development Area was covered by a 0.30m-0.60m deep deposit of dark grey brown loamy garden soil on top of limestone natural (Pls. 1-4). The natural sandstone was then terraced.

**7. Conclusions**

- 7.1. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were present during the ground reduction.





Figure 1. Site Location.

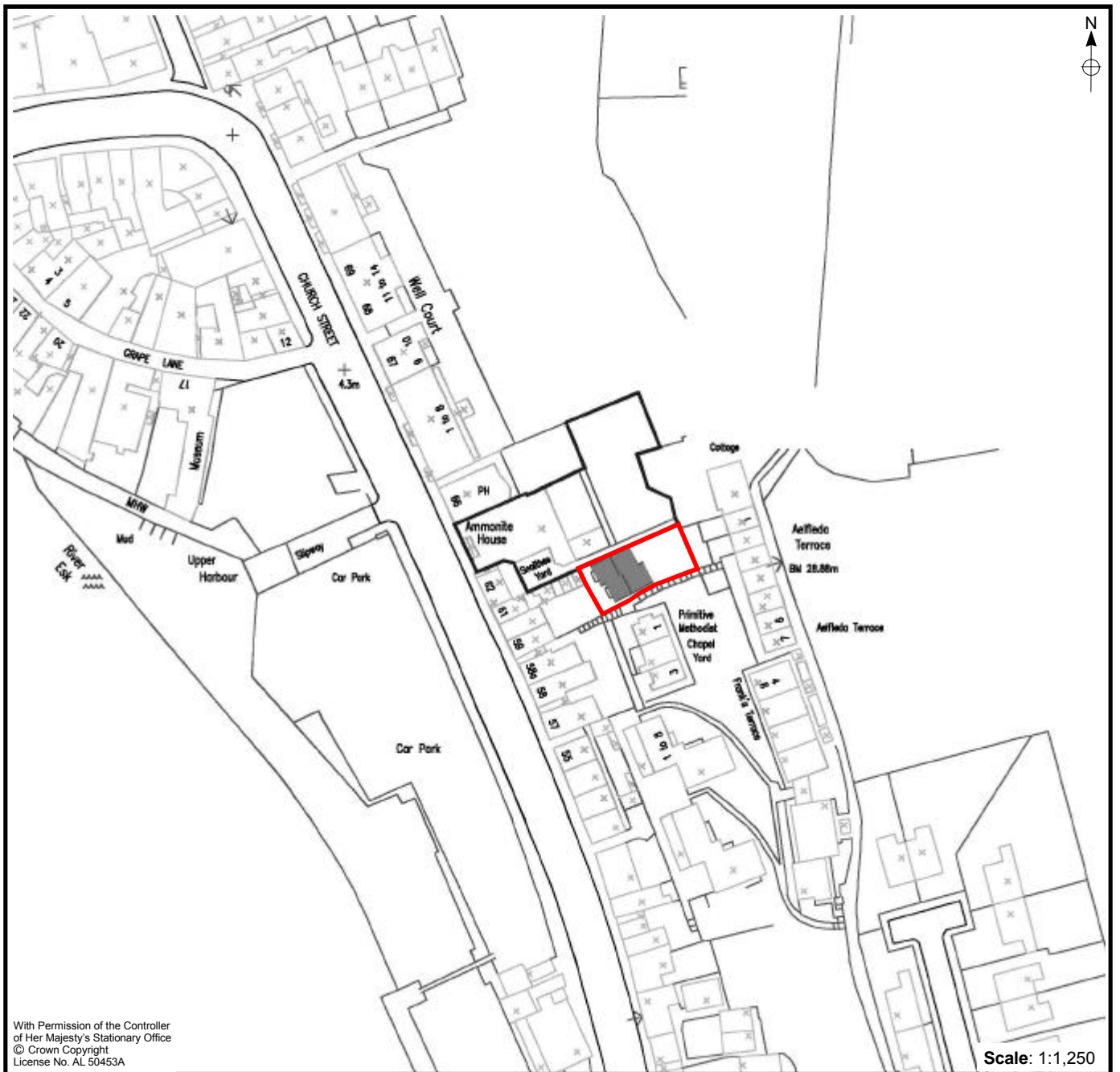


Figure 2. Archaeological Watching Brief Area.





Plate 1. Site. Facing West.



Plate 2. Site. Facing North-east.





Plate 3. Site. Facing East.



Plate 4. Site. Facing East.

