

MAP
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE Ltd.

**The Quaker House
High Street
Thornton-le-Clay
Malton
North Yorkshire**

**SE 6851 6517
MAP 10.118.2012
12/00318/HOUSE
Archaeological Watching Brief**

**MAP
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

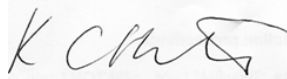
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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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Date: 30/11/2012	Date: 30/11/2012

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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

Figure List**Page**

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Site Location. Scale 1:50,000. | 7 |
| 2. | Location of Watching Brief Area. Scale 1:750. | 8 |

Plate List

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Watching Brief Area before excavation. Facing North. | 9 |
| 2. | Area during ground reduction. Facing North. | 9 |
| 3. | View of Stripped Area for Extension. Facing North. | 10 |
| 4. | Section through Stripped Area. Facing North-east. | 10 |

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd at The Quaker House, High Street, Thornton Le Clay, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 6851 6517) on the 18th, 26th, 27th, 28th November 2012. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the erection of a two-storey extension to the rear (North) elevation (Planning Application Ref: 12/00318/HOUSE).

No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief that was carried out on the 18th, 26th, 27th and 28th November 2012 during the groundworks associated with the erection of a two-storey extension to the rear (North) elevation at The Quaker House, High Street, Thornton Le Clay, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 6851 6517, Fig. 1). The Watching Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (12/00318/HOUSE) for residential development at the site.
- 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 Mr M Smith.
- 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 approximately 14km south-west of Malton in the core of Thornton Le Clay village, on the northern side of High Street (Fig. 1). The site is bounded by dwellings to the east and west, a paddock to the north and High Street itself to the south.
- 2.2 The site comprises Quaker House itself as well as a large garden to the rear including a separate patio area and gravel drive to the front (Pl. 1). The landform of the site slopes steeply from north to south at an approximate height of 47m AOD.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 The site of the proposed development lies in the shrunken medieval village of Thornton Le Clay. The village is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Torentun. The traces of the shrunken medieval village can be seen directly to the north of the application site, as well as within other areas of the present day village. These traces consist of medieval crofts, hollow ways, boundary ditches and ridge and furrow. Although the village is dated to the medieval period finds in the locality of the proposed development may indicate earlier occupation of the area, the remains of an Iron Age settlement have been noted on the outskirts of Foston and two findspots including a Bronze Age Palstave and Neolithic Axe have been recovered within the confines of Thornton Le Clay itself.

- 3.2 The Quaker House is dated to 1743 when it was used as a former friends meeting house. The house closed in 1861 and is now used as a garage for the adjacent property, 'Miles Croft.'

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 archaeological work involved monitoring the removal of overburden and topsoil within the proposed footprint for the new extension down to their finished floor level. The excavation area for the proposed extension formed a large L-shaped rectangle.
- 5.2 The area was excavated by a rear-acting mechanical excavator using a toothless blade, operating 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 Recording Brief on a high resolution digital camera.

6. Results (Pls. 2-4)

- 6.1 The new extension measured approximately 4.6m east to west and 4.3m north to south.
- 6.2 Natural deposits of clay were revealed in the base of the excavation area. A uniform deposit of dark brown slightly silty clay subsoil lay above the natural, up to 0.42m in depth. This in turn was sealed by a layer of dark greyish brown loam topsoil containing modern brick and glass fragments associated

with rubbish dumping. The topsoil deposit had a depth of maximum depth of 0.55m.

6.3 No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered.

7. Conclusions

7.1. The apparent absence of archaeological features, deposits or finds could be due to the steep sloping land. The garden to the rear of the property had been terraced and was much higher than the level of the patio area. It may be possible that the garden was built up to accommodate this.

8. Bibliography

Faull, M H & Stinson M 1989 Domesday Book Yorkshire.

Page, W 1923 'Parishes: Foston with Thornton-le-Clay' *A History of the County of York North Riding: Volume 2:* 134-137. From: www.british-history.ac.uk

Smith, A H 1928 The Place-Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire.

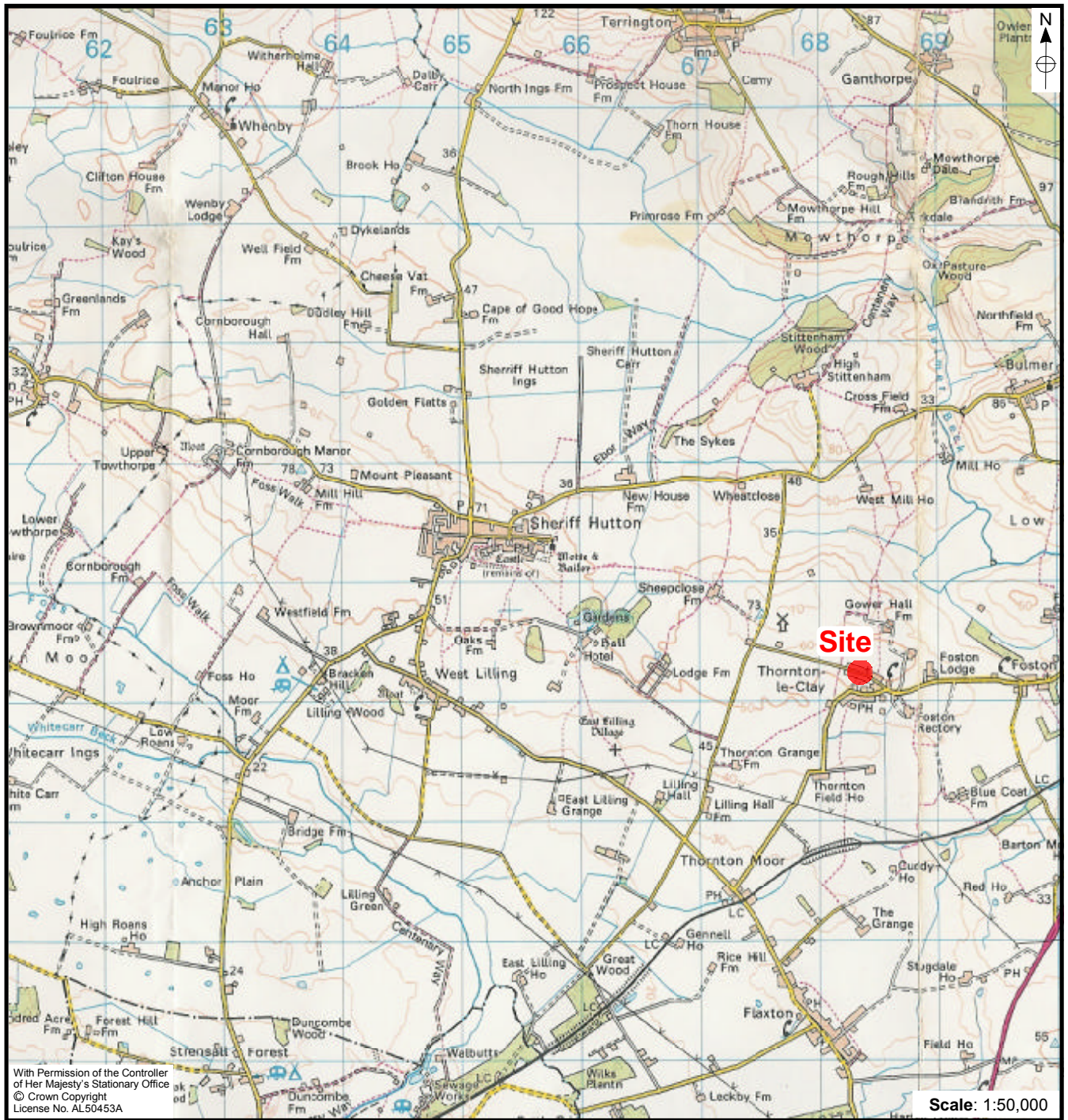


Figure 1. Site Location.

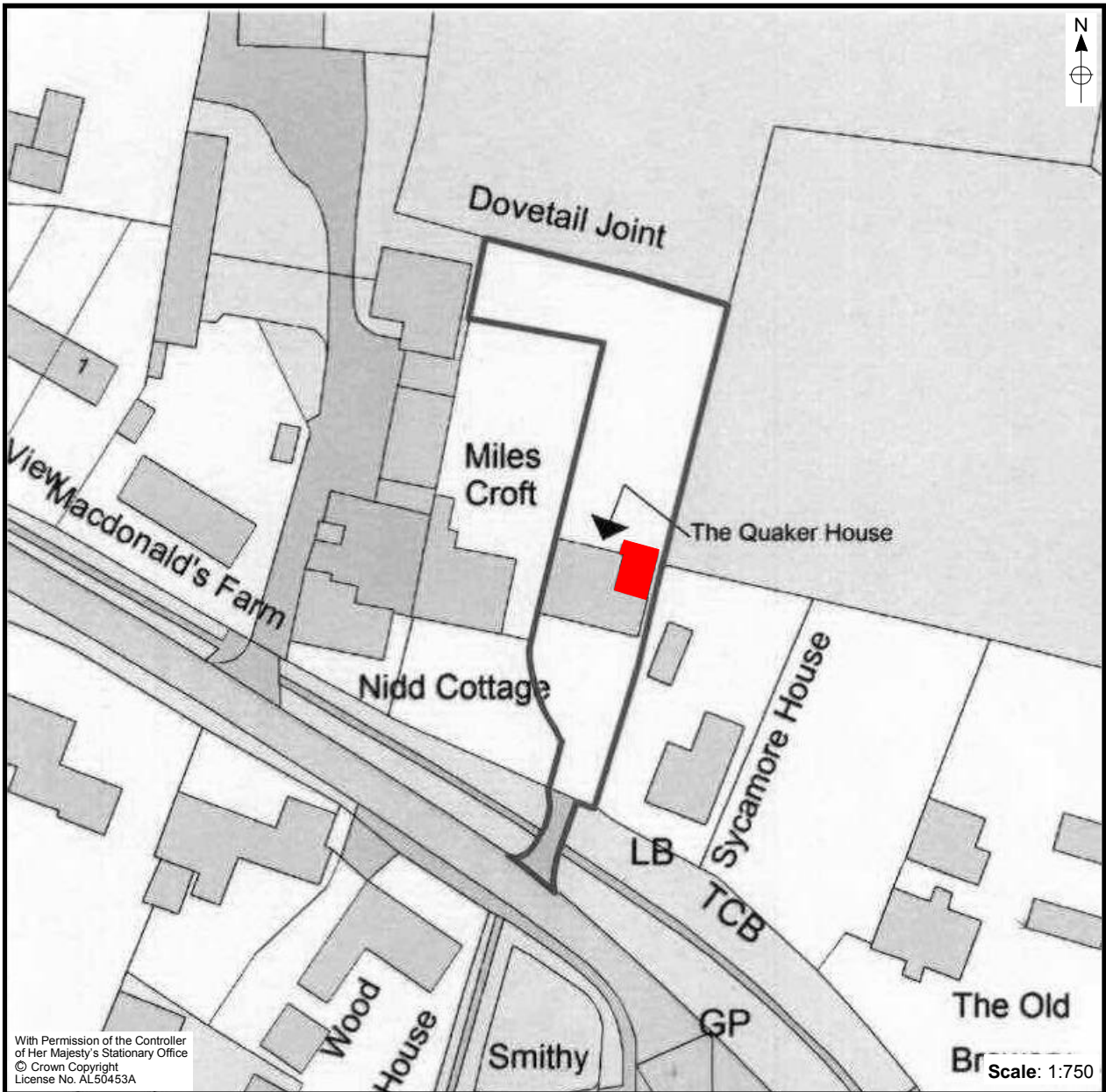


Figure 2. Location of Archaeological Watching Brief Area..



Plate 1. Watching Brief Area before excavation. Facing North.



Plate 2. Area during ground reduction. Facing North.



Plate 3. View of Stripped Area for Extension. Facing North.



Plate 4. Section through Stripped Area. Facing North-east.

