

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

**Turner's Square  
Gowthorpe  
Selby  
North Yorkshire**

**SE 6120 3220**

**MAP 10.116.2012  
2012/0010/FUL  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

**MAP  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**

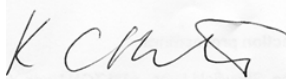
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**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

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<b>Date:</b> <b>22/11/2012</b>	<b>Date:</b> <b>22/11/2012</b>

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***Summary***

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice Ltd at Turners Square, Gowthorpe, Selby (SE 612 322) on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The work involved monitoring the groundworks associated with the erection of 3 two bed properties with parking for 5 vehicles following demolition of the existing outbuildings (2012/0010/FUL).*

*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 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 during the groundworks associated with the erection of 3no two bed properties with parking for 5no vehicles following demolition of the existing outbuildings at Turners Square, Gowthorpe, Selby (SE 612 322, Figs. 1 & 2). The Watching Brief was undertaken to fulfil an archaeological condition attached to the Planning Application Consent (Ref: 2012/0010/FUL; Previous Application: 2006/0018/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 Edenvale Homes 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 of the proposed development is located in Gowthorpe which lies in the middle of Selby town centre. The site can be accessed off Turner Square to the north and Douglas Street to the south. (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 The site is approximately 0.0489 hectares in size and is bounded by Turners Square, housing several residential properties and further garages, to the north, Laurie Blackhouse Court Old People's Home to the south, Everett's furniture store car park and service yard to the east and a public car park to the west. The landform of the site is generally flat, at an approximate height of between 5 and 6m AOD (Fig. 2: Pl. 1).
- 2.3 The site previously comprised a small walled yard with semi-derelict lean to garages. At the time of the watching brief the existing buildings on site had been demolished to leave a clear open area.

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

- 3.1 Selby is a market and parish-town, in the wapentake of Barkston-Ash. There appears to be a lack of archaeological information for Selby. The medieval village of Selby was in existence by the time of the 1086 Domesday Survey and is noted in five instances, the settlement being recorded as *Acaster*. The site lay within the central core of the medieval village, and a good sequence of medieval deposits were identified during the excavations on the adjacent side of Gowthorpe (Map, 1993).
- 3.2 In the late nineteenth century the site lay within an open area of garden associated with a property extending back from Gowthorpe Street and by the

early twentieth century the site had been cleared to form an open yard, associated with properties along Turners Square.

- 3.3 A previous archaeological investigation was undertaken on the site in 2011, following a previous application (Ref: 2006/0018/FUL) for the erection of 4no terraced cottages. Footings for one of the four cottages were excavated in order to hold the planning permission, no archaeological features, finds or deposits were revealed during the excavation.

#### **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 archaeological work involved the supervision of the excavation of the foundation trenches for the dwellings. The foundations formed a large rectangle with two east to west central foundations walls.
- 5.2 The foundation trenches were excavated by a tracked 360<sup>0</sup> mechanical excavator, 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 building measured approximately 19m north to south and 7m east to west. The foundations consisted of conventional strip footings (Pls. 2-4), 0.70m wide and up to 1.25m deep.

6.2 Natural deposits of sand and gravel were intermittently revealed in the base of the foundation trenches. A deposit of greyish brown clay lay above the natural, and had a maximum depth of 0.15m. A uniform deposit of brown slightly silty clay lay above the brown clay, up to 0.53m deep which in turn sealed a deposit of very dark brown clay loam topsoil, reaching depths of 0.57m. Relatively recent demolition material, associated with the previous buildings on site lay above the topsoil. The sequence in the foundation trenches was completed with the most recent car-park surface.

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

## **7. Conclusions**

7.1. The apparent absence of any archaeological deposits may be due to the relatively recent disturbance of the site with the demolition and construction of the old lean to garages.

## **8. Bibliography**

MAP	1993	Archaeological Sample Excavations: Town Centre Development, Selby. Interim Report.
MAP	2011	Land to the Rear of Turners Square, Gowthorpe, Selby. Archaeological Watching Brief Report.

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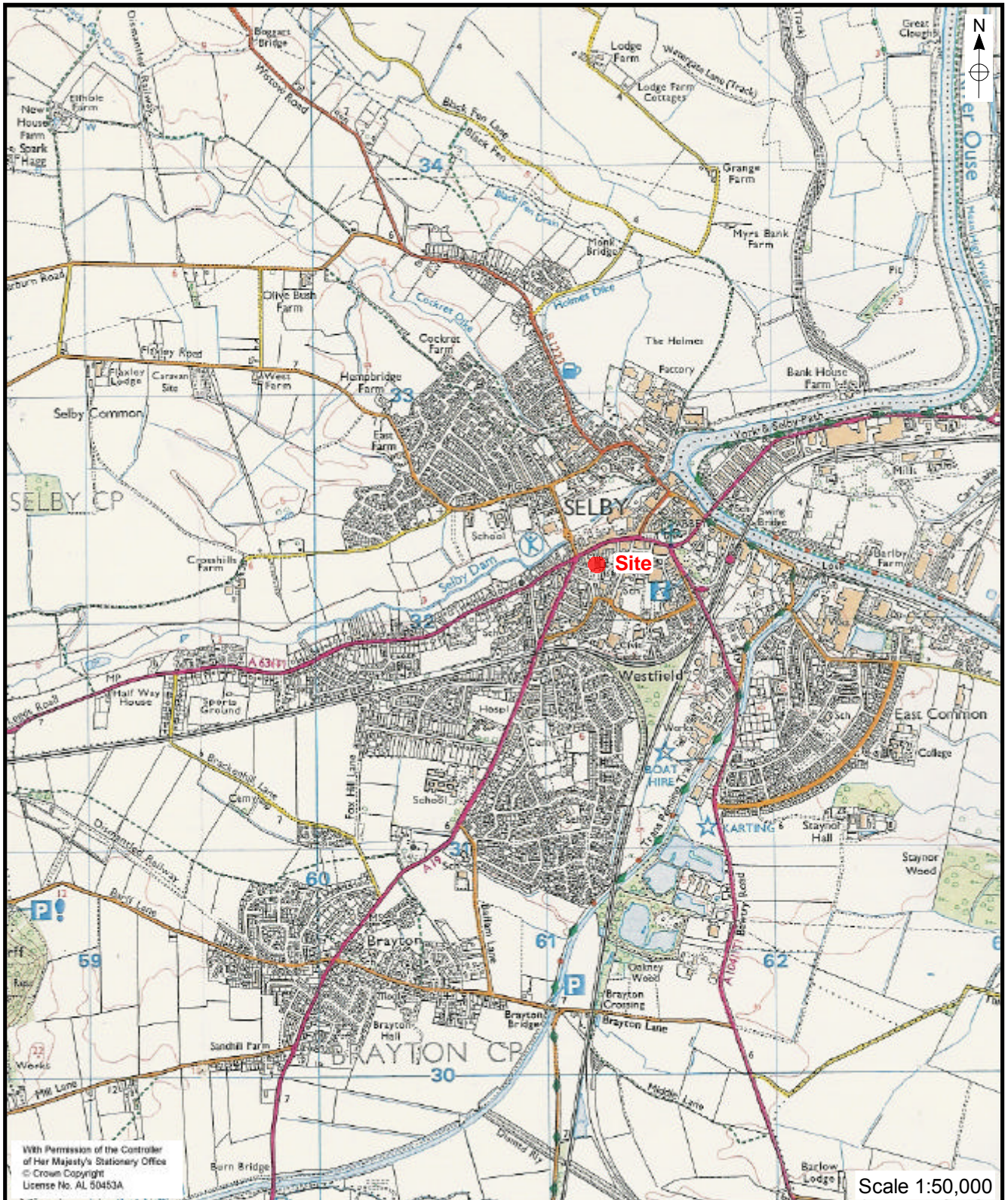


Figure 1. Site Location.

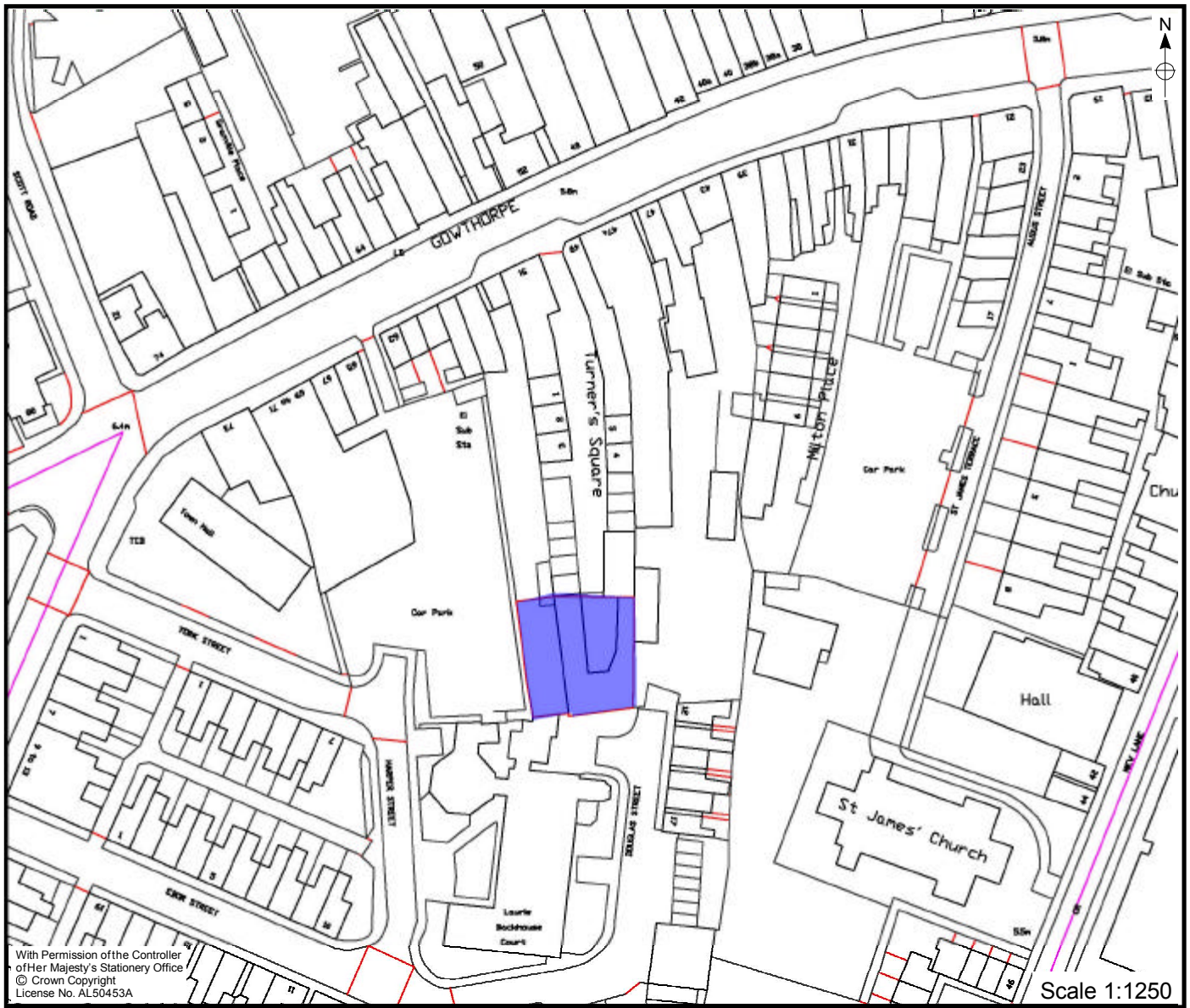


Figure 2. Watching Brief Area.



Plate 1. General View of Site. Facing North-east.



Plate 2. Section of Western Foundation. Facing South.



Plate 3. Section of Southern Foundation. Facing East.



Plate 4. Section of Eastern Foundation. Facing South-west.

