

MAP
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE Ltd.

**12 Plum Street
Norton
Malton
North Yorkshire**

SE 7957 7148

Archaeological Strip and Record

MAP 10.103.2012

**MAP
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE LTD**


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Malton
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Planning Ref. 12/00307/FUL

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Report Prepared By Mark Stephens	Report Authorised By 
Date: 08/08/2012	Date: 08/08/2012

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Summary

An Archaeological Strip and Record was carried out by MAP Archaeological Practice on 12 and 13 July 2012 on a development site at 12 Plum Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire. The work was carried out during the excavation of the foundations for a pair of semi-detached dwellings. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed during the Watching Brief, but a small assemblage of Roman and medieval sherds was recovered.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Strip and Record that was carried out on July 11 and 12 2012 during the excavation of the foundations for a pair of semi-detached dwellings at 12 Plum Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire (SE 7957 7148, Figs. 1 and 2).

- 1.2 The ground-works had the potential to affect archaeological remains, hence the Heritage Unit of North Yorkshire County Council advised on a staged programme of Archaeological works at the site, the first stage of which consisted of Trial Trenching (carried out in October 2011). The Trial Trenching showed that the archaeological horizon was covered by deep overburden, and so a Strip and Record excavation was instituted to

accompany the ground-works at the site. MAP Archaeological Practice was engaged to undertake the Archaeological work.

- 1.3 All works were funded by the developer ANM UK Ltd.
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2. Topography and Geology

- 2.1 The site is situated on the southern side of Plum Street, a residential road that leads northwards off Commercial Street, Norton (Figs. 1 and 2; Pl. 1). The site had until recently been occupied by a single-storey dwelling, with its associated outbuildings and gardens.
- 2.2 The underlying geology of the site consists of glaciofluvial sands and gravel (Mackney *et al* 1983).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 Plum Street is situated in what was once the northern part of the Roman settlement at Norton. The Roman road from Norton to Settrington ran on a south-eastward alignment c. 150m south of the site (Robinson no. 295). Roman settlement and industrial activity was recorded in the immediate post-war period further to the south in the Howe Road (Robinson 1978, nos. 330-353) and Langton Road areas (*ibid.* no. 319), and another kiln has recently been recorded at Norton Primary School (MAP 2012). Of particular relevance is the kiln 'allegedly' found during the building of the Methodist Chapel in 1863 (Robinson no. 245), as the rear wall of the chapel forms the southern boundary of 12 Plum Street.

- 3.2 The 2011 trial trenching at 12 Plum Street located two linear features containing Roman pottery that were covered by up to 1.05m of wind-blown subsoil and modern topsoil (MAP 2011)
- 3.3 The Enclosure MAP for Norton (1769-1772 – reproduced in Hudleston 1962, but now apparently mislaid) shows that 12 Plum Street lay immediately outside the north-east corner of the medieval village at Norton. This location was shown as part of a field or paddock on the 1854 First edition Ordnance Survey map, and Plum Street was a later 19th century development. The dwelling that formerly occupied the site was of 1940s 'prefab' type.

4. Methodology

- 4.1 The groundworks were carried out by a 3.5 tonne 360° excavator, which was fitted with a 0.65m wide bucket for the excavation of the footings, and a 1.20m wide ditching bucket for the initial topsoil strip. The topsoil strip removed 0.05m of material at the north of the site and a 0.30m depth at the south; this followed general site clearance that had been carried out previous to the archaeological phase of work. The foundation trenches were c. 0.70m wide and 0.40m deep. The service were to be connected to the existing amenities
- 4.2 The groundworks were observed at all times by an archaeologist, and the exposed surfaces and trench sides were inspected for archaeological features and deposits. A series of digital images were taken for record purposes.

5. Results

- 5.1 Natural deposits consisted of yellowish sand and gravel, and were identified at a depth of c. 0.60m from the existing ground surface.

5.2 Natural deposits were overlain by a 0.40m deep deposit of brown silty sand (Context 002 - Pls. 2 and 3), from which nine pottery sherds were recovered (seven Roman and two medieval). Modern topsoil (001) overlay Deposit 002, its depth varying between 0.10m and 0.20m. A modern intrusion along the southern foundation probably represented Trial Trench 2, with other relatively recent features consisting of service trenches along the western boundary of the site (Pl. 4) and rubbish pits towards the north.

5.3 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during this phase of archaeological work.

6. Discussion

6.1 Although the archaeological potential of the site had been demonstrated by the results of the Trial Trenching, and indeed by the Roman sherds recovered during this phase of work, no archaeological features were encountered. This is probably due to the relatively shallow levels reached by the new foundations, which terminated either at the surface of natural deposits, or above that level.

7. Bibliography

- Hudleston, N.A. 1962 History of Malton and Norton.
- Mackney, D. *et al.* 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 1: Northern England.
- MAP 2011 12 Plum Street, Norton, Malton, North Yorkshire.
Archaeological Evaluation
- MAP 2012 Norton Community Primary School.
Archaeological
Watching Brief – Assessment Report.
- Robinson, J.F. 1978 The Archaeology of Malton and Norton.

8. Project Staffing Details

Fieldwork: Mark Stephens.

Text: Mark Stephens

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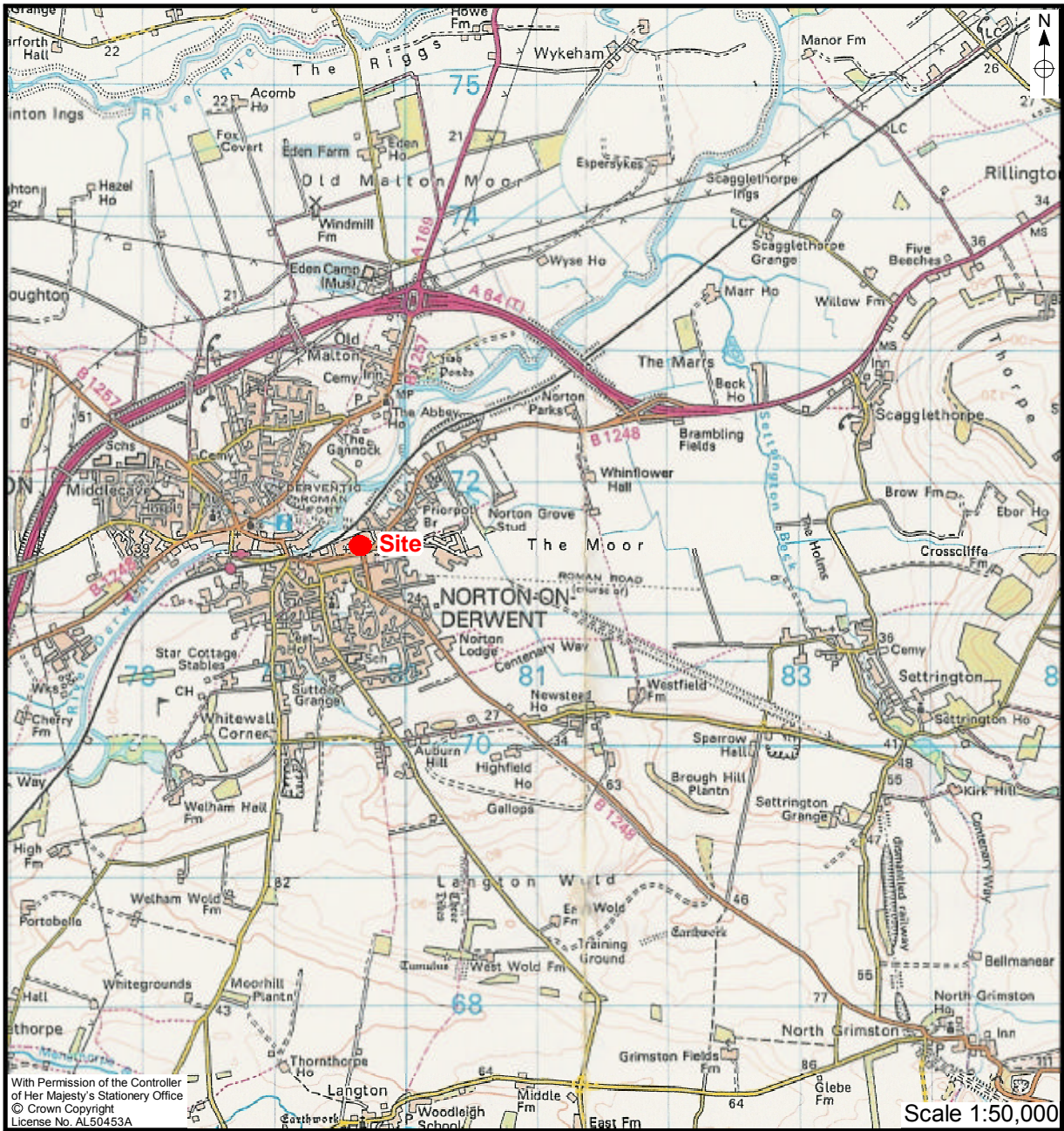
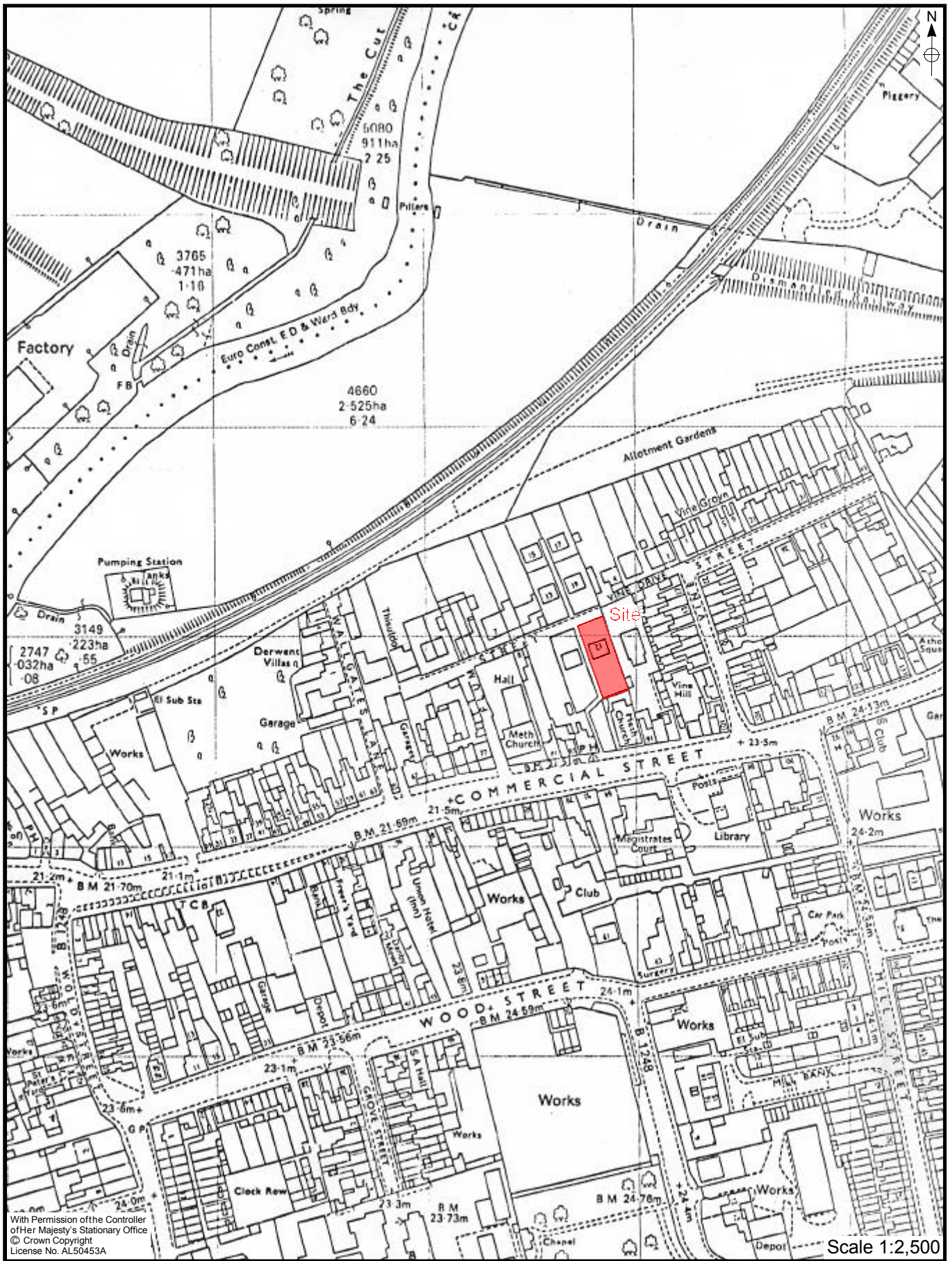


Figure 1. Site Location.



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Scale 1:2,500

Figure 2. Area of Development



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



Plate 2. Northern foundation trench. Facing North.



Plate 3. Southern foundation trench. Facing North.



Plate 4. Western foundation trench showing modern intrusion. Facing South.

APPENDIX 1

12 Plum Street, Norton

Context Listing

Context	Description
1001	Deposit Topsoil
1002	Deposit 10 YR 4/3, silty sand; subsoil

APPENDIX 2

Finds Catalogue

Context	Type	Total	Description	Weight (g)	Spot date
1002	Pottery	7	3 rim, 6 body There are 7 R-B Greyware sherds, including a plain, everted rim and a rim from a shallow bowl of C2nd/3rd date; all probably Norton products. The medieval sherds consist of a rim from a Staxton ware bowl and a body sherd in Humber ware.	82	C15/16th

APPENDIX 3

Photographic Archive Listing

Digital Camera

Frame	Description	Scale	Facing
1	Site Pre-exc	N/A	North-east
2	Northern foundation trench	1 x 1m	North
3	Southern foundation trench	1 x 1m	North
4	Western foundation trench with modern intrusion	1 x 1m	North
5	Central foundation trench	1 x 1m	North

