YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Archaeological Evaluation at
NEWSHAM HOUSE, HOLTBY LANE, HOLTBY

By Rebecca Wilson

YAT Assessment Report 2018/179 December 2018
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CONTENTS

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY ........................................................................................................ III
KEY PROJECT INFORMATION ................................................................................................. III
1  INTRODUCTION ................................................................................................................ 1
2  METHODOLOGY ............................................................................................................... 1
3  LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY .......................................................................... 2
4  ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ...................................................... 2
5  RESULTS ........................................................................................................................... 3
6  SUMMARY ........................................................................................................................... 5
LIST OF SOURCES .................................................................................................................... 5
REFERENCES ............................................................................................................................ 6
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ........................................................................................................... 6
APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE ....................................................................................... 7
APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT LIST ................................................................................................ 8
APPENDIX 3 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION ....................................................... 9
TABLES ......................................................................................................................................... 20
PLATES ......................................................................................................................................... 22
FIGURES ........................................................................................................................................ 30

Plates

Cover: View of Trench 4, looking NW.
Plate 1 Trench 1, looking NW .................................................................................................. 22
Plate 2 Trench 1, Section 1. SW facing ................................................................................... 22
Plate 3 Trench 1, Section 2. SW facing ................................................................................... 23
Plate 4 Trench 2, looking NE ................................................................................................... 23
Plate 5 Trench 2, Section 4. ESE facing .................................................................................. 24
Plate 6 Trench 2, Section 3. ESE facing .................................................................................. 24
Plate 7 Trench 2, land drain running NW/SE ......................................................................... 25
Plate 8 Trench 3, looking NW .................................................................................................. 25
Plate 9 Trench 3, Section 5. SW facing ................................................................................... 26
Plate 10 Trench 4, looking SE ................................................................................................ 26
Plate 11 Trench 4, Section 6. NE facing .................................................................................. 27
Plate 12 View of the rubble deposit extending into the natural in Trench 4. ......................... 27
Plate 13 Trench 4, Section 7. SW facing ................................................................................ 28
Plate 14 Trench 5, looking SW ................................................................................................ 28
Plate 15 Trench 5, Section 8. NW facing ................................................................................. 29
Plate 16 Trench 5, Section 9. SE facing. ................................................................. 29

Tables
Table 1 Trenches ........................................................................................................... 1
Table 2 Index to archive ............................................................................................... 7
Table 3 Context list ....................................................................................................... 8
Table 4 Photograph Register ...................................................................................... 21

Figures
Figure 1 Site Location .................................................................................................. 30
Figure 2 Trench Location and Sections. ...................................................................... 31
Figure 3 Trench 1, Sections 1 and 2 .......................................................................... 32
Figure 4 Trench 2, Sections 3 and 4 .......................................................................... 33
Figure 5 Trench 3, Section 5 ..................................................................................... 34
Figure 6 Trench 4, Sections 6 and 7 .......................................................................... 35
Figure 7 Trench 5, Sections 8 and 9 .......................................................................... 36

Abbreviations
AOD- Above Ordnance Datum
BGL- Below Ground Level
CBM- Ceramic Building Material
WSI – Written Scheme of Investigation
NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Between the 10th and the 11th December 2018 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) conducted an archaeological evaluation at Newsham House, Holtby Lane, Holtby, York, YO19 5UD (NGR 6740 5426).

The work was undertaken for Mulgrave Property Group Ltd to help inform a planning application that was under consideration by the City of York Council (CYC) (18/01643/FUL). The work was based on a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by YAT. The works involved the excavation and recording of three 40m long trenches and two 20m long trenches.

The site is located approximately 300m north-west of the historic core of Holtby, at the base of the hill on which the village is sited. No archaeological deposits, features or structures were encountered during the course of the works. Natural was exposed in all trenches at between 0.5m and 0.8m Below Ground Level (BGL).

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

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REPORT INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

Between the 10th and the 11th December 2018 YAT conducted an archaeological evaluation at Newsham House, Holtby Lane, Holtby, York, YO19 5UD (NGR SE 6740 5426) (Figure 1).

The work was undertaken for Mulgrave Property Group Ltd to help inform a planning application that was under consideration by CYC (18/01643/FUL).

Three 40m long trenches and two 20m long trenches were excavated between standing agricultural buildings to investigate and characterise any archaeological deposits or features present. No significant archaeological material was encountered at the site.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology followed the WSI (Appendix 3).

2.1 Trenches

A total of 5 were excavated (Figure 2):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Size (m)</th>
<th>Location and Alignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>40m x 1.8m</td>
<td>Western extent of site. Aligned NW/SE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>40m x 1.8m</td>
<td>Southern extent of site. Aligned NE/SW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20m x 1.8m</td>
<td>Centre of site. Aligned NW/SE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>40m x 1.8m</td>
<td>Eastern extent of site. Aligned NW/SE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>20m x 1.8m</td>
<td>Northern extent of site. Aligned NE/SW.</td>
</tr>
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Trenches were located on the scale base map provided by the client. Trenches were placed between the standing buildings to investigate approximately 4% of the total site area Location.

The trenches were mechanically excavated with a backhoe loader utilising a 1.8m wide flat bladed ditching bucket. The trenches were to be excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m or to the top of archaeological material or natural deposits. Due to variation in the height of natural, the depth of the trenches varied between 0.4m and 1m BGL.

The trenches were then cleaned by hand for photos and recording. In Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 two 2m long sections were cleaned, photographed and recorded: the sections were located on opposing sides of the trench. Two sections were recorded in Trench 5 despite its shorter length due to the different deposit sequence in each side. In Trench 4 a single 2m long section was cleaned and recorded.

Reduced levels were recorded for each trench and section based off of Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) benchmarks located close to standing agricultural buildings and illustrated on the scale base map provided by the client.

Contexts were assigned where appropriate to delineate the exposed stratigraphy. These are recorded in the Context List (Appendix 2).
Digital photographs were taken at a resolution of no less than 10 megapixels and recorded in a photo register (Table 4).

Once recording was completed the trenches were backfilled.

3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

The site is located at Newsham House, Holtby Lane, on the outskirts of the historic village of Holtby. The historic village centre of Holtby sits on a slight peak in the landscape with the site topographically below this, to the north. The site is comprised of an irregular L-shaped plot of land with 3 derelict former agricultural storage buildings. It is bounded to the south-east, south and west by agricultural and pastoral fields. To the north-east is Newsham House itself and to the north-west is Trevor Smith Landscaping Ltd which includes an area of luxury camping pods. The site is accessed by a driveway from Holtby lane to the north of Newsham House. The driveway continues along the eastern boundary of the site and stops in front of the southern-most building.

The land between the buildings is landscaped and largely flat. There is a small slope of approximately 1m from the south-east to the north-west with the height of the site decreasing from between 20.84m to 19.90m AOD. In the north-west corner is a small heap of overgrown rubble which stands at 22.30m AOD at peak. The eastern, southern and western extent of the site is slightly elevated above the level of the adjacent fields. Excavation has revealed this to be an artificial plateau comprised of rubble likely relating to the construction of the existing agricultural building on the site.

The underlying solid geology consists of the Sherwood Sandstone Group overlain by superficial geology comprising York Moraine Member, formed by glacial processes. The western extent of the site potentially also overlies superficial geology comprising the Alne Glaciolacustrine Formation.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site, on the outskirts of the village of Holtby, sits within a wider historical landscape that has yet to be investigated. There is potential for archaeology material from a wide range of time periods, most specifically prehistoric deposits. Potential sites and features have been predominantly identified by aerial photography.

4.1.1 Prehistory

To the west of the site a series of cropmarks have been identified as nine potential long barrows from the Early Bronze Age as well as a timber circle suggesting a funerary landscape in the area.

4.1.2 Roman

The A166, from which the village of Holtby projects, sits upon the original line of Approach Road 3 into Roman York (Eboracum). Individual features or sites within the landscape have not been identified.
4.1.3 **Anglo-Scandinavian**

As with potential Roman archaeological remains no individual features or sites have been identified. However, the etymology for the name Holtby is derived from the Old Norse personal name *Holti* and word *by* with translation as ‘Holti’s Farm’ (Smith, 1969). This is indicative of the area being active agricultural and pastoral land from the Anglo-Scandinavian period.

4.1.4 **Medieval**

Ridge and furrow dating from the medieval period has been identified in the area around Holtby and the site itself suggesting an active farming landscape.

4.1.5 **Post-medieval**

A tradition of farming continued into the post-medieval period with rectilinear enclosures identified through cropmarks across the landscape.

4.1.6 **Modern**

Historical photographs show a trio of searchlight batteries in Holtby during the Second World War. The village and surrounding area remains predominantly agricultural to present day.

5 **RESULTS**

5.1 **Trenches**

Five trenches were excavated between the standing agricultural buildings. Three trenches (numbers 1, 2 and 4) were 40m in length and 1.8m wide. The remaining two trenches (numbers 3 and 5) were 20m in length and 1.8m wide. A brief description of each trench is given in the following sections.

5.1.1 **Trench 1**: 40m long, 1.8m wide, up to 0.89m deep (Plate 1 and Figure 3)

Trench 1 was located along the western boundary of the site, aligned north-west/south-east. It contained a sequence of deposits primarily related to the deposition of rubble in order to raise and ground level before construction of agricultural storage buildings (Plates 2 and 3). Natural (C1003), a mottled orange and brown sand, was encountered at between 0.6m and 0.75m BGL (19.40m and 19.55m AOD).

This was sealed by firm, greyish brown, sandy subsoil (C1002). Stratigraphically above the subsoil was a substantial deposit of modern rubble material containing CBM, concrete and mortar as well as plastics, scrap metal and glass (C1002). C1002, extending up to 0.4m thick, was encountered at 0.1m BGL and is likely a spread of rubble designed to level and raise the ground in association with the construction and use of the existing agricultural buildings on the site. At the top of the sequence was a thin layer of topsoil and turf (C1000).

5.1.2 **Trench 2**: 40m long, 1.8m wide, up to 0.86m deep (Plate 4 and Figure 4)

Trench 2 was near the southern boundary of the site and was aligned north-east/south-west. As with Trench 1 a simple stratigraphic sequence here consisted of a dump of rubble and levelling material. Natural (C2003) was exposed at between 0.5m and 0.7m BGL (19.90 and 20.10m AOD) and was overlain by a varying thickness of sandy subsoil (C2002).

A rubble layer was found stratigraphically above the subsoil. Unlike in Trench 1 where material similar to this presented as a predominantly even layer, Context 2001 was of more variable
depth and thickness. To the south-west end of the Trench the rubble was up to 0.8m thick and encountered at 40mm BGL, sealed by a thin layer of topsoil and turf (Plate 5). Towards the north-east end of the Trench the deposit was much thinner, only 0.2m thick, and encountered at a marginally greater depth of 0.2m BGL (Plate 6). It was sealed by a 0.2m thick layer of made ground, C2004, presumably intended to raise or level the ground. At the top of the sequence was a thin layer of topsoil and turf (C2000).

A land drain was found aligned north-west/south-east near the centre of the trench (Plate 7). The drain was recorded in plan but not given a context number due to its modern date.

5.1.3 Trench 3: 20m long, 1.8m wide, up to 0.66m deep (Plate 8 and Figure 5)
Trench 3 was aligned north-west/south-east near in the centre of the site, between two of the standing agricultural buildings. It contained a simple sequence of deposits similar to those observed in the Trenches 1 and 2 (Plate 9). Natural (C3003), a reddish brown sand, was encountered at 0.5m BGL (19.85m AOD). Subsoil (C3002), was 0.15m thick and encountered at 0.3m BGL.

Above natural was a rubble deposit (C3001) some 0.35m thick which was in turn overlain by a thin layer of topsoil (C3000). In places the topsoil was so thin the rubble deposit was visible on the surface.

5.1.4 Trench 4: 40m long, 1.8m wide, up to 0.5m deep (Plate 10 and Figure 6)
Trench 4 was aligned north-west/south-east near the eastern site boundary. The deposit sequence in Trench 4 was complicated by its position along part of the site access track and the presence of an animal burrow. Natural (C4003) was observed at between 0.3m and 0.5m BGL (20.10m and 20.22m AOD). The sandy subsoil (C4002), which varied between 0.1m and 0.25m thick, was encountered at 0.2m BGL. The sequence observed stratigraphically above the subsoil was different on both the north-east and south-west facing sections of the trench.

The north-east facing section of the trench predominantly reflected the sequence visible in the other trenches (Plate 11). An animal burrow, C4004, was visible in section towards the south-east end of the trench, truncating the subsoil. A rubble deposit (C4001), up to 0.25m thick, was encountered at 20mm BGL and sealed by a thin layer of topsoil. At points along the trench the rubble deposit was much deeper and extended slightly further below the top of the natural (Plate 12).

The south-west facing section (Plate 12) provides a profile across part of the site access track and possibly features earlier surface or repairs to it. The earliest deposit associated with the track was a thin layer of black sand which may have been a buried topsoil sealed beneath the track surface (C4007). An uneven deposit of light grey clay and white gravel overlay the sand and may represent an earlier farm track surface or, given the uneven thickness of the deposit, a repair to it (C4006). The earlier surface was encountered at 0.1m BGL and the buried topsoil at 0.15m BGL. The current track surface (C4005) consists of a mix of gravel and sand measuring up to 0.2m thick.

5.1.5 Trench 5: 20m long, 1.8m wide, up to 0.5m deep (Plate 13 and Figure 7)
Trench 5 was aligned north-east/south-west near the northern site boundary. The stratigraphic sequence here was relatively simple but with some contrast between the north-west and south-east facing sections. The trench was adjacent to an access track and the
stratigraphic sequence was slightly different in the north-west facing section, where the track was exposed, and south-east facing section which lay beyond the extent of the track.

Natural (C5003) was exposed at between 0.20m and 0.25m BGL (19.68 and 19.72 AOD) and was sealed by a subsoil (C5002) with a thickness of 0.1m.

The north-west facing section included a deposit of compacted make-up material forming part of the access track structure (C5001), this material was situated between the subsoil (C5002) and the topsoil (C5000). C5001 was encountered at 0.1m BGL and was up to 0.15m thick (Plate 14). The south-east facing section exposed a thick layer of topsoil (C5002), up to 0.3m, below topsoil (C5000) (Plate 15).

6 SUMMARY

Excavations at Newsham House, Holtby exposed no significant archaeology across the five trenches. Natural was identified in all trenches, however no archaeological features were encountered.

Most of the recorded sequence was associated with past and recent agricultural use of the site, especially the construction of the modern agricultural buildings at the property. A substantial and mixed deposit of modern rubble was encountered in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4. This material appears to be extensive and often relatively substantial, measuring up to 0.66m thick. It appears to be contemporary with the existing agricultural buildings on the site and to have been deposited to raise the ground level in relation to the surrounding fields, most notably the land to the east, south and west, in addition it may have been designed to provide a solid sub-surface for the construction of the existing agricultural buildings. The rubble deposit was not encountered in Trench 5, located at the northern end of the site, although the edge of an access track was encountered. Where Trench 4 crosses the access track the sequence observed suggests constantly maintained route.

The absence of archaeological material on the site despite its setting close to a historic village with potential Anglo-Scandinavian origins is likely due to its peripheral location. The historic village and church sits on a slight peak in the landscape while the site, which lies on the north-western outskirts of Holtby, is on lower ground. Newsham House and surrounding buildings are most likely part of a later expansion of the village and the site was probably used as agricultural up until at least the post-medieval period.

LIST OF SOURCES

Aerial photographs of cropmarks, possible medieval ridge and furrow. Historic England National Inventory.

Aerial photographs of cropmarks, possible post-medieval rectilinear enclosures. Historic England National Inventory.


REFERENCES


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are extended to the client, Musgrove Developments Ltd; the owner of Newsham House for granting access; Rod Green of Greens Contractors Ltd; and the site team consisting of Ben Savine, Sam Grimmer ad Becky Wilson.
APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE

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## Appendix 2 – Context List

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<td>Topsoil. Soft to friable, dark brown, sandy silt. Frequent CBM, mortar, concrete fragments and other demolition material. Includes overlying turf.</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Rubble deposit. Loose, dark brown, sand with rubble. Frequent brick, concrete, cinder blocks, plastics, ferrous material.</td>
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<td>Natural. Firm, mottled mid orange/brown and light grey, sand.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Made Ground. Loose, light grey, crushed limestone and gravel.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>Topsoil. Loose, dark brown/grey, silty sand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3001</td>
<td>Rubble deposit. Loose, dark brown, sand with rubble. Frequent brick, concrete, cinder blocks, plastics, ferrous material.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3002</td>
<td>Subsoil. Friable, dark grey/brown, sand.</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Natural. Soft, mid red/brown, sand.</td>
</tr>
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<td>4000</td>
<td>Topsoil. Loose, dark brown/grey, silty sand.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4001</td>
<td>Rubble deposit. Friable, mid grey/brown, sand. Frequent CBM and mortar fragments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4002</td>
<td>Subsoil. Friable, dark brown/grey, sand.</td>
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<td>4003</td>
<td>Natural. Friable, mid red/brown, sand.</td>
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<td>4004</td>
<td>Burrow. Friable, dark black, sand.</td>
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<td>4005</td>
<td>Track Surface. Friable to loose, dark grey, gravel and sand.</td>
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<td>4006</td>
<td>Previous Track Surface. Friable, light grey, sandy clay and gravel. Frequent white gravel.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4007</td>
<td>Buried Topsoil. Friable, dark grey/black, sand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>Topsoil. Friable, mid brown, sandy silt. Frequent root disturbance.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>5001</td>
<td>Track make-up. Compacted, light grey crushed limestone and light brown sand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5003</td>
<td>Natural. Firm, mottled mid orange/brown and light orange/brown, sand. Occasional small pebbles and stones.</td>
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Table 3  Context list
APPENDIX 3 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION EXCAVATION, NEWSHAM HOUSE, MAIN STREET, HOLTBY, YORK

Site Location: Newsham House, Holtby Lane, Holtby, York, YO19 5UD
NGR: NGR SE 6740 5426
Proposal: Erection of 4 detached dwellings with garages, parking, landscaping and gardens following demolition of existing commercial sheds
Planning ref: 18/01643/FUL
Prepared for: Mulgrave Property Group Ltd
Document Number: 2018/149

1 SUMMARY

1.1 Mulgrave Property Group Ltd have received planning consent for Erection of 4 detached dwellings with garages, parking, landscaping and gardens following demolition of existing commercial sheds at Newsham House, Holtby (NGR SE 6740 5426).

1.2 The following archaeological condition has been imposed:

No construction work shall commence until a programme of post-determination archaeological evaluation has been undertaken on the site.

The archaeological scheme comprises 3–5 stages of work. Each stage shall be completed and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) before the condition can be discharged.

A) No archaeological evaluation or development (other than removal of the sheds) shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The WSI should conform to standards set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

B) The site investigation and post-investigation assessment shall be completed in accordance with the programme set out in the written scheme of investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication (if necessary) and dissemination of results and archive deposition secured. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.

C) An interim copy of a report on the evaluation and an assessment of the impact of the
proposed development on any of the archaeological remains identified in the evaluation shall be deposited with the City of York Council (CYC) within 3 weeks of completion or such other period as may be agreed in writing with the local planning authority.

D) Where archaeological features and deposits are identified, proposals for the preservation in situ, or for the investigation, recording and recovery of archaeological remains and the publishing of findings shall be submitted as an amendment to the original WSI. It should be understood that there shall be presumption in favour of preservation in situ wherever feasible.

E) No construction or ground works shall take place until:

- details in D (if necessary) have been approved and implemented on site
- provision has been made for analysis, dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

A copy of the final report on the archaeological works detailed in Part B&D should be deposited with City of York Historic Environment Record within 3 months of completion or such other period as may be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: The site lies within and area of archaeological interest. An investigation is required to identify the presence and significance of archaeological features and deposits and ensure that archaeological features and deposits are either recorded or, if of national importance, preserved in situ.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to a brief supplied by the City of York Planning Archaeologists. The work will be carried out in accordance with the Brief and this WSI, and according to the principles of the Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Code of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

2 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

2.1 The proposal site is located at Newsham House, Holtby Lane, Holtby, York, YO19 5UD (Illustration 1). The subject site is currently used for agricultural purposes and is occupied by three agricultural storage sheds. Site access is from the north from Holtby Lane. There is a single small derelict shed in the centre of the site and an overgrown heap of demolition rubble in the western corner. Surrounding the buildings are soft informal landscaping and roads and car parking spaces.

3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 There are no designations or constraints on this site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

4.1 The proposed development site lies on the outskirts of the historic village of Holtby. There has been no archaeological investigation within the application boundary. The only recorded possible archaeological evidence is in a field some 350m to the west where cropmarks and ditches identified on aerial photographs have been interpreted as a Bronze
Age group of round barrows (funerary monuments) enclosed by a ditch. The site is relatively undisturbed and has the potential to contain evidence for prehistoric activity or later evidence relating to the village or agricultural use of the site. The village name Holtby is derived from the Old Norse personal name Holti and by meaning ‘Holti’s Farm’ (Smith 1969, 9) which indicates probable Anglo-Scandinavian and later settlement in the area.

4.2 There have been no investigations in the immediate vicinity of the site (York HER).

5 AIMS

5.1 The aims of the evaluation are:

- to determine the extent, condition, character, importance and date of any archaeological remains present
- to provide information that will enable the remains to be placed within their local, regional, and national context and for an assessment of the significance of the archaeology of the proposal area to be made
- to provide information to enable the local authority to decide any requirements for further archaeological mitigation for the site

6 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation will comprise the following elements:

- Trial Trenching of 3no. 40m long and 1.8m wide Trenches and 2no. 20m long and 1.8m wide Trenches amounting to around 4% of the total site area
- Evaluation Reporting

Please note that further stages of work or other mitigation measures could be required by the local authority, depending upon the results of the evaluation.

6.2 Five Trenches will be excavated using a JCB 3CX mechanical excavator down to archaeological deposits or natural, whichever is encountered first. The location of the Trenches is shown on Figure 2. Trenches will be dug to a maximum depth of 1.2m below ground level and may be stepped if necessary for safety reasons.

6.3 The Trench locations will be accurately plotted using an EDM Total station, by measurement to local permanent features shown on published Ordnance Survey maps. All measurements will be accurate to +/-10cm, and the Trenches locatable on a 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map. This is to ensure that the Trenches can be independently relocated in the event of future work.

6.4 Overburden such as turf, topsoil or other superficial fill materials would be removed by a machine fitted with a toothless bucket. Mechanical excavation equipment would be used judiciously, under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural subsoil, whichever appears first. If archaeology is present machining will cease and excavation will normally proceed by hand. Where deep homogenous deposits, or deposits such as rubble infill, are encountered, these may be carefully removed by machine, after consultation with the City of York Planning Archaeologists.

6.5 The use of mechanical, air-powered, or electrical excavation equipment may also be
appropriate for removing deep intrusions (e.g. modern brick and concrete floors or footings) or through deposits to check that they are of natural origin, after consultation with the City of York Planning Archaeologists. The machine will not be used to cut arbitrary sondages down to natural deposits.

6.6 All Trenches will be sufficiently cleaned by hand to enable potential archaeological features to be identified and recorded; areas without archaeological features will be recorded as sterile and no further work will take place in these areas. The stratigraphy of all Trenches will be recorded on Trench record sheets even where no archaeological features are identified.

6.7 A sufficient sample of any archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to establish the aims of the evaluation.

- Discrete features will be half-sectioned in the first instance.
- Linear features will be sample excavated (to a minimum of 25% of their length) with each sample being not less than 1m in length.
- Deposits at junctions or interruptions in linear features will be sufficiently excavated to allow relationships to be determined.
- Structures will be sample excavated to a degree whereby their extent, nature, form, date, function and relationships to other features and deposits can be established.

7 RECORDING METHODOLOGY FOR EXCAVATION

7.1 All archaeological features will be recorded using standardised pro forma record sheets. Plans, sections and elevations will be drawn as appropriate and a comprehensive photographic record will be made where archaeological features are encountered.

7.2 Archaeological deposits will be planned at a basic scale of 1:50, with individual features requiring greater detail being planned at a scale of 1:20. Larger scales will be utilised as appropriate. Cross-section of features will be drawn to a basic scale of 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the size of the feature. All drawings will be related to Ordnance Datum. Where it aids interpretation, structural remains will also be recorded in elevation.

7.3 Each context will be described in full on a pro forma context record sheet in accordance with the accepted context record conventions. Each context will be given a unique number. These field records will be checked and indexes compiled.

7.4 Digital photographs will be taken of work in progress and individual and groups of features after excavation. This will include general views of entire features and of details such as sections as considered necessary. All site photography will adhere to accepted photographic record guidelines.

7.5 Areas devoid of archaeological deposits will be photographed and recorded as being archaeologically sterile and the stratigraphic sequence of natural deposition will be recorded.

7.6 All finds will be collected and handled following the guidance set out in the ClfA guidance for archaeological materials. Unstratified material will not be kept unless it is of exceptional intrinsic interest. Material discarded as a consequence of this policy will be described and
quantified in the field. Finds of particular interest or fragility will be retrieved as Small Finds, and located on plans. Other finds, finds within the topsoil, and dense/discrete deposits of finds will be collected as Bulk Finds, from discrete contexts, bagged by material type. Any dense/discrete deposits will have their limits defined on the appropriate plan.

7.7 All artefacts and ecofacts will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication *First Aid for Finds*, and recording systems must be compatible with the recipient museum. All finds that fall within the purview of the Treasure Act (1996) will be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures outlined in the Act, after discussion with the client and the local authority.

7.8 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with York Archaeological Trust specialists and the Heritage England Regional Science Advisor, as appropriate (e.g. dendrochronology, soil micromorphology, monolith samples, C14, etc.). Samples will be taken for scientific dating where necessary for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies. Material removed from site will be stored in appropriate controlled environments.

7.9 In the event of human remains being discovered during the evaluation these will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, in the first instance. The removal of human remains will only take place in compliance with environmental health regulations and following discussions with, and with the approval of, the Ministry of Justice. If human remains are identified, the Ministry of Justice and the City of York Planning Archaeologists will be informed immediately. An osteoarchaeologist will be available to give advice on site.

- If disarticulated remains are encountered, these will be identified and quantified on site and will be left in-situ.
- If articulated remains are encountered, these will be excavated in accordance with recognised guidelines (see 7.10) and retained for assessment.
- Any grave goods or coffin furniture will be retained for further assessment.
7.10 Where a licence is issued, all human skeletal remains must be properly removed in accordance with the terms of that licence. Where a licence is not issued, the treatment of human remains will be in accordance with the requirements of Civil Law, CIfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and APABE (2017).

8 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT

8.1 The stratigraphic information, artefacts, soil samples, and residues will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis and study. The material will be quantified (counted and weighted). Specialists will undertake a rapid scan of all excavated material. Ceramic spot dates will be given. Appropriately detailed specialist reports will be included in the report.

8.2 Materials considered vulnerable should be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration must be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues on or in pottery, and mineral-preserved organic material). Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilization of all objects and a written assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs will be produced. Once assessed, all material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, in accordance with Watkinson and Neal (1998), CIfA (2014) and Museums and Galleries (1992).

8.3 All finds will be cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate, prior to assessment. For ceramic assemblages, any recognised local pottery reference collections and relevant fabric Codes will be used.

8.4 Allowance will be made for the recovery of material suitable for scientific dating and contingency sums will be made available to undertake such dating, if necessary. This will be decided in consultation with the City of York Planning Archaeologists.

9 REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION

9.1 Upon completion of the site work, a report will be prepared to include the following:

a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work.

b) An introduction which will include the planning reference number, grid reference and dates when the fieldwork took place.

c) An account of the methodology and detailed results of the operation, describing structural data, archaeological features, associated finds and environmental data, and a conclusion and discussion.

d) A selection of photographs and drawings, including a detailed plan of the site accurately identifying the areas monitored, Trench locations, selected feature drawings, and selected artefacts, and phased feature plans where appropriate.

e) Specialist artefact and environmental reports where undertaken, and a context list/index.

f) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a context list and catalogue of what is contained in that archive.

g) A copy of the key OASIS form details
h) Copies of the Brief and WSI
i) Additional photographic images may be supplied on a CDROM appended to the report
9.2 Three copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body. The report will be submitted direct to the City of York Planning Archaeologists in PDF format for planning purposes, and subsequently for inclusion into the SMR/HER.

9.3 A field archive will be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. Catalogues of contexts, finds, soil samples, plans, sections and photographs will be produced. York Archaeological Trust will liaise with the Yorkshire museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork to establish the detailed curatorial requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer and to complete the relevant museum forms. The relevant museum curator would be afforded access to visit the site and discuss the project results.

9.4 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the Local Authority and the museum accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions. Under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR), such documentation is required to be made available to enquirers if it meets the test of public interest. Any information disclosure issues would be resolved between the client and the archaeological contractor before completion of the work. EIR requirements do not affect IPR.

9.5 Upon completion of the project an OASIS form will be completed at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/.

10 POST-EXCAVATION ANALYSIS & PUBLICATION

10.1 The information contained in the evaluation report will enable decisions to be taken regarding the future treatment of the archaeology of the development site and any material recovered during the evaluation.

10.2 If further archaeological investigations (mitigation) take place, any further analyses (as recommended by the specialists, and following agreement with the City of York Planning Archaeologists) may be incorporated into the post-excavation stage of the mitigation programme unless such analysis are required to provide information to enable a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised. Such analysis will form a new piece of work to be commissioned.

10.3 In the event that no further fieldwork takes place on the site, a full programme of post-excavation analysis and publication of artefactual and scientific material from the evaluation may be required by the City of York Planning Archaeologists. Where this is required, this work will be a new piece of work to be commissioned.

10.4 If further site works do not take place, allowance will be made for the preparation and publication in a local and/or national journal of a short summary on the results of the evaluation and of the location and material held within the site archive.

10.5 The results of the work may be publicised locally e.g. by talking to local societies, as appropriate.

10.6 A summary report accompanied by illustrations may be presented in digital format for publication in an appropriate publication.
11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

11.1 Health and safety issues will take priority over archaeological matters and all archaeologists will comply with relevant Health and Safety Legislation.

11.2 A risk assessment will be prepared prior to the start of site works.

12 PRE-START REQUIREMENTS

12.1 The client will be responsible for ensuring site access has been secured prior to the commencement of site works, and that the perimeter of the site is secure.

12.2 The client will provide York Archaeological Trust with up-to-date service plans and will be responsible for ensuring services have been disconnected, where appropriate.

12.3 The client will be responsible for ensuring that any existing reports (e.g. ground investigation, borehole logs, contamination reports) are made available to York Archaeological Trust prior to the commencement of work on site.

13 REINSTATMENT

13.1 Following excavation and recording the spoil from the Trenches will be backfilled unless requested otherwise. The backfill material will be levelled and compressed as far as possible with the mechanical excavator bucket, but will not be compressed to a specification. York Archaeological Trust shall not be responsible for reinstating any surfaces, including reseeding, unless specifically commissioned by the client who will provide a suitable specification for the work.

13.2 During the first monitoring visit (see Section 15) an agreement on a suitable staged backfill timetable for the Trenches will be agreed, to avoid leaving all Trenches open at once for health and safety reasons.

14 TIMETABLE & STAFFING

14.1 The timetable: to be agreed with the client in advance of works

14.2 Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:

- Human Remains – Malin Holst
- Palaeoenvironmental remains – PRS Ltd
- Head of Curatorial Services – Christine McDonnell
- Finds Researcher – Nicky Rogers
- Pottery Researcher – Anne Jenner
- Finds Officers – Nienke Van Doorne
- Archaeometallurgy & Industrial Residues – Rachel Cubitt and Dr Rod Mackenzie
- Conservation – Ian Panter
15 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

15.1 As a minimum requirement, the City of York Planning Archaeologists will be given a minimum of one week’s notice of work commencing on site, and will be afforded the opportunity to visit the site during and prior to completion of the on-site works so that the general stratigraphy of the site can be assessed and to discuss the requirement any further phases of archaeological work. York Archaeological Trust will notify the City of York Planning Archaeologists of any discoveries of archaeological significance so that site visits can be made, as necessary. Any changes to this agreed WSI will only be made in consultation with the City of York Planning Archaeologists.

15.2 With the client’s agreement illustrated notices may be displayed on site to explain the nature of the works.

16 COPYRIGHT

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17 KEY REFERENCES


Historic England, 2002. With Alidade and Tape – Graphical and Plane Table Survey or Archaeological Earthworks.


Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM), 2007. *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology*
### TABLES

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<tr>
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<td>88</td>
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<tr>
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<td>89</td>
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<td>Site Access.</td>
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Table 4  Photograph Register
PLATES

Plate 1  Trench 1, looking NW

Plate 2  Trench 1, Section 1. SW facing
Plate 3  Trench 1, Section 2. SW facing

Plate 4  Trench 2, looking NE
Plate 5  Trench 2, Section 4. ESE facing

Plate 6  Trench 2, Section 3. ESE facing
Plate 7  Trench 2, land drain running NW/SE

Plate 8  Trench 3, looking NW
Plate 9  Trench 3, Section 5. SW facing

Plate 10  Trench 4, looking SE
Plate 11  Trench 4, Section 6. NE facing

Plate 12  View of the rubble deposit extending into the natural in Trench 4
Plate 13  Trench 4, Section 7. SW facing

Plate 14  Trench 5, looking SW
Plate 15  Trench 5, Section 8. NW facing

Plate 16  Trench 5, Section 9. SE facing
This is a relatively comprehensive proforma file for drawings. Please copy it into the area that you are working so that it does not get overwritten. It contains:

- line and symbols styles
- scales
- hachures

as separate layers which can be switched on and off so they can be used to copy or eyedropper things across as required.

It also contains the different report proforma layouts as layers so that you can work out what size final output you require.

Just go to file/document setup/edit artboard and then adjust as required on the artboard bar (usually at the top of screen). The layers should match the corresponding artboard.

When you place scans to trace of similar make sure that you tick the link box to keep the file size realistic. Otherwise make sure that you remove the scans from the final drawings when completed.

When you 'save as' remember to untick the box for create pdf compatible file, as that will also save a lot of space.
Fig. 2  Trench Locations with Sections (After drawing ‘Basic Topographical & Underground Utilities Survey’ by Subscan UDS and drawing MUL-423-001 01)
Section 1, SW facing

Section 2, SW facing

Figure. 3 Trench 1, Sections 1 and 2
Section 3, ESE facing

SSW

NNE

2000

2001

2002

2003

20.64m AOD

Section 4, ESE facing

SSW

NNE

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

20.60m AOD

0 1 2 m

Figure. 4 Trench 2, Sections 3 and 4
Read me:
This is a relatively comprehensive proforma file for drawings. Please copy it into the area that you are working so that it does not get overwritten.

It contains:
- line and symbols styles
- scales
- hachures
as separate layers which can be switched on and off so they can be used to copy or eyedropper things across as required.

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Figure. 5  Trench 3, Section 5
Trench 4, Section 6, NE facing

Trench 4, Section 7, SW facing

Figure. 6  Trench 4, Sections 6 and 7
Figure 7  Trench 5, Sections 8 and 9

Section 8, NW facing

Section 9, SE facing

Figure. 7  Trench 5, Sections 8 and 9
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