

NYCC HER	
SNY	8396
ENY	1885
CNY	2762
Parish	2034
Rec'd	20/11/2003

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MAP

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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NYC 2762

NYE 1885

NYS 8396

Crayke Castle  
Crake  
North Yorkshire  
SE 55724 70409

NYCC REF.	
SNY	8396
ENY	1885
CRY	2762
Parish	2034
Rec'd	20/11/03

Archaeological Watching Brief

N.Y.C.C.  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Recd. 20 NOV 2003

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MAP  
November 2003

**Crayke Castle  
Crake  
North Yorkshire  
SE 55724 70409  
Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**Crayke Castle  
Crake  
North Yorkshire  
SE 55724 70409**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**1. Introduction**

This report has been prepared by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council: Thirsk Highways Division, to fulfil a Condition on Scheduled Monument Consent (Ref. HSD9/2/5545 : Monument No. 12602 : Fig. 1), for repairs to roadside drainage.

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**2. Site Description**

The area of proposed work is approximately 100m along the northern verge of Crayke Lane, on the southern boundary of Crayke Castle (National Monument No. 12602 : Grid Reference SE 55724 70409 : Fig. 2).

Crayke Castle is a stone built motte and bailey built by the Prince Bishops of Durham. The fifteenth century Great Chamber is located in the bailey with the ruins of the New Tower on the Motte.

**3. Aims and Objectives**

The aim of the proposed work was to record and recover any archaeological remains affected by the provision of a 150mm diameter drain along the roadside verge with provision of two manholes, comprising excavation 1.5m deep and 0.6m wide.

**4. Method Statement: Archaeological Watching Brief**

The programme of works on the site involved the observation and recording of all ground disturbance works by an archaeologist. All mechanical excavations were undertaken by a JCB with a toothless bucket to a depth of no more than 0.70m.

## 5. Results

Excavation revealed an uncomplicated sequence of deposits (Fig. 3). At the base of the trench was a yellowish brown clay loam with cobble inclusions (Deposits 1002/1008), measuring up to 0.42m in depth. Recent service trenches including water and BT had heavily truncated this deposit, which was interpreted as natural.

Above Deposits 1002/1008 was a relatively thick deposit of yellow sand with small limestone fragments (Deposits 1001/1006), which represented modern hardcore. The hardcore was sealed by a thin layer of tarmac (Deposits 1000/1005).

A 0.20m thick deposit of greyish brown silty loam topsoil (Contexts 1003/1009) was recorded along the northern edge of the excavated trench. This deposit was directly above natural deposits

Excavation confirmed that the new drainage trench had been excavated within an area which had been previously disturbed by other services and that no archaeological deposits/features or finds were observed.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Context Listing**

- 1000 Deposit – Tarmac road surface
- 1001 Deposit – Hard core and road make up
- 1002 Deposit - Clay possible natural
- 1003 Deposit – Topsoil
- 1004 Not used
- 1005 Deposit – Tarmac road surface same as deposit 1000
- 1006 Deposit – Hard core road make up same as deposit 1001
- 1007 Deposit – Back fill, levelling deposit
- 1008 Deposit – Clay deposit same as deposit 1002
- 1009 Deposit – Topsoil, same as 1003

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **Drawing Catalogue**

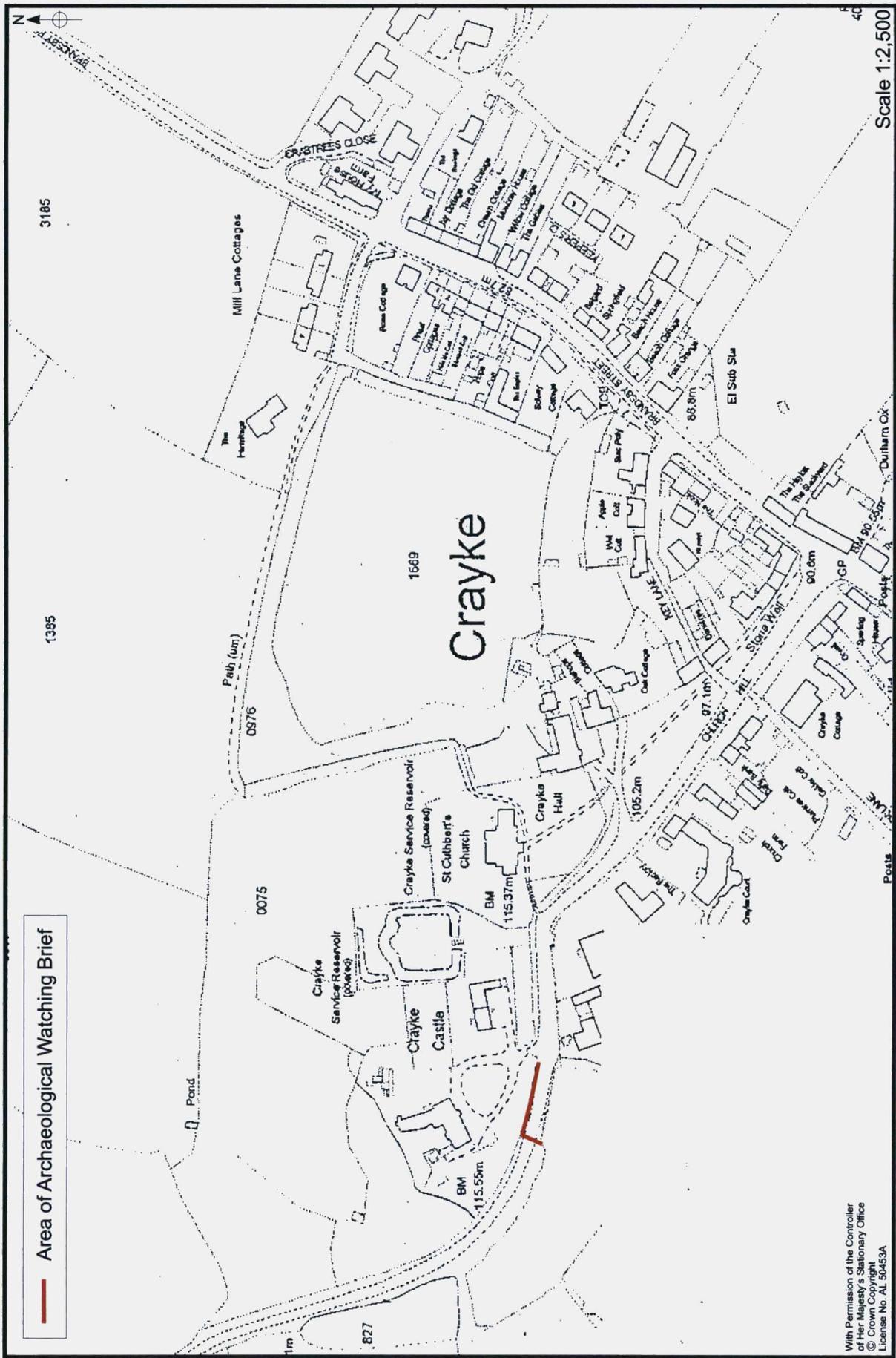
- 1. Post excavation plan of east to west duct. Scale 1:50
- 2. Section plan. West facing section of manhole area. Scale 1:50
- 3. Post excavation plan of north to south duct. Scale 1:50
- 4. Section plan of north to south duct. Scale 1:50

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **Photographic Listing**

- 1. ID shot – Crayke Castle Watching Brief
- 2. Post excavation of east to west service trench
- 3. Post excavation view of south facing section of east to west trench
- 4. View of Deposit 1002/1008
- 5. Post excavation view of north south service trench





— Area of Archaeological Watching Brief

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Figure 2. Watching Brief Area

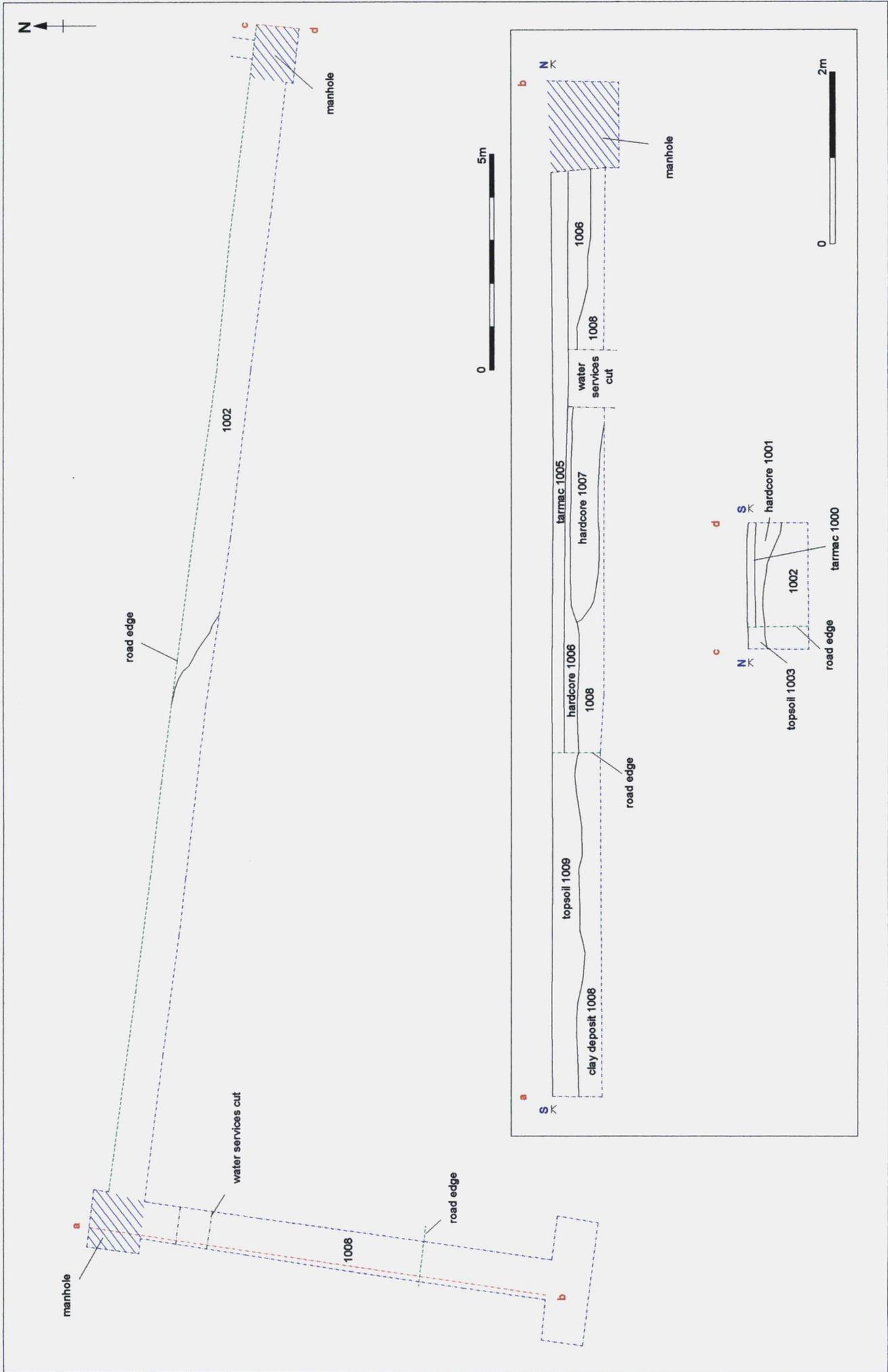


Figure 3. Plan and Sections of Watching Brief Area

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