

Humber Field Archaeology
Archaeological Consultants and Contractors



AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

ON LAND AT

EASTGATE SOUTH

DRIFFIELD

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

Humber Archaeology Report No.85

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ON LAND AT
EASTGATE SOUTH, DRIFFIELD
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Contents

1	Summary	5
2	Introduction	6
2.1	Site Location	6
2.2	Circumstances of the Fieldwork	6
2.3	Historical and Archaeological Background	7
3	The Excavations	10
3.1	Methodology	10
3.2	Results	10
4	Specialist Reports	17
4.1	The Pottery	17
4.2	The Finds	29
4.3	Conservation Assessment	36
4.4	The Ceramic Building Material	42
4.5	The Biological Assemblage	44
4.6	The Animal Bone	46
5	Conclusions and Recommendations	53
5.1	Conclusions	53
5.2	Recommendations	54
	Acknowledgements	56
	Bibliography	56

Tables

Table 1	Distributions of ceramic assemblage by sherd count, weight	21
Table 2	Distribution of fabrics by date	21
Table 3	Pottery database	24
Table 4	Conservation assessment – iron objects	38
Table 5	Conservation assessment – copper alloy objects	39
Table 6	Conservation assessment – lead alloy objects	40
Table 7	Conservation assessment – bone objects	40
Table 8	Conservation assessment – glass objects	40
Table 9	Animal bone catalogue	49
Table 10	Identification and minimum numbers of individuals of hand-collected marine molluscs	51
Table 11	Identification and minimum numbers of individuals of hand-collected terrestrial molluscs	52

Figures

(located at end of report)

Figure 1	Site location, showing other sites in vicinity
Figure 2	Plan of natural and Phase 1A features
Figure 3	Plan of Phase 1B features
Figure 4	Plan of Phase 1C features
Figure 5	Plan of Phase 1D features
Figure 6	Plan of Phase 1E features
Figure 7	Plan of Phase 2 features
Figure 8	Plan of Phase 4 features

Figures 9–13 Site sections and cross-sections

Plates

(located at end of report)

Plate 1 The trench following initial clearance, looking north towards Eastgate

Plate 2 The trench during clearance, looking south

Plate 3 Phase 1B slot [32] and postholes [28], [30]

Plate 4 Section through Phase 1C ditch [41], with yellow gravel fill [13]

Plate 5 Section through the fills of Phase 1D boundary ditch [58]

Plate 6 Section through Phase 1D pit [38]

Plate 7 Phase 1E cut [66]

1 Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out by staff from Humber Field Archaeology on land to the west of Eastgate South, Driffield, in April 2001, immediately to the south of the Hull–Scarborough rail link (site code DES2001). The single trench, measuring approximately 8.0 x 25.5m, with an extension to the south-east, was opened up by Adrian Havercroft of the Guildhouse Consultancy, who acted as the client’s archaeological consultant throughout.

Evidence for Romano-British occupation had been found in the area previously, notably during an evaluation carried out on the site in 1993 by the Humberside Archaeological Unit (predecessor of HFA), and immediately to the north of the rail link at Albion Street, in 1992. The presence at DES2001 of Roman pits and linear features, late pottery, building materials, and artefacts, including a coin of Hadrian (AD 117–38), confirmed these earlier findings, and suggested that structures had existed on the site.

It had been hoped that traces of Anglo-Saxon and medieval occupation would be found, perhaps related to an Anglian cemetery found nearby in the 19th century, and to the development of Eastgate, perhaps in the later 12th or 13th century, but nothing substantial of definite post-Roman date was encountered. This is probably due to post-medieval truncation, presumably for the construction of railway sidings in 1876 or later works associated with the line and a recent coal yard. The footings of buildings fronting Eastgate were not observed in either the 1993 or present excavations.

2 Introduction

2.1 Site Location

The site lies immediately to the west of Eastgate South, Driffield, East Riding of Yorkshire, to the south of the Hull–Scarborough railway, a former coal yard to the west, and housing to the south (central National Grid Ref. TA 0282 5740; Fig 1). Driffield Beck lies at the west end of the site, some distance from the excavated area, but potentially influencing the local topography and patterns of land-use.

2.2 Circumstances of the Fieldwork

This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken at Eastgate South by Humber Field Archaeology, over a two-week period during April 2001 (site code DES 2001). The work was commissioned by Adrian Havercroft of the Guildhouse Consultancy on behalf of the client, William Naylor and Son, Builders, prior to the construction of a residential development and access road, to ascertain the depth, extent and state of preservation of any surviving archaeological remains.

The excavation was carried out in order to discharge an archaeological condition attached to the site planning permission (application no. D.885(C)), for the construction of flats and houses on the former coalyard. The original specification for the site, produced by the Archaeology Officer of Humber Sites and Monuments Record (December 2000), suggested the excavation of a large area (20 x 25.5 x 24m) which would have included the line of a roadway servicing the development. A revised mitigation strategy produced by the client's archaeological consultant, Adrian Havercroft (March 2001), proposed that the area beneath the roadway and immediately to the north could be protected by raising the local formation level of the development above 15.75m OD. This would leave an available area approximately 8.0 x 25.5m to provide a good sample of the archaeological sequence. This strategy was adopted, and formed the basis of the excavation described and discussed in this report.

This excavation report follows the production of an interim statement (HFA, May 2001), but includes a more detailed examination of the site sequence, together with assessments of the pottery, recorded finds, and environmental evidence. It will discuss the results in relation to other sites which have produced evidence for Romano-British occupation in Driffield, although little can be added to our understanding of the post-Roman development of the area.

2.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

Natural topography and geology

Great Driffield lies below the edge of the chalk Wolds in the upper Hull valley, on an area of uneven sand and gravel deposits laid down during the last glaciation. The site itself lies on a slight ridge overlooking the Driffield Beck, a little further west, which ran southward to join the River Hull. The presence of the Beck, and the general location, would probably have recommended the area of the later town as suitable for occupation from the earliest times, as it allowed exploitation of both the uplands of the Wolds and the fertile Hull valley.

It was these factors which led to the medieval and post-medieval development of Driffield. The line of the Beck also helped to determine the later topographical layout of the town.

Archaeological background

Some evidence for prehistoric occupation has been found in Driffield, including nearly 300 flint flakes and tools, and a Neolithic building, recorded *c* 800m to the north-west at Mill Street in 1989 (TA 0210 5760; HAU 1989); two worked flints were recovered on the Eastgate site during the 1993 evaluation (Tibbles 1993).

Evidence for Romano-British occupation is more common, and this included a boundary ditch and cut features of late 2nd- to 4th-century date from the north side of the railway track near Albion Street (Tibbles 1992). A box-flue tile (*tubulus*) from a heating system, bricks and ceramic roofing tiles (*tegulae*) and a stone roof tile were also found, indicating the proximity of a building. During the 1993 Eastgate evaluation, a ditch, pits, and a quantity of pottery, including decorated samian and late greyware, were encountered. Further afield, traces of late Roman occupation were found beneath the town's medieval motte in 1975, including Crambeck and Huntcliffe wares, and a beam slot (TA 0240 5830; Eddy 1983, 44–5, 48–9).

A substantial settlement at Great Driffield was already in existence by the time of the Norman Conquest, and a small quantity of 11th- to 12th-century pottery found during the 1993 evaluation demonstrates occupation dating from around this time and the following decades. There is also, however, evidence for earlier Anglo-Saxon occupation in the vicinity. Several skeletons and cremations of probable early Saxon date were recorded immediately to the north-east of the site alongside the railway track (TA 0306 0286), during the construction of sidings in 1876 for the existing former cake mill on the north side of Eastgate South (Mortimer 1905, 293). Iron fragments and pottery accompanied the skeletons, and if these represent gravegoods, the burials would be pagan, rather than Christian. A sword may also have been found, although the exact location is unclear (Meaney 1964, 287). These, and other burials in the town, together with earthworks at Hall Garth (TA 0222 5820), have been used as evidence to suggest a substantial early to middle Saxon settlement was present locally (Eagles 1979, 228). There is a tradition that a Saxon palace was located in the northern part of the town, where the Northumbrian king, Aldfrith, died in 705 (Faull 1974, 12), although he is reputedly buried not in the town, but in St Peter's Church, Little Driffield.

A *motte* (earth mound), modern Moot Hill, represents the remains of a simple timber castle which may have been built after *c* 1069, following the rebellion of Morcar, surviving Saxon Earl of Northumbria who held the manor. Trial excavations in 1975 confirmed the Norman origin, and revealed several phases of timber bridge crossing the motte ditch. An Anglo-Saxon sword and other artefacts were also found during removal of part of the mound around 1858 (Loughlin 1978, 90; Mortimer 1905, 294). Despite evidence for the replacement of the bridge, the lack of stone defences (normally added after about thirty years) suggest that the site was probably short-lived, although it may have been refortified in the 13th century (Eddy 1983, 50).

Domesday Book reveals that at the time of the Norman Conquest, the manor of Driffield (including several other townships) extended across an area of two by three leagues, and consisted of 23 *carucates* (ploughlands) totalling *c* 2400 acres, with eight mills and two churches. Worth £40 in 1066 when Morcar held it, the town was wasted by the army of William I during the ‘Harrying of the North’, and still had no value twenty years later when Domesday was written, although it was by then held directly by the king, following the capture and imprisonment of Morcar in 1071.

Driffield developed subsequently into a trading centre for a large area, probably becoming a market town during the medieval period, although without a market charter. Fairs were held at nearby Little Driffield. Apart from the motte, the only structural survival of the period is the 13th-century All Saints church, which incorporates two possible pre-conquest moulded stones. Later work includes the 15th-century tower (Pevsner & Neave 1999, 439–41).

The core of the existing rectilinear layout of streets and properties was probably laid out relatively early, perhaps in the later 11th or 12th centuries as a planned restoration, with the main concentration of occupation almost certainly located around the church. The street layout seems to have been determined by the line of the Beck, with two main parallel streets, one to either side of the Beck, several back lanes, and a series of smaller cross-connecting lanes (Allison 1976, 223–4). Eastgate South was an extension of one of the main roads, perhaps leading to the open fields beyond the earliest settled nucleus. Driffield had three such fields, Middle Field, East Field, and West Field, with an area of common, Wold Land. This medieval pattern was replaced when Driffield was enclosed in 1742 — an early date for the East Riding.

In the area of the site, few definite medieval features have been found, where pits and wells behind properties fronting Eastgate might have been expected. This suggests that the area was peripheral to the town, probably until the construction of Driffield Canal in 1770, which enabled the town to develop further as an agricultural centre. The canal initially extended from Fisholme on Frodingham Beck, allowing keels to pass from Hull. Eastgate now found itself as a main route from the town to ‘River Head’, which was the focus for the construction of warehouses, grain and fertiliser mills. These exploited the opportunities presented by improvements in efficiency and agricultural methods which followed enclosure. The canal was improved as trade grew, but grain traffic in particular went into decline following the construction of the Hull to Bridlington railway in 1846, and the Driffield to Market Weighton line in 1853. These were served by a station and areas of sidings near River Head, taking the products of the Driffield area to a wider market, and allowing the import of fertilisers and other goods. The site itself was occupied by a coal depot adjoining the railway

until recently; ironically, coal traffic was one of the last to survive on the canal, with the last keel reaching Driffield in 1944 (Paget-Tomlinson 1993, 127).

3 The Excavations

3.1 Methodology

The recent overburden, mainly associated with the use of the site as a coal yard adjoining the Hull–Scarborough railway line, was removed under the direction of the client’s archaeological consultant, using a wheeled mechanical excavator, to the upper contact horizon with the underlying archaeological strata. This surface was cleaned back using a flat-bladed ditching bucket, and examined for features and artefacts, together with two sondages excavated on the Eastgate frontage. The prepared trench was then handed over to HFA for the main part of the excavation. These initial works were carried out in accordance with a Project Design for Continuous Archaeological Recording prepared by Guildhouse Consultancy (February 2001). The subsequent on-site excavation and recording methodology employed was in accordance with standard HFA procedures, as laid down in a site-specific Project Design for an Archaeological Excavation (March 2001).

Standard Humber Field Archaeology recording procedures were used throughout: each feature was allocated a context number and a written description on *pro forma* sheets, and plans and sections drawn to scale on permatrace sheets. A colour transparency and a black-and-white print photographic record was maintained. The trench positions were surveyed using electronic distance-measuring equipment (EDM) to give exact locations. Finds recovered from each feature were labelled accordingly, with those of individual interest, other than pottery and animal bone, being allocated Recorded Find (RF) numbers.

A number of selected deposits were sampled for the purpose of analysing any surviving biological remains.

3.2 Results

The rectangular trench was orientated broadly east–west and originally measured 8.0 x 25.5m; a 4.0 x 8.0m extension led from the south-east corner on the Eastgate frontage (Plates 1, 2). In the event, more extensive archaeological features were encountered than had been expected, mainly consisting of large deposits of redeposited natural material used as makeup and compensation. Emphasis was therefore placed on ensuring that the sequence was correctly understood, and all features not fully excavated were sampled. The final surface was checked to ensure that it had been reduced below the formation level required for the construction of house platforms along the southern half of the trench; the northern half is earmarked for gardens.

Natural

(Fig 2; Fig 10, sections 3, 4; Fig 11, sections 5–7)

Where exposed, the natural substrate [96] consisted of a compact, friable, grey-veined pink-brown fine sand clay, with frequent, small chalk gravel inclusions, encountered at 0.37m below current ground level (15.83m OD) in the north-east corner of the trench. The surface sloped down towards the southern and western extents of the trench, to 1.1m below current ground level (15.15m OD) in the south-eastern corner, and 0.96m below current ground level (15.04m OD), 5m to the east of the south-western corner.

Overlying the natural in the south-western extent of the trench was a coarse-grained, friable, orange-brown clay sand silt subsoil [97] up to 0.25m thick, with occasional chalk gravel inclusions, 0.71m below current ground level (15.29m OD). This was overlain in turn by firm, coarse-grained, red-orange-brown sand silt clay [46], with occasional chalk gravel and charcoal inclusions. This upper subsoil was only encountered in a sondage in the south-western corner of the trench, 0.54m below current ground level (15.43m OD), but was presumably more extensive.

Phase 1

Phase 1A (1st century BC–1st century AD)

(Fig 2; Fig 9, section 1; Fig 10, section 4)

The south-western sondage also revealed a 0.27 x 0.24m oval posthole [48], 0.18m deep, with vertical sides and concave base (base at 14.91m OD), orientated north-south. The fill, [47], was a friable, fine-grained, sand silt with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk gravel inclusions.

Overlying the exposed lowest natural stratum in the south of the trench was a deposit of friable, light grey-brown silt and gravel [84], up to 0.1m thick, with frequent charcoal inclusions concentrated at the base, from which no dating evidence was recovered. The surface lay at 15.25m OD in the southern central extent of the trench, dropping to 15.15m OD nearer the southern limit of excavation, where it was truncated by a later ditch.

Phase 1B (1st–2nd century AD)

(Fig 3; Fig 9, section 2; Fig 10, section 3; Fig 11, section 7; Fig 12, sections 8, 9, 11)

A deposit of firm, orange-brown silt clay [34=74=10=45] up to 0.15m thick, with frequent chalk gravel inclusions, overlay the Phase 1A surface, and extending over the southern and western extents of the trench. This deposit was encountered at 15.41m OD in the central area of the trench, dropping to 15.33m OD to the south, and rising to 15.53m OD to the west.

Protruding from the southern baulk, and cutting the earlier deposits in the south-western corner of the trench was an east-south-east to west-north-west aligned, V-shaped, 1.0m wide ditch [79=92] up to 0.42m deep, with 45° sloping sides and concave base. On reaching the south-west corner of the trench, this returned northward, converging with the western limit of excavation. Late Iron Age or Early

Romano-British pottery, animal bone and snail shell were recovered from the fill [78=91], a firm, dark grey fine-grained sand silt, which contained occasional clay lenses, occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small chalk gravel inclusions.

Another north-north-east to south-south-west aligned ditch was encountered at 15.26m OD in the eastern extent of the trench. This cut, [95], was 1.10m wide, 0.42m deep, with a concave base, and with the western edge cut more steeply than the eastern. This may have been the eastern arm of ditch 79=92, possibly forming three sides of an enclosure. The fill was friable, grey-brown clay silt [94], with frequent chalk gravel and occasional charcoal inclusions, containing Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British pottery, animal bone and oyster shell.

Two oval postholes, [28] and [30], and a slot, [32], extended from the northern baulk (Plate 3), bounded by 79=92 to the west; these indicated the presence of a structure of unknown form and area. Both 28 and 30 had identical fills ([29] and [31] respectively), consisting of firm dark brown silt clay, with small, chalk gravel inclusions, although their orientations and profiles differed. Posthole 28 was orientated east–west, and only the 50mm deep concave base remained, measuring at least 0.17 x 0.19m, whilst 30 was north–south orientated, with vertical sides and concave base, measuring 0.31 x 0.28m wide and 0.21m deep.

Slot 32 was aligned north–south, and was 0.29m wide, 0.12m deep, with a flat base, with the eastern edge cut more steeply than the western. It extended 0.95m into the trench. The fill [33], was a firm brown silt clay with frequent small chalk gravel inclusions.

Phase 1C (late 3rd–4th century AD)

Fig 4; Fig 9, section 2; Fig 10, sections 3, 4; Fig 12, sections 8, 10, 11)

Dumped deposits with a combined depth of 0.29m extended across the western third of the trench, sealing the earlier ditch and postholes. They included 60mm thick friable grey-brown clay silt [73] with frequent small chalk gravel inclusions, and firm dark grey fine-grained sand silt [12=18=27=6=7], followed by grey-brown fine-grained silt clay [14=19], and firm grey silt clay and gravel [36]. Residual Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British pottery, together with 3rd-century sherds, was recovered from these possible ground-raising dumps, which were encountered at 15.44m OD in the north-western extent of the trench, rising to 15.55m OD in the south-west.

Extending 5.0m from the western limit of excavation, and cutting the ground-raising dumps, was an east-south-east to west-north-west aligned, 1.70m wide, 0.39m deep ditch [41] (Plate 4). This had a concave base, shallow northern edge and steeper southern edge (top at 15.45m OD), and cut contained three fills. The 80mm thick primary fill [40] was a firm, brown, silt clay with coarse-grained sand, small chalk gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks. The 30mm thick secondary fill [39] was a firm, light cream-brown, silt clay, with coarse-grained sand and frequent small chalk gravel inclusions, containing residual Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British pottery. The feature was subsequently back-filled with clean chalk gravel [13].

A little to the north and east was a narrow slot, [63], with a post-setting at its north-western terminus. The cut was 0.3m wide with 45° sloping sides and concave base, and was at least 3.55m long. The north-eastern end was truncated by later activity, but continued on a similar alignment to the north-east, where it returned eastward into the southern section. The fill [62=87], was a friable, dark grey clay silt with frequent chalk gravel inclusions, containing 3rd-century Romano-British pottery. On balance, the cut may have formed part of a fence-line extending eastward from a point opposite the terminus of 41. There was no indication, however, that the eastward return continued into 1992 evaluation Trench 2, which was located immediately beyond the 2001 limit of excavation.

Lying to the north of 41 and cutting the same ground-raising dumps, were two pits. The first, [98], was irregularly shaped, 1.5m wide and at least 2.25m east-west. It remained largely unexcavated, and its extent was defined by the area of the fill. No surface finds were recovered from the top of the fill, [9], which was a grey-brown, clay silt. A sediment sample from 9 contained fragments of burnt clay/daub, charcoal and charred heather, suggesting either the possible destruction of a building thatched with heather, or a domestic or craft activity involving the burning of peat, turves or dried heather for fuel.

The second pit, [82], was sub-rectangular, orientated north-west to south-east, and was 0.76 x 0.62m, 0.17m deep, with steep sides and slightly concave base. It contained a soft, grey mottled, green-brown, fine sand clay [81], with frequent chalk fragments and inclusions.

Phase 1D (late 4th century AD)

(Fig 5 ; Fig 19, section 4; Fig 12, sections 10, 11; Fig 13, sections 12, 13)

The terminus of the Phase 1C ditch and the eastern extent of pit 98 were subsequently truncated by a later, flat-bottomed ditch [61]. This feature was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, and was at least 2.0m wide, 0.75m deep, with 45° sloping sides, and a slightly stepped northern edge. The cut returned towards the east on approaching the limit of excavation; its apparent terminus was recorded immediately to the east in Trench 2 of the 1993 evaluation (Fig 5, cut [12]), together with three pits (Fig 5, contexts [17], [40] and [43]). The ditch had been allowed to silt up, resulting in the formation of a 0.4m thick, friable grey-brown silt clay primary fill [60], with frequent chalk gravel inclusions, overlain by a 0.35m thick, soft grey-brown silt clay secondary fill [59], with frequent chalk gravel and charcoal inclusions. Fill 60 contained sherds of mid to late 4th-century pottery, whilst 59 contained residual 3rd-century material. The feature was re-cut on a similar alignment, forming a 1.5m wide, 0.40m deep, slightly concave-based ditch [58=83], with sides sloping at 70° (Plate 5). The primary fill [57] was a soft dark grey clay silt up to 0.30m thick, with occasional charcoal and chalk gravel inclusions, containing 4th- to 5th-century pottery. The secondary fill was a firm grey-brown silt clay [80], up to 0.27m thick which contained chalk gravel and charcoal inclusions, together with 4th-century pottery. No dating evidence was recovered from the tertiary fill [77], a firm red-brown clay up to 0.5m thick. The final fill, [56=76], was a soft, loose grey-brown clay silt with moderate small chalk gravel inclusions and charcoal flecks, containing Romano-British pottery. Examination of an environmental sample from 56 revealed the presence of charcoal, charred barley, wheat, and possibly heather. Burnt heather was also found in a sample

from Phase 1C pit fill 9, and it may therefore have been locally available for use as fuel or roofing material.

In the area enclosed by 58=83 was, [93], an east–west orientated, flat-bottomed, 2.0 x 1.4m pit, 0.32m deep, with vertical southern edge and stepped northern and eastern edges. The charcoal-flecked, friable grey-brown silt clay fill, [44], with frequent gravel inclusions, contained animal bone, fragmented ceramic building material, and both 3rd- and mid to late 4th-century pottery.

Extending into the trench from the south-western section were two pits. The larger of the two, [38], was 3.28m long, and at least 0.5m wide and 0.5m deep, with sides sloping at 45° (Plate 6). It contained a firm, grey fine sand silt clay fill [37], containing frequent chalk gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks, from which animal bone and Romano-British pottery were recovered.

The smaller pit, [43], was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west, and was at least 0.7m long, 0.3m wide, and 0.4m deep, with a concave base. The fill [42] was grey sand silt clay with frequent chalk gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks.

Phase 1E (late 4th–early 5th century AD)
(Fig 6; Fig 13, sections 13–16)

Cutting the possible Phase 1D western enclosure ditch 61 were two larger pits containing Romano-British pottery, and two postholes.

Subsequent to ditch 61 going out of use and being backfilled, it was truncated by an east–west orientated, elongated oval pit [55]. The pit was 2.0 x 0.9m, and 0.35m deep, with a concave base, and contained firm, light grey-brown silt clay fill [15], with frequent chalk gravel inclusions, from which animal bone and late 4th-century pottery were recovered.

Possibly associated with the pit, and also cutting the earlier ditch fill, were circular postholes, indicating the presence of a structure. The larger of the two postholes, [85], had a diameter of 0.6m and a depth of 0.28m, with almost vertical sides meeting the concave base. The 50mm thick firm grey silt sand primary fill [89] was devoid of dating evidence, as was the 0.1m thick firm red-brown silt clay secondary fill [88]. The tertiary fill [20] consisted of 0.13m of firm grey-brown silt clay, containing mid to late 4th-century pottery.

The second posthole, [86], was 0.55m in diameter, 0.15m deep, with vertically sides meeting the flat base, and was located to the south-east of 85. The fill [22] was identical to 20 but devoid of dating evidence.

Postholes 85 and 86 were partially truncated by a north-west to south-east orientated sub-rectangular pit [66] to the south-west (Plate 7). This feature was 3.5 x 2.1m, and 0.24m deep, with vertical sides meeting a flat base. The dark grey silt fill [17], of varying compaction, contained ceramic building material, burnt clay, snail shell, animal bone, and residual Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British pottery.

Features 55, 85, 86 and 66 have been treated as a sub-phase of Phase 1, on the basis of the dating evidence, but they may in fact be contemporary with the late Roman/Saxon Phase 2.

Phase 2 (late 4th–early 5th century AD)
(Fig 7; Fig 13, sections 17, 18)

In the central area of the trench were a pit and ten postholes, two of which, [69] and [72], were excavated. Posthole 69 was sub-circular, 0.5 x 0.4m, with vertical sides and a concave base. The fill, [68], was a friable dark grey clay silt with frequent chalk gravel inclusions, from which late Roman/early Saxon hybrid pottery was recovered. Posthole 72 was circular, 50mm in diameter and 70mm deep with only the concave base remaining. It contained friable grey-brown clay silt fill [71], with frequent chalk gravel inclusions. The eight unexcavated postholes were all oval, ranging from 0.34–0.56 x 0.22–0.40m in diameter.

The postholes indicate the presence of one or more structural features, including an alignment of four cuts representing a possible fenceline almost parallel to the Phase 1C and 1e structures. This indicates some continuity between Phases 1 and 2, although they have been separated on the basis of the later pottery encountered in fill 68.

Phase 3 (12th century?)
(Fig 11, section 3, Fig 12, sections 8, 11)

Sealing the Phase 1 and 2 archaeological features in the southern extent of the trench was up to 0.40m of friable, grey-brown silt clay [3]. Its surface lay at 15.75m OD, although it was encountered 0.25m below the uneven current ground level in the western end of the trench, and 0.50m below at the south-eastern and eastern end. This is considered to represent the end of the Romano-British or Romano-Saxon occupation of the site.

Phase 4 (12th century)
(Fig 8; Fig 9, section 2; Fig 12, sections 8, 11)

Extending into the north-west corner of the trench from the northern section, and truncating the earlier Phase 1C pit 82, was a north-west to south-east orientated pit [67], at least 4.08m long, 1.62m wide, and 0.55m deep. It was almost vertically sided, with an irregular base.

The 0.2m thick primary fill, [75], was a plastic, light grey-brown chalk gravel and silt clay, with occasional charcoal flecks, extending across the base of the pit. It contained pottery of Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British, later Romano-British, and Saxo-Roman date, together with animal bone and oyster shell. This was the only fill to extend across the pit. The secondary fill [70] was a 0.14m thick soft, grey-brown, silt clay and gravel, deposited against the eastern side of the pit; all of the subsequent fills were deposited against the western edge of the cut.

The tertiary fill, [52], was up to 0.15m of plastic, brown lensed light grey-brown silt clay and chalk gravel, containing pottery of Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British

through to Saxo-Norman date, as well as animal bone, oyster shell and fragments of ceramic building material.

The fourth fill, [5], was up to 0.15m of friable, grey-brown silt clay and chalk gravel, from which pottery of Romano-British to Saxo-Norman date was recovered, together with animal bone and fragmented ceramic building material.

The fifth fill, [51], was a compact, mottled light brown and grey-brown, silt clay and chalk gravel up to 0.23m thick, containing Romano-British and Saxo-Norman pottery, and fragments of ceramic building material.

The penultimate fill, [4], consisted of friable, grey-brown silt clay and chalk gravel up to 0.18m thick. Only Saxo-Norman pottery and ceramic building material were recovered.

The latest fill [35] was up to 0.33m of compact grey-yellow sand clay and gravel, containing Romano-British and Saxo-Norman pottery, and burnt clay.

A pit of the same period was recorded immediately to the east of the excavation in 1992 evaluation Trench 2 (Fig 8, context [38]).

Phase 5 (19th–20th century)
(Fig 10, section 2; Fig 11, sections 5–7)

Overlying the Phase 2 deposit in the northern extent of the trench, and sealing the remaining exposed archaeological strata, were deposits of chalk gravel, cinder, fragmented chalk and hardcore ([1], [2]) forming a layer up to 0.50m thick. This was encountered at current ground level: 16.20m OD in the north-east corner, 16.25m OD in the south-east corner, 16.10m OD on the southern baulk and 16.00m OD in the north-west and south-west corners.

These deposits were contemporary with a series of rectangular and irregular cut features in the northern extent of the trench, which were related to structures associated with the coal yard to the west and modern services, including a telephone cable, and in the north-west corner, part of a redundant brick-lined manhole.

4 Specialist Reports

4.1 The Pottery

Peter Didsbury M Phil

Introduction and methodology

A total of 253 sherds of pottery, weighing 4516 grams, and having an average sherd weight (hereafter ASW) of 17.8g, was recovered from the excavations.

All material was examined, and quantified by the two measures of number and weight of sherds, according to fabric category within archaeological context. Data was recorded on an Access database supplied as part of this report. Fabric codes used in the report and database are listed in this report.

Three main chronological components were discerned in the site assemblage:

- Hand- and wheel-made coarsewares in a Late Iron Age to Early Roman tempering tradition
- Fully developed Roman wheel-thrown and other wares, including a distinctive late fourth- to early fifth-century element
- Saxo-Norman/Early Medieval wares, characteristic of pits [50] and [67].

Fabric characterisation

Where possible, material has been allocated to named fabric types, the common names employed being in general use or conforming to terminology currently in use at the Humber Archaeology Partnership. However, a number of factors, including the present lack of an established fabric series for Driffield, and the fact that a large proportion of the material consisted of hand-made body sherds requiring careful scrutiny in order to interpret them correctly, made it advisable to employ a series of alpha-numeric codes in addition. These are set out in detail in the Appendix, but it is appropriate to rehearse the main elements of this scheme below:

- Fabrics 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4 and 6 are allocated to sand- and grit-tempered coarsewares in a Saxo-Norman to Early Medieval regional tempering tradition.
- Fabrics 5A–5F denote hand-made coarsewares attributed to a Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British regional potting tradition, distinguished according to principal tempering agents (see Appendix).

Discussion by phase

Phase 1A

No pottery was present.

Phase 1B

The only ceramic from this sub-phase came from fill [78] of ditch [79=8], and comprised a single hand-made body sherd (17g) in Fabric 5F, a quartz-tempered ware distinguished by a leathery, burnished exterior and common large flakes of golden mica visible in both surfaces (see database and appendix for full description). Although, in isolation, a sherd with these characteristics might equally easily have been regarded as Anglo-Saxon, its stratigraphic position and basic points of resemblance to other hand-tempered wares from the site, make it preferable to regard it as being of Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British date. Exterior burnishing is relatively common on wares of this date, both here and at Hawling Road, Market Weighton, and the latter site has produced contemporary fabrics with very micaceous surfaces, as has the Iron Age Site at Creyke Beck, Cottingham (Evans 1999, 200–2; Didsbury forthcoming). The sherd is externally sooted, presumably the result of normal ‘domestic’ use. It may be noted that the only other sherd of this fabric comes from fill [52] of pit [67]. It is very probably from the same vessel, and has therefore been re-deposited.

No close dating is afforded by this sherd. It must be seen within the context of a continuation of indigenous potting traditions into the Roman period in this region, where it is now generally held that assemblages on non-nucleated rural sites tend to be dominated by hand- and wheel-made coarsewares in ‘native’ fabrics well into the 2nd century AD and sometimes beyond.

Phase 1C

This sub-phase yielded 43 sherds of pottery, weighing 426g, and having an ASW of 9.9g. This represents 17.0% or 9.4% of the total site assemblage, by number or weight of sherds respectively. The material comes from three dumped layers ([12=18=27=6=7]; [14=19]; and [73]) and fill [13] of ditch [41].

The majority of the material from the sub-phase (33 of 43 sherds, or 76.7%) consists of Late Iron Age/Early Roman coarsewares of Fabric 5, the remainder of fully Romanised products. The two components are not differentiated in terms of ASW, having closely similar values of 10.0 and 9.7g respectively.

Fill [13] contained only a single body sherd of Fabric 5, and can not therefore be differentiated in terms of date from Phase 1B ditch [79=82].

All three dumped layers ([27], [19] and [73]), however, contained Roman products, the latest recognisable material in each consisting of Crambeck greywares. This fabric was in production from *c* AD 280, and this date must therefore serve as a *terminus post quem* for emplacement of these ground-raising deposits, the hand-made coarsewares presumably representing re-deposited material from earlier occupation.

As regards the date of the latter, they include an applied handle from context [6], which can be paralleled at Levisham Moor Enclosure A (Challis & Harding 1975, fig. 49, no. 5), and a jar rim and shoulder in calcite-tempered ware, of a form common in the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period in the region, *eg* at Hawling Road Market Weighton (Evans 1999, fig. 7.17, vessel G093-J01, from context [4006], dated to the late 1st century AD). It may be noted that the shoulder comes from context [14], and the non-joining rim from context [26], currently unphased, but thought to belong to Phase 1C. Further indication of the date of the earlier component may be afforded by a redware ‘beaker of jar form’ from context [14]. While a range of dates would be possible for such a form, it perhaps most closely resembles Gillam Type 167, dated AD 80–120. Finally, the presence of sherds from a fine highly burnished reduced ware (FBRW1) in the ‘black-burnished ware’ tradition may be noted. Other sherds which are probably from the same vessel appear residually in Phase 1E contexts [52] and [75].

External sooting and interior residues were noted on a number of the hand-made wares from this sub-phase.

Phase 1D

This sub-phase yielded 56 sherds, weighing 1635g, and having an ASW of 29.2g, a value considerably greater than that of material from earlier sub-phases. The sub-phase assemblage amounts to 22.1% or 36.2% of the site total, by number or weight of sherds, respectively. The majority of the material represents the typical Late Roman repertoire of the region, and there are only two sherds of hand-made Fabric 5 coarseware. A further sherd is unclassified, but may be post-Roman (see further below).

Ditch [61] produced pottery from both lower ([60]) and upper ([59]) fills. The lower fill contained body sherds of probable Huntcliff ware, Holme upon Spalding Moor (HOSM) -type greywares, possible Crambeck Redware, and sherds of a Crambeck Greyware Type 1B straight-sided flanged bowl. This is a variant with internal wavy-line decoration, which is not thought to have been produced before AD 360–70 (Evans 1989, 77). This dating is not refined by material from the upper fill, which yielded further sherds of probable Huntcliff ware, and worn sherds of a hemispherical flanged bowl in a dark-faced redware which could either be contemporary, or residual 3rd-century material.

Ditch [58=83], the recut of [61], yielded pottery from fills [54], [56], [57] and [80]. The latest diagnostic material in [54] and [57] consists of Huntcliff jars, which are considered to have commenced production *c* AD 355, and to have been in use into the first quarter of the 5th century. These are accompanied in [54] by HOSM-type and Crambeck greywares, the latter including a Type 10A platter. A sherd of unclassified oxidised orange sandy ware from [54] may be noted as possibly problematical. It contains rounded and polished quartz and may be post-Roman, possibly of similar date to the wares from the Saxo-Norman Phase 1E pit (see further below). Fill [56] contains probable Huntcliff body sherds and a sherd of Crambeck greyware. Fill [80] contains body sherds of probable Huntcliff ware, and a body sherd from a greyware pentice beaker, *cf* Gillam Type 42, dated AD 200–360, though these are particularly common in the 4th century.

Ditch [95] (fill [94]) yielded a single body sherd in a Fabric 5 coarseware.

Pottery was also recovered from a number of pits, postholes and slots in the interior of the enclosure formed by the above ditches. Pit [93] (fill [44]) contained a fragment of possibly early third-century samian (see database), undated greyware, and a whiteware hemispherical flanged bowl which is probably to be regarded as a Crambeck Parchment Ware Type 5B. This is a painted form, though the decoration is normally confined to the wall above the flange, which is missing on the example under discussion. The sherd gives a *terminus post quem* of AD 360–70 for the latest material in the fill. Slot [63] (fill [62=87]) contained 4 sherds in the same dark-faced redware which has already been noted in [59]. These consisted of a small everted rim jar and a possible sherd from an indented beaker. An early 3rd-century date would be possible for this material.

Phase 1E

In this section, material from a series of Roman cut features is considered.

Pottery was recovered from the following pits and postholes:

Pit [55] (fill [15]) contained large sherds of at least four Huntcliff jars, giving a *terminus post quem* for the fill of *c* AD 355. Other contents of the fill were a sherd of F5 coarseware, presumably residual/redeposited, and a sherd of Fine Burnished Reduced Ware (FBRW2) which may be broadly contemporary. Two small flakes of oxidised material, with no extant original surfaces, were also recovered. At least one of them may be tile, and a post-Roman date cannot be definitely ruled out in either case.

Pit [38] (fill [37]) yielded four small sherds of fine burnished greyware, all from the same vessel, and Roman but otherwise undated.

Posthole [85] (fill [20]) contained a large sherd from a Crambeck Greyware straight-sided flanged bowl of Type 1B, having a double burnished scroll on the interior. The form is dated to after AD 360–70. The remaining four sherds from the fill were Fabric 5 coarsewares, including a calcite-gritted small jar with stubby upright rim, a common Late Iron Age to Early Roman regional form.

Pit [66] (fill [17]) contained a single wheel-thrown Roman greyware, being a polished black-faced sherd from a jar with high rounded shoulder, and 14 sherds of Fabric 5 coarsewares, including five rim fragments. All this material may be broadly contemporary, and the material is therefore residual/redeposited. Four of the rims are long, everted and square-cut, a type widely distributed on regional Late Iron Age sites, particularly of the first centuries BC and AD (*cf* amongst others, Challis & Harding 1975, fig. 40, nos 2 and 7, from Faxfleet 'A'; fig. 50, nos 2 and 11, from Levisham Moor; and fig. 37, no. 2, from Hasholme Hall). The remaining fragment is from a small curved rim jar.

Pottery was recovered from various fills of pits [67] and [50], amounting to 38 sherds, weighing 361g, and having an ASW of 9.5g. It is likely that pit [50] is simply the upper

component of pit [67], and all the material is best treated together. The feature assemblage contained material as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Distributions of ceramic assemblage by sherd count, weight

Period	% sherds	% weight	ASW (g)
IA/RB	2.6	0.8	3.0
RB	39.5	65.1	15.7
Saxo-Norman	47.4	29.4	5.9
Unclassified	10.5	4.7	4.3

It will be noted that, although Saxo-Norman material is numerically in the majority, it presents a much lower ASW than the Roman material. The pit was clearly not a primary place of disposal for broken ceramic in the Saxo-Norman period, and the contributing vessels had clearly undergone a higher degree of brokenness and dispersal than the Roman material deriving from the deposits through which the pit had been dug.

The Roman component consists largely of Late Roman Huntcliff and Crambeck wares, and need not be discussed further here. The Saxo-Norman component comprised four named fabrics, and four to which temporary fabric codes have been allocated. These were distributed as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Distribution of fabrics by date

Fabric type	Date	Contexts
Lincoln Fine Shelled type	10th–E13th C (11th and 12th C)	4
York G	L11th–E13th C (12th C)	4
Pimply	L11th–E13th C (12th C)	51
Reduced Chalky type	L11th–M12th C	5
Fabric 1		4, 51
Fabrics 2A, 2B		5, 35, 52
Fabric 3		5, 6
Fabric 4		5

(Numbers in date column are centuries. E, M and F = early, middle, late. Bracketed dates are floruits)

For further description of these fabrics, see the lists at the end of this section, and the subsequent database (Table 3). Here, it is sufficient to note that Fabrics 1, 2A and 2B, all contain highly polished and rounded quartz ('greensand') with or without the addition of calcareous material, and that such fabrics are a well attested regional tempering tradition in the Late Saxon to Early medieval period. This chronological attribution is confirmed, in the case of Fabric 2B, by formally diagnostic rim and shoulder sherds from context [35] and unstratified ('U/S'). It will be seen from Table 7 that the optimum period for all these wares to have been in contemporary use would have been between the late 11th and early 13th centuries.

Phase 2

Finally, posthole [69] (fill [68]) yielded a single body sherd in a fabric which has here been designated RCAL1B. This appears to be a more finely finished variant of the normal Huntcliff ware fabric, tempered with smaller and more densely packed calcite, and having smoothed or burnished surfaces. It may be noted that the only other sherds of this fabric are found in context [90], an arbitrarily defined spit which contained a large and mainly Late Roman assemblage. In the latter assemblage, it appears to have been used for a vessel which there are some grounds for regarding as a Late Roman/Saxon hybrid (see further below).

Material from context [90] and other unstratified material

Context [90] was an arbitrarily defined layer from the upper exposed surface beneath the more recent overburden, which yielded a fairly large assemblage of pottery. Most of this derives from Late Roman occupation of the site and contains several sherds of intrinsic interest. These are fully referenced in Table 3, and need not be discussed here, though attention may be drawn to the presence of possible sub-Roman and post-Roman elements, as follows:

- Two joining sherds from the shoulder of a highly burnished vessel in fabric RCAL1B, already referred to above as a possible fine variant of Huntcliff ware. The sherds appear to have come from the upper body of a biconical vessel, and to have broken along the carination. They are decorated with two groups of closely set incised horizontal grooves, containing four and three grooves respectively. The undecorated space between the two line groups is highly burnished. Although Huntcliff jars are commonly decorated with horizontal grooves, these are usually more widely spaced and more randomly executed, do not occur in association with burnished zones, and, moreover, are placed on a part of the vessel where the wall is approaching the vertical. These sherds thus resemble, both in shape and decorative technique, an Anglo-Saxon biconical urn far more closely than they do a Huntcliff jar form. Further discussion is inappropriate at this assessment stage, but attention may be drawn to Myres' suggestion that some burnished and calcite-gritted wares at Elmswell should be regarded as hybrid Roman/Saxon types (Congreve 1938, 22).
- A jar shoulder in a hard quartz sand tempered ware has been tentatively regarded as Torksey-type ware. If this is so, it would be the latest material in the assemblage, dating to the eleventh century.

The remaining unstratified material ('U/S') was also predominantly Late Roman. The only material which it is appropriate to mention here is a single body sherd in a medieval fine sand tempering tradition which *may* be of somewhat later date than the Saxo-Norman component identified above.

Conclusions and recommendations

The earliest occupation for which there is ceramic evidence appears to date from the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period, though most of the material in question seems to have been redeposited, and the only *in-situ* material of this period may be the single

sherd from the Phase 1B ditch.. There are slight suggestions in the site assemblage of the presence of fully Romanised products which may date to the late first or early 2nd century AD, and with which some of the early hand-made coarsewares may have been contemporary. A Hadrianic coin from the site may also testify to activity of this period.

The Phase 1C ground-raising dumps which contained the bulk of the early material appear to have been emplaced after *c* AD 280, a *terminus post quem* provided by the Crambeck greyware which these layers also contain.

The assemblages from Phases 1d and 1e are dominated by the typical regional repertoire of the second half of the 4th and early 5th century.

A phase of Saxo-Norman activity, probably belonging to the 12th century, is evidenced by the assemblages from pits [67] and [50].

The material is of some importance in terms of the Driffield ceramic record, and all of it should therefore be kept. While not necessarily demanding full publication in its own right, it has the potential to contribute, with other sites excavated in the last decade, to our understanding of the local ceramic sequence and towards the construction of a fabric type-series for the town.

Fabric terminology and database codes employed

All the common names employed for Roman wares are self-explanatory or in common use. All the common names employed for Saxo-Norman wares are defined in Watkins 1991 and/or Didsbury & Watkins 1992, or are otherwise annotated. Other fabric codes, both of Late Iron Age to Early Roman, and Saxo-Norman date are described.

Named Roman wares:

FBRW1, 2	Fine burnished reduced wares in the Black-Burnished tradition. See Table 3 for individual descriptions
RCAL1A	Calcareous wares of Huntcliff type
RCAL1B	See text and database for discussion
RCC	Colour-coated ware
RCRAMP	Crambeck Parchment Ware
RG	Greyware
RG1	Crambeck greyware
RR	Redwares
RS	Samian

Named Saxo-Norman and medieval wares:

FSAN	Fine sand-tempered medieval fineware
LFS	Lincoln Fine-Shelled ware, code employed by former City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit
PIMP	Pimply ware
REDCHT	Reduced Chalky Ware-type

TT Torksey-type
 YORG York Type G, a Pimply Ware variant

Coded Late Iron Age/early Roman coarsewares:

F5 These are hand-made wares, generally reduced, with angular temper in a variety of sizes, most commonly less than 2mm. Burnished and oxidised surfaces are in the minority but not uncommon. They have been broadly divided according to temper type, as follows:
 A = quartz sand; B = sparse fine sand, almost untempered; C = stone temper, mainly quartz and sandstone; D = calcareous grits; E = sparse fossil shell; F = stone grits, with prominent mica flakes
 Table 3 may be consulted for more detailed description of some of these types

Coded Saxo-Norman Wares:

F1 A thin-walled reduced ware with oxidised surfaces, containing sparse quartz, some of it rounded and highly polished
 F2 Abundantly sand-tempered oxidised ware, with a high proportion of rounded and polished sand grains, typically *c* 0.5mm. Fabric A has occasional chalk inclusions *c* 1mm and above, while in Fabric B these are a much more pronounced element in the fabric
 F3 A hard close-textured greyware, with sparse small quartz grits, bearing some resemblance to York D ware
 F4 A sand-tempered white-firing ware, probably of North Yorkshire origin
 F6 An oxidised ware with polished and rounded quartz grains

Other:

UNC Unclassified.

Table 3 Pottery database

Id	Phase	Context	Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g)	Remarks
95	0	U/S	F5C	8	88	Includes two upright/everted jar rims. One with internal residue, the other long and slightly dished . Both vessels probably also occur in [17].
89		U/S	F6	1	3	Thin everted rim of small jar/‘cooking pot’. Reduced with moderate rounded and polished ‘greensand’-type quartz. Internal residue on rim. Early medieval?
90		U/S	FSAN	1	7	Body grey with red surface. Medieval fine-sandy tradition.
91		U/S	F2B	2	58	Jar shoulders, possibly different vessels.
92		U/S	RCAL1A	6	132	Includes Huntcliff shoulder with burnished lattice decoration; simple rimmed lid (?) with external sooting; possible simple-rimmed dish.

94		U/S	RG	6	50	Jar rim. Straight-sided flanged bowl rim, rim and body fragments probably from a fine greyware 4th-century beaker, <i>cf</i> Gillam Types 57, 58 (for form).	
93		U/S	RG1	2	41	Large sherd of Type 1 straight-sided flanged bowl, with sooting on flange; body with burnished loop decoration.	
41	1B	78	F5F	1	17	Body, hand-made. Externally sooted (?), and internal residue. Smoothed leathery surface, dark brown with lighter oxidised patches. Common angular quartz 1–2mm, common golden mica flakes <i>c</i> 2mm visible in both surfaces. Same fabric, possibly same pot, in [52].	
82	1C	6	RG	1	5	Burnished body, traces of linear decoration.	
83			FBRW1	2	11	Bodies.	
85			F5C	12	103	Bodies, one with exterior burnish, two externally sooted.	
84			F5D	6	89	Bodies and applied jar handle, <i>cf</i> Challis and Harding 1975, fig. 49, no 5, from Levisham Moor Enclosure A.	
87			F5B	1	9	Body. Internal residue.	
86			F5A	1	13	Body. Internal residue.	
81			7	F5D	1	6	Body.
74			13	F5D	1	6	Body. Moderate quite small calcite.
67			14	F5B	1	6	Body. External sooting, interior residue. Sand-tempered reduced ware. Also in [19]. A Roman coarseware?
78				RR	1	9	Rim and most of profile of small globular beaker. Fine greyware with red margins/surfaces. Small curved everted rim. Perhaps <i>cf</i> Gillam Type 167, ‘beaker of jar form’ in pink/orange fabric, AD 80–120?
66				F5D	1	21	Jar shoulder. Externally sooted. Probably the same vessel as the rim in [26], and early Roman.
80			18	F5C	2	19	Bodies, one with internal residue.
1			19	RG1	1	4	Body. Lattice decoration.
72				F5B	1	6	Body. Probably same pot in [14].
71			27	F5C	3	21	Rim and two bodies, two vessels. Hard reduced hand-made ware, stone tempered (quartz, sandstone?, other), with exterior or both surfaces brown. Rim is simple rounded upright.
103				RG1	1	13	Jar in burnished greyware, with burnished shoulder scroll between girth grooves,
68		RG	2	47	Bodies. 1. Hard fine well-burnished black-faced greyware. 2. Worn base, coarse, occasional large chalk inclusions. These may point to a third- or fourth-century component in the assemblage.		
69		F5A	1	11	Body. See [75]. Possibly the same vessel.		
70		F5B	2	20	Bodies. The larger is externally sooted and has an internal residue, superficial chalky deposits on both surfaces.		
4	1D	44	RG	1	2	Body.	
5			RG1	1	5	Body.	
30			RG	1	8	Body.	

28			RCRAMP	1	95	Hemispherical flanged bowl, Type 5B. The soft, laminated, yellowish fabric variant described by Evans (1989). Externally sooted on and below flange. The wall above the flange, which would have borne the painted decoration, is not extant. Flanges were only sometimes painted.
29			RS	1	2	Basal sherd, double groove from surround of name stamp. Possibly form [33]. Chalky pink fabric possibly East Gaul (Trier).
16		54	RG	4	192	Three are probably HOSM products, the other a calcareous greyware. All jars, including a base and two lattice-decorated body sherds.
18			UNC	1	4	Fairly coarse oxidised fragment, with some quartz tempering. Abraded, both surfaces missing. Undated, BUT POSSIBLY POST-ROMAN.
15			RG1	1	106	Rim of Type 10A dish/platter.
17			RCAL1A	11	522	Two joining rims sherds from a necked ('proto-Huntcliff') jar, externally sooted. Rim of a fully developed Huntcliff jar. Large jar shoulder, and smaller bodies.
13		56	RCAL1A	2	30	Bodies. One externally sooted.
12			RG1	1	16	Body.
3		57	RG	2	67	Basal angle in HOSM-type ware, and an everted jar rim with lid-seating groove (micaceous sandy ware, patchy dark grey to buff exterior, possibly burned post fracture).
2			RCAL1A	4	127	The rims of two Huntcliff jars, and two joining bodies with scroll decoration from a jar shoulder (calcareous greyware type). The latter with external sooting and internal residue.
10		59	RCAL1A	1	17	Body, externally sooted, internally leached.
11			RG	3	95	Sandy body, externally sooted; and two joining sherds from a hemispherical flanged bowl with oxidised body and polished black exterior. Laminated. Very abraded. Burned post-fracture? These black-faced redwares are often, though not exclusively, of late 2nd- to earlier 3rd-century date. Same fabric type in [62].
6		60	RG	1	16	Body. HOSM?
7			RG1	1	5	Joining rim sherds of Type 1B straight-sided flanged bowl (internal scroll decoration). Post <i>c</i> AD 360/370.
8			RR	1	62	Base of (?) bowl, burned post fracture. Micaceous fabric, possibly Crambeck redware.
9			RCAL1A	10	150	Body sherds.
14		62	RG	4	17	All black-faced redwares similar to the fabric present in [59]. Includes an everted rim jar, and a possible fragment of an indented beaker.
20		80	RG	1	10	Body of pentice beaker, Gillam Type 42, AD 200–360. Sandy light grey ware. Worn surfaces render it difficult to be certain whether or not this is a North Gaulish product.
19			RCAL1A	2	67	Bodies. Acceptable as Huntcliff, but not intrinsically datable.
26		87	F5D	1	8	Body of small diameter jar. Externally sooted, with dark internal residue. Broken along (bevelled) coil junction, giving appearance of a 'false rim'. Sparse calcite.

88		94	F5D	1	8	Body. Some quartz among sparse to moderate chalk, fine matrix.	
25	1E	15	UNC	2	4	Two oxidised flakes, original surfaces missing. At least one of them is probably tile.	
21			RG1	1	2	Externally sooted body.	
22			FBRW2	1	8	Probably not BB1 proper, but externally very similar.	
23			RCAL1A	14	368	Two joining rim and body sherds representing circa 50% profile of a Huntcliff jar, with bodies from at least two other vessels.	
24			F5E	1	6	Sparse but large shell, in a sandy matrix. There is no resemblance to regional post-Roman shell-tempered fabrics. Similar fabric in [90].	
99			17	F5C	8	117	Includes five rim fragments. Two upright/everted are also present in U/S. Others are: short everted, curved upright, and externally thickened. Also a basal angle with thick internal residue.
98		F5D		5	164	Bodies of three different vessels, one thick-walled.	
96		F5A		1	5	Body, burnished brown exterior.	
97		RG		1	5	Body. Shoulder of high-shouldered jar, broken along groove. Fine greyware with polished black exterior.	
101		20		F5D	2	16	Small jar with stubby upright square-cut rim; and body, very sparse calcareous temper, of different vessel.
102				F5C	2	21	Joining basal sherds of jar.
100				RG1	1	206	Rim of straight-sided flanged bowl, Crambeck Type 1B. Double scroll. Fabric darker than usual. Post <i>c</i> AD 360.
76			35	RG	1	8	Burnished body, linear (lattice?) decoration.
73		37	RG	4	12	Fine burnished greyware bodies, all same pot.	
27	2	68	RCAL1B	1	11	Body. Abundant quite fine calcite temper. The same fabric as in [90], though here with smoothed rather than burnished exterior.	
64	4	75	FBRW1	1	1	Body, 1 gram.	
65			F5A	1	9	Body. Sandy, wheel-thrown (?) greyware with red/brown interior margin and surface, and smoothed brown exterior surface. A Roman coarseware? Also present in [27].	
63			RG	2	9	Bodies, one with burnished linear decoration. 3rd or 4th C.	
62			RCAL1A	1	5	Body.	
42		4	RCAL1A	1	10	Body.	
43			LFS?	1	4	Body. Very similar to Lincoln Fine-shelled ware. Date range 10th to early 13th C, most common 11th and 12th C.	
45			F1	1	1	Body (flake), less than one gram. Thin-walled reduced ware with oxidised surfaces, and sparse quartz grits, some highly polished and rounded. Probably early medieval.	
44		YORG	1	4	Body. Externally sooted. Denominated York G rather than Pimply because of orange colouration.		
53		5	F2A	1	7	Body, externally sooted. Abundant rounded and polished quartz ('greensand') mainly <i>c</i> 0.5 mm, with occasional calcareous flecks. Brownish grey. Early medieval regional tempering tradition.	

52			RG1	1	8	Body. Burnished vertical line groups. Late 3rd or 4th C.
57			F3?	1	10	Body sherd, externally sooted, buff interior surface.
56			F4	1	3	Body sherd. Smoothed (?) exterior, externally sooted. Sandy pinkish-white ware, assumed to be a North Yorkshire early medieval product.
55			F3	3	7	Hard, close textured gritty/sandy greyware with smoothed exterior surface. Two sherds (one vessel) reduced exterior, other sherd partially oxidised on exterior. Assumed to be a Saxo-Norman greyware, and bears some resemblance to York D.
54			REDCHT	2	18	<i>Cf</i> Beverley Reduced Chalky Ware, which also has a sand component. Body, and basal angle of jar, both different vessels. The base is clearly from a medieval cooking pot.
51			RCAL1A	2	57	Shoulder of Huntcliff jar or bowl, and basal sherd from a different vessel.
77		35	UNC	2	2	Bodies, same vessel. Soft orange ware with occasional chalk inclusions. Buff outer surface.
75			F2B	1	15	Jar ('cooking pot') rim.
49		51	UNC	1	12	Sandy orange lump of ceramic? Very dense, and possibly a burnt sandstone.
48			F1	1	3	Jar neck. See 4.
47			RG	3	39	Burnished body, two joining bodies in a hard, coarse chalky greyware.
46			PIMP	1	3	Body. Externally sooted.
50			UNC	1	3	Thick-walled sand-tempered hand-made (?) fragment with reduced exterior surface and core, and oxidised interior surface. More likely to belong with the earlier rather than the later component in this assemblage.
58		52	RCAL1A	6	117	Three joining rim and shoulder sherds of Huntcliff jar, and three other bodies, one decorated with burnished lattice.
61			FBRW1	2	4	Fine burnished reduced ware, fine sand tempering, assumed to be a Roman ware in the black-burnished tradition. Joining sherds.
60			F5F	1	3	Body (flake). Identical fabric, and very probably the same pot, as in [78].
59			F2B	4	31	Bodies same pot, as F2A but with a more pronounced calcareous component.
79	NP	26	F5D	1	18	Jar rim. Simple rounded upright, probably the same vessel as the shoulder in [14], and early Roman.
32		90	RCAL1B	6	106	Includes two joining jar shoulder sherds with two groups of incised horizontal lines, the exterior highly burnished. Possibly a Late Roman/Saxon 'hybrid', see text.
33			RCC	1	10	White Nene Valley type fabric, with red slip both sides, and overslip barbotine scroll decoration. The form is that of an indented beaker, the 'folds' possibly circular. Combination unusual on English products, though common on Rhenish blackwares, <i>c</i> AD 200–75+ (<i>cf</i> Symonds 1992, Group 38).

35			RG?	1	13	Body. Light firing, very pale grey, wheel thrown ware with patchy red/brown oxidisation of the outer body and the burnished exterior surface.
36			RG	7	188	Includes lid or bowl rim in hard burnished ware; lattice decorated jar in black faced chalky grey ware; black-faced bowl with worn footring and interior residue.
37			TT?	1	14	Hard, black, apparently wheel-thrown coarseware, with abundant fairly coarse sand tempering. Externally sooted jar shoulder. Possibly a Late Saxon greyware (Torksey-type) or possibly a Roman product.
38			F5C	1	23	Thick-walled hard coarseware, with sparse but large quartz temper. Probably a Roman coarseware.
39			F5E?	1	47	Probably the same fabric which occurs in [15]. Hard thick-walled coarseware with sand and occasional large fossil (?) shell.
31			RCAL1A	17	264	Includes rims of two Huntcliff jars, one of 'Elmswell' type, having an incised wavy line on the upper face of the rim (Congreve 1938, fig. 6, no. 1). The remainder are bodies and bases consistent with derivation from Huntcliff wares.
40			RR	2	32	Two different fabrics, neither apparently Crambeck redware. Coarse abraded jar (?) sherd with only part of interior surface extant; and fine polished thin-walled bowl, with flat base and deep basal chamfer.
34			RG1?	2	17	Includes a Type 3 jar rim (?), with worn edge.

4.2 The Finds

Sophie Tibbles

The Recorded Finds

Aims and objectives

The following report aims to assess the potential of the recorded finds for further analysis, to meet the requirements of MAP2, Phase 3, 'Assessment of potential for analysis' (English Heritage 1991). The structure of this report is based on guidelines set out by the Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group 700–1700 (1993), and the Institute of Field Archaeologists Finds Group (1991).

Introduction

All ironwork and copper alloy were X-radiographed and their conservation needs assessed by the conservation laboratory of the York Archaeological Trust (section 4.3). Any comments on the condition of the objects in this assessment are based on their report.

The structural stone was visually assessed by Stuart Harrison. His identifications are included within this appraisal. The flint recorded finds were identified by R.E. Head.

All finds were appropriately packed for long term storage, in accordance with conservation and museum guidelines.

Quantification of recorded finds by material and function

Twenty-seven recorded finds were recovered from the excavation: however, one iron object (RF No.7) was allocated a recorded finds number during the initial assessment, and is now considered to be a non-recorded find. On X-ray, the object appeared to be ironstone, a natural occurrence. This gives a total of twenty-six recorded finds for the excavation.

The majority of the metal finds (4) were of copper alloy, and comprised three coins and one nail/tack. The remaining non-ferrous objects were two lead off-cuts/waste fragments. The ironwork recovered consisted of two nails and a ?spike.

The glass recovered from the excavation comprised one sherd of vessel glass.

Eleven items of stone were retrieved with a variety of functions from structural and multifunctional tools to ordnance. Three objects of flint were also recovered.

The remaining two recorded finds were bone objects.

Numismatics – Total 3

Material	Interpretation	Quantity
Copper Alloy	Coin	3
Total		3

Objects of Iron – Total 3

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Miscellaneous/Leather-Working?	Spike/Awl?	1
Structural	Nail	2
Total		3

Objects of Copper Alloy – Total 1

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Structural/Furniture Fitting?	Nail/Tack	1
Total		1

Objects of Lead – Total 2

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Metal-Working	Off-Cut	1
	Off-Cut/Waste?	1
Total		2

Object of Stone – Total 11

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Milling	Millstone/Quern	1
	Quern	1
Multifunctional Tool	Whetstone	2
Ordnance	Shot	1
Structural	Ashlar	1
	Ashlar?	2
Miscellaneous	Object (Not Identified)	3
Total		11

Objects of Bone – Total 2

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Miscellaneous	Object (Not Identified)	2
Total		2

Objects of Flint – Total 3

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Tool	Scraper	1
Utilised	Utilised Flake	2
Total		3

Objects of Glass – Total 1

Function	Interpretation	Quantity
Household Equipment	Vessel	1
Total		1

General characteristics of the finds

The recorded finds of iron were in poor to fair condition and were heavily encrusted. Within the corrosion crusts were significant mineralised preserved organic remains (wood).

The condition of the copper alloy objects was poor to good with corrosion products obscuring surface details. The three coins exhibited 'bronze disease' which suggests that they were recovered from deposits which do not favour the preservation of copper alloy. The lead finds were in fair condition with corrosion products adhering to their surfaces.

The sherd of vessel glass was dried and consolidated in the conservation laboratory. The bone objects were in good condition.

The condition of the stone and flint ranged from poor to good.

Individual finds of intrinsic interest

Phase 1C

Flint Scraper

Incomplete. Brown/grey and white mottled flint scraper. Possibly Bronze Age in date (identification by R. E. Head). Chipped, possibly due to mis-striking or fault in the flake.

Length: 32mm Width: 32mm Thickness: 3mm

RF No: 11 Context: 73

Iron Spike/Awl?

Incomplete. ?Square in cross-section and tapering in form. Possibly an awl. Awls were used to punch holes in leather (Manning 1985, 39).

Length: 133mm Width: 10mm Thickness: 10mm

RF No: 10 Context: 14/19

Phase 1D

Vessel Glass

Incomplete. Small sherd of transparent plain vessel glass. Convex in form with swirled ridges, pitted lines and bubbles within the glass. Delamination of surfaces evident. Of a likely Romano-British date.

Length: 21mm Width: 19mm Thickness: 1mm

RF No: 6 Context: 56/76

Copper Alloy Coin

Near complete. Possibly 2nd century in date. The legend is not clearly visible due to corrosion products although X-ray shows some surface details:

Obverse: laureate bust facing right., ANTONINVS AVG PIVS.

Reverse: BX(?R)ITANNIA S.C. Reclining figure facing left leaning on a shield, above rocks or water. Possibly VII in exergue.

Diameter: 27mm Thickness: 3mm

RF No: 2 Context: 56/76

Whetstone

Incomplete. The raw material is schist, possibly of Norwegian origin. Four surfaces are smooth and bevelled from use. Small brown patches are evident at one end suggesting that a wetting agent may have been used.

Length: 69mm Width: 16mm Thickness: 13mm

RF No: 18 Context: 56/76

Bone Object

Incomplete. Bone object made from a long bone (?sheep). The outer surface is smooth with a 'polished' appearance and displays incised marks in the form of '| X |'. This could be a form of decoration although it is more likely to be graffiti due the crudity of the marks. The rough internal surface indicates that the bone object may be a practise piece? or an unfinished object.

Length: 72mm Diameter: 14mm
RF No: 19 Context: 80

Whetstone

Incomplete. Made from a fine micaceous sandstone. Four surfaces are smooth and bevelled from use.

Length: 50mm Width: 22mm Thickness: 15mm
RF No: 8 Context: 44

Phase 1E

Quern

Incomplete. Made from millstone grit. One surface is slightly smooth with incised lines from use. Patches of mortar are evident on two surfaces suggesting re-use, possibly as part of a structure.

Length: 80mm Width: 47mm Thickness: 38mm
RF No: 13 Context: 15

Chalk Object

Incomplete. Worked chalk object surviving in three fragments. Although no tooling is visible, the outer surface is smooth. The form of the object is uncertain due to incomplete dimensions. However, it appears to have been originally sub-rectangular in form as one 90° and two 45° angled corners are evident. The 'top' of the object seems to be sloping downwards. Fire cracking and/or heat exposure is evident due to the pinkish hue of the chalk.

Length: 96mm Width: 75mm Thickness: 53mm
RF No: 14 Context: 15

Stone Shot

Incomplete. Made from millstone grit. Roughly tooled although much of the original surface is worn and damaged. Circular in form.

Approximate Diameter: 43mm
RF No: 20 Context: 15

Phase 3

Copper Alloy Coin

Incomplete. Possibly 4th century in date. The legend is not clearly visible due to corrosion products although x-ray shows some surface details:

Obverse: bust facing right.

Reverse: 'possibly an emperor dragging a captive' (J. Jones, 26/09/01)

Diameter: 19mm Thickness: 1.5mm
RF No: 3 Context: 3

Unstratified

Chalk ?Lamp/Object

Incomplete. Chalk ?lamp/object with a small circular 'hollow'. The hollow is concave in form, with a smooth internal surface and ?tooled concentric lines. The upper surface is also smooth with a small pinkish patch of ?burning, possibly from a wick.

Rough bolster tooling is evident on the underside and all surfaces are weathered. The ?lamp/object was possibly made from a re-used ashlar block. Two fragments of chalk ashlar with similar bolster tooling and weathering were recovered from the same context (90/US).

Maximum Dimensions:

Length: 97mm Width: 78mm Thickness: 83mm

Internal Diameter of Hollow: 45mm x 37mm x 28mm

RF No: 24 Context: 90/U/S

Ashlar

Incomplete. Small fragment of an ashlar block made from chalk (identification by Stuart Harrison). Rough bolster tooling is evident on three surfaces. Weathered surfaces. Fragments of chalk masonry with comparable characteristics, were recovered from trial excavations at Albion Street, Driffield (Watt 1992, 29) to the north of the Eastgate South excavation.

Maximum Dimensions:

Length: 200mm Width: 142mm Thickness: 102mm

RF No:26 Context: 90/U/S

Assessment of potential

The majority of the recorded finds (81%) were recovered from contexts dated from the Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British period through to the late 4th to 5th centuries.

Although the assemblage is relatively small, there is a diverse range of functions present, from structural and milling to numismatics. However, there is a noticeable paucity of other functions often found within domestic finds assemblages for example household equipment, dress fittings and structural ironwork such as bolts and door/window fittings. The lack of artefacts of these types suggest that the land was used for agricultural purposes rather than domestic occupation. It is likely that the coins represent chance losses whilst working the land and the whetstones, which are small in form, suggest that they were personal possessions.

The aforementioned lack of structural ironwork suggests that the stonework may have been re-used from a structure within the vicinity of the excavation. Evaluations at Albion Street, Driffield produced worked chalk block with comparable characteristics (Watt 1992, 29).

Recommendations

The coins should be assessed by Craig Barclay of the Yorkshire Museum to refine dating and identification.

Chemical stabilisation has been recommended on the three copper alloy coins (see report by Julie Jones). This should be undertaken to enable long-term storage. Species identification of the two bone objects should also be undertaken.

Further analysis of the stone recorded finds should be undertaken to determine the provenance of the material and to allow a comparative study with the stone artefacts recovered from the previous evaluation at Albion Street, Driffield (Tibbles 1992).

A catalogue of the finds assemblages should be completed which should incorporate the finds recovered from the evaluation undertaken at the site in 1993 (Tibbles 1993). The recorded finds assemblages recovered from the excavations at Albion Street, Driffield (Tibbles 1992) and The Out Gang, Driffield (Atkinson 1997) should also be considered as this will allow for a more comprehensive view of the material culture of Driffield during the Late Iron age and Romano-British period.

All the finds of intrinsic value should be fully recorded, including illustrations.

The Bulk Finds (other than Pottery, Animal Bone and Ceramic Building Materials)

The Stone Roof Tile

Thirteen fragments of stone roof tile were retrieved from eight contexts, with a total weight of 790g. All of the fragments were made from a micaceous sandstone with no diagnostic features. The lithology of these fragments suggest an origin in the coal measures of West Yorkshire (Wastling *pers comm.*) Two fragments from contexts [15] and [60] show evidence of post-breakage burning. This indicates that some form of heat destruction took place on or within the vicinity of the site.

The Daub

Unstratified material [U/S], and six contexts — [4], [14=19], [15], [17], [54=57], and [60] — produced twenty-four fragments of daub with a combined weight of 293g. The fragments displayed a red (2.5YR/5/6) fabric colour, with occasional inclusions of quartz (<2mm), chalk (1mm x 2mm) and large (4mm x 6mm) rounded erratic pebbles. Seventeen of the pieces were featureless and seven fragments bore diagnostic features in the form of rod and nail impressions. The majority of the assemblage (83%) also shows evidence of burning during use. The rounded corners, burning and the curvature of the original surfaces suggest that the fragments were possibly from an oven or hearth. The assemblage has been retained for further study if required.

The Fired Clay

Context [27] produced one fragment of fired clay, with a weight of 25g. The fragment was non-diagnostic and displayed a Reddish Yellow (7.5YR/6/6) fabric colour.

The Slag

Nine fragments of ferrous-based slag were recovered from twenty-four contexts. The assemblage included tap slag and had a total weight of 1.385kg. The tap slag suggests that iron smelting took place on or within the vicinity of the site. All fragments have been retained subject to further study, if required.

The Mortar

Approximately three fragments of a white mortar (10YR/8/1) with a total weight of 115g, were recovered from unstratified deposits and [70]. The mortar fabric included occasional small, rounded quartz and pebbles.

The Burnt Stone

Nine contexts produced thirteen fragments of stone, including rounded glacial erratics and sub-angular oolitic and fossiliferous limestone, with a combined weight of 1.585kg. None appear to be worked, however the fragments show evidence of burning which indicates that they may have been used as part of a hearth.

The Coal

Three contexts produced three fragments of coal, with a combined weight of 15g. All fragments have been retained.

The Charcoal

Six fragments of charcoal, with a weight of <5g, were recovered from one context [17]. All fragments have been retained.

The Unworked Stone

One fragment of oolitic limestone was retrieved from context [75] with a weight of 3.375kg. No tooling was evident. A geological sample was taken and the remainder of the fragment was discarded after recording.

The Flint

Flint was retrieved from seven contexts: [6=7], [14=19], [17], [54=57], [56=76], and [90]. The assemblage, which comprised eight chunks and three flakes, appear to be unworked. One chunk from context [6=7] was burnt and was retained. The remainder were discarded after recording.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the slag be analysed by an archaeometallurgist to further refine the type of metal-working activity that took place on the site. Further analysis of the daub should be completed to refine identification and quantify the impressions.

No further work is deemed necessary on the bulk finds. A selective discard policy should be undertaken prior to deposition.

4.3 Conservation Assessment

Julie Jones
York Archaeological Trust

Objectives

This report aims to meet the requirements of MAP2, Phase 3, 'Assessment of Potential for Analysis' (English Heritage 1991). The work carried out has involved an X-radiographic investigation of the finds, and an assessment of their condition, stability and packaging. This report includes an evaluation of the potential of each group of material for further investigative conservation and research. There are recommendations for long term stabilisation, packaging and analytical or specialist support required.

Procedures

All the iron and copper alloy objects were X-rayed using standard Y.A.T. procedures and equipment. One sheet of film was used, and the plate was given a reference number in the YAT conservation laboratory series. The X-ray number was written on each recorded find bag. Each image on the radiograph was labelled with its recorded finds number. The plate was packaged in an acid-free archival envelope. Finds from two other sites (SCQ 2001 and WAT 2001) were also radiographed on this plate.

All finds were examined under a binocular microscope at x20 magnification. The material identifications were checked and observations made about the condition and stability of the finds, and recorded below.

Remedial conservation treatments were carried out where appropriate in order to stabilise the material for long term storage.

Quantification

A total of 13 finds were assessed and 1 X-ray plate produced. The number of objects in each material category is listed below:

Bone	2
Copper alloy	4
Lead alloy	2
Iron	4
Wet-packed	1

Condition

Iron

The iron was covered in silt, sand and bulky uneven mixed orange/brown iron corrosion with inclusions, often small rounded chalk inclusions. The corrosion products mineralised preserved organic remains (MPOs) on two nails; but these were largely obscured by the outer deposits. Iron is potentially unstable, but as long as the relative humidity (RH) is maintained below 15%, the objects should remain stable for the long term. RF 7 was found to be a naturally occurring mineral; it does not require desiccation.

Copper alloy

The copper alloy was thinly covered in silt, sand, but the three coins were potentially unstable and exhibited possible bronze disease. These have been recommended for chemical stabilisation before being sent to the numismatist. The nail should remain stable if stored at <35% RH.

Lead alloy

The lead alloy is in a good to fair condition with no sign of active corrosion. Store these objects away from sources of organic acids, like paper or card, which may accelerate corrosion of lead. If the RH is maintained below 35% as well, the objects should remain stable for the long term.

Bone

Two bone finds were sent with the desiccated material. They were both dry, robust and stable. Bone is sensitive to humidity and drying can cause cracking and embrittlement. It should not be desiccated. Store at ambient temperature and humidity (within the range 45–60% RH).

Glass

One glass find was sent wet-packed. It was washed in reverse-osmosis water and consolidated as recorded below and on the attached Conservation Records. The material is dry, stable and ready for long term storage. Store at 50–55%RH.

Packaging on arrival within the lab

The metalwork had been packed in perforated mini-grip bags with jiffy foam inserts. The coins had been packed in rigid plastic boxes with acid-free tissue padding, each coin was wrapped in an envelope of tissue inside this. These were all stored in a desiccated plastic box labelled ‘Box 4’.

The wet-packed glass was double bagged with a small amount of water in the inner bag and packed within black polythene inside a smaller Stewart box, this was also stored within ‘Box 4’.

Assessment

The assessments are listed in tables below by material type and in find number order. Recommendations for further investigation are highlighted in **bold type**. Unless further treatment and stabilisation has been recommended, the finds should remain stable and require no further work at this stage. Additional work may be required if objects are selected for drawing, photography or display; this is not routinely included below:

Table 4 Conservation assessment – iron objects

X-ray No	Find No	Context No	Assessment
5506	7	73	One piece, labelled ‘Fe object/natural ironstone’. Conical fragment with central perforation, not magnetic. <i>This is not iron.</i> Sand and silt above a porous/bumpy/crystalline shiny brown surface. I think this is a pyrite nodule (iron sulphide), naturally occurring. X-ray shows porous structure. Proposed treatment: none.
5506	10	14	One piece, Fe spike, possibly a fibre processing spike, labelled ‘Fe wool comb tooth/rod’. Incomplete, wider end broken and missing (fresh break). Cross-section probably square, but obscured by corrosion. No diagnostic details to confirm this as wool comb. X-ray shows little metal core at both ends, possibly wider in centre. Stable, no sign of active corrosion. If context warrants it, partial investigative cleaning to expose shape of both ends and cross-section at centre, and to reveal any MPOs.

5506	12	91	One piece, Fe nail, incomplete, tip broken and missing. X-ray shows extensive corrosion and cracking. Below the head, a blackened brittle carbonised area, was noted: ?burnt wood. A few small additional areas of mineralised wood visible in corrosion. Stable, no sign of active corrosion. Proposed treatment: none. If context warrants it, reveal and identify any MPOs.
5506	15	15	One piece, Fe nail, larger than RF12, incomplete, tip broken and missing. X-ray shows extensive corrosion and cracking. A few small areas of mineralised wood visible in corrosion. Stable, no sign of active corrosion. Proposed treatment: none. If context warrants it, reveal and identify any MPOs.

Table 5 Conservation assessment – copper alloy objects

X-ray No	Find No	Context No	Assessment
5506	1	44	Roman coin, one piece, complete. Weight before treatment 1.98g. Obv.: bust facing right. Sand and silt above pale green powdery corrosion, darker green areas show extensive pitting. X-ray shows possible reverse of emperor dragging captive (late fourth century). Unstable, signs of active corrosion. Clean and stabilise. Send to numismatist to confirm dating.
5506	2	56	Roman coin, one piece, nearly complete, flan irregular in shape. Weight before treatment 6.195g. Obv.: laur bust facing r., ANTONINVS AVG PIVS. Rev: BX(?R)ITANNIA S.C. Reclining figure facing .l leaning on shield, above wavy lines (rock/water?). Possibly VII in ex. (If this is an official issue, not a copy, it is AD138–161). Silt thinly above smooth green patina with a few powdery pale green areas. Edge flaking below bust. X-ray shows casting flaws: three holes near edge to each side of bust. Potentially unstable, signs of active corrosion. Clean and stabilise. Send to numismatist to confirm dating.
5506	3	3	Roman coin, one piece, incomplete, edge broken and missing. Weight before treatment 1.35g. Obv.: bust facing r. Rev.: possibly emperor dragging captive (late fourth century) Sand and silt and white powder above pale green powdery corrosion, darker red cuprite areas exposed on obv. X-ray shows show extensive pitting. Unstable, signs of active corrosion. Clean and stabilise. Send to numismatist to confirm dating.
5506	16	60	Nail, one piece, complete. Excellent condition. Sand and silt above dark reddish brown patina visible at edges, disrupted by green stable corrosion elsewhere. <u>Proposed treatment</u> : none.

Table 6 Conservation assessment – lead alloy objects

X-ray No	Find No	Context No	Assessment
–	5	7	Labelled ‘Pb fragment off-cut’. One piece, irregular outline, a flat sheet with one straight edge deliberately cut, edges bent over. Covered in silt and sand above a pale cream-coloured corrosion product with mottled grey-brown areas of surface exposed. Stable, store away from sources of organic acids, like paper or card. Proposed treatment: none required. If context warrants it, partial investigative cleaning to remove loose sand and silt and expose original surface.
–	17	90	Labelled ‘Pb off-cut/waste’. One piece, irregular outline, a solidified lump. One face smooth, the other bumpy. A small area at each end has broken off, exposing an off-white crystalline interior. No sign of cut marks. Covered in silt and sand above a pale cream-coloured corrosion product. Potentially unstable, store away from sources of organic acids, like paper or card. Proposed treatment: none required. If context warrants it, partial investigative cleaning to remove loose sand and silt and expose original surface.

Table 7 Conservation assessment – bone objects

X-ray No	Find No	Context No	Assessment
–	9	17	Fragment of bone, incomplete, broken at both ends. Smooth and compact surface, soil still adhering in central cavity. No sign of working. Stable, store at ambient temperature and humidity, 45-60%RH, do not desiccate. Proposed treatment: none.
–	19	80	Fragment of bone, incomplete, broken on all edges. Smooth and compact outer surface, with ‘ X ’ incised at one end, soil still adhering in the interstices. Spongy cancellous tissue on underside. Stable, store at ambient temperature and humidity, 45-60% RH, do not desiccate. Proposed treatment: none required, but could remove the silt from the incised lines if researcher wishes to examine the tool marks.

Table 8 Conservation assessment – glass objects

X-ray No	Find No	Context No	Assessment
–	6	56	One fragment of transparent iridescent vessel glass, incomplete, all edges broken and missing. After drying, this lost transparency and now has a shiny mirror-like finish. Surface is iridescent when wet and looks to be deteriorated, requiring consolidation. Examined under binocular microscope at x10. The convex surface has swirled ridges, pitted lines, and bubbles are visible within the glass. The edges are laminar. Treatment: Rinsed in reverse osmosis water. Dewatered in acetone. Immersed overnight in 10%w/v Paraloid B72. Air dried. Repacked in a mini-grip bag with a jiffy foam support.

Statement of Potential

This report was written by the conservator alone, without consultation with the archaeologist or finds researcher, and without benefit of contextual information. There is therefore little scope for assessing the significance of these finds in relation to the site as a whole, but the following information may be of use:

- 1 Three Roman coins were recovered (RFs 1–3), from contexts [44], [56] and [3].
- 2 The corrosion did not indicate any unusual conditions of preservation, but reflected well aerated soils.
- 3 The two lead finds could suggest leadworking in the area.

Recommendations

Recommendations for further work are highlighted in bold in the tables. Some treatments have been recommended only if the contexts merit further work, these are not in bold.

Further investigative conservation

Total removal of corrosion crusts, chemical stabilisation and consolidation has been recommended for the three Roman coins (RF 1–3).

The investigative work on the spike RF 10, and revealing mineral preserved wood on two nails (RFs 12, 15) has been listed as an optional extra if in line with research objectives of the project.

Further cosmetic work or physical support may be required if the finds are selected for photography, illustration or display. Please notify the conservator if this is required. Conservation records for each object treated will be supplied on archival paper, a copy will remain in our laboratory. The records are produced in MS Word files, and copies can be provided on disc if requested.

Analysis and specialist support

In line with the research requirements, suggestions for further analysis and specialist support have been made. This will have to be arranged after conservation has been completed.

Coins

Three Roman coins should be referred to Craig Barclay at the Yorkshire Museum for assessment and recording under the Portable Antiquities scheme. We have included a sum for cleaning and stabilising the coins.

Mineral Preserved Organic materials (MPO)

Wood on nails RF12 and RF15 could possibly be identified if in line with research objectives.

Storage

Packaging

The finds have been repackaged appropriately for long term storage. All materials used are archive stable and acid-free. Plastic bags have been pierced to allow airflow, reducing the risk of condensation and mould growth. 'Jiffy', (polythene) foam inserts have been added to the bags to provide additional support and protect against mechanical damage during transit. Any replacement of packaging materials should be carried out in consultation with a conservator. Avoid paper or card labels in association with metals, especially lead and lead alloys. Acid vapours will cause active corrosion (Cronyn 1990).

Storage environment

Metals are packed in a polythene 'Stewart' box with sufficient airflow to allow the silica gel to provide a dry micro-environment of less than 15% Relative Humidity, which should prevent further corrosion of iron finds (Knight 1990). An Indicator strip has been placed at the front of the box and can be viewed through the plastic. If any part of the strip turns pink the box is no longer desiccated sufficiently and the gel will need to be regenerated.

The bone and glass are temporarily packed in a smaller Stewart box within 'Box 4'; they are not desiccated. They should be transferred to an unsealed archival storage box for permanent storage.

4.4 The Ceramic Building Material

J. Tibbles and S. Tibbles

Introduction and methodology

The on-site retrieval policy for ceramic building materials involved the collection of all fragments from hand-excavated contexts; non-diagnostic fragments were subsequently discarded (with the exception of Romano-British materials) after being subject to basic quantification by count and weight. Examples of brick and tile were recovered from thirteen contexts, with a total weight of 9.960kg and a fabric colour range of Red (10R/5/60 to Yellowish Red (5YR/5/6).

Assessment of the assemblage was based on a visual scan of all the retained material. Information regarding the dimensions, shape and fabric of the material was recorded and where possible, compared with existing regional brick and tile typologies.

It should be noted that the diversity of size and colour within the brick and tile caused during the manufacturing process must be taken into consideration when comparing examples within collected assemblages and local typologies. The varying size and colours can be attributed to the variation of the clays used, shrinkage during drying, firing within the clamp or kiln and the location of the brick and tile within the kiln.

The Romano-British brick

The two fragments, recovered from context [17] had a combined weight of 75g. Both displayed a Reddish Yellow (5YR/6/8) homogeneous, sandy fabric. One fragment showed evidence of post-breakage burning. The form of brick could not be identified due to incomplete dimensions.

The Romano-British roof tile

A total tile assemblage of twenty-six fragments, with a weight of 3.775kg were recovered from ten contexts. Two types were identified, *Tegula* and *Imbrex*.

Tegula

Fourteen fragments of *tegula* were identified within the assemblage, of which nine were diagnostic. Of the diagnostic examples recovered, eight tiles displayed means of suspension in the form of flanges, types 2 and 4 (Tibbles 2000), lower cutaways or nail holes. Two fragments display finger striations, possibly representing signatures. Signatures are more commonly found on *tegulae* than any other form of Roman ceramic building material (Brodribb 1987, 99).

Imbrex

The assemblage included twelve diagnostic fragments of *imbrex* (930g). White (10YR/8/1) mortar adhesions were noted on the underside of one fragment from use.

The Unidentifiable Ceramic Building Material

Four non-diagnostic fragments were recovered from contexts [17] and [20] with a combined weight of 75g. The fragments were unidentifiable by form however they were of Romano-British fabric.

The medieval ceramic building material

A small assemblage of medieval brick and tile was among the assemblage and is discussed below;

Context [5] wt 15g

Single fragment of possible medieval brick/tile. Hard-fired red (10R/5/6) fabric with occasional quartz, black speckles and patches of unfired clay. Heat fractures evident.

Context [75] wt 20g

Single non-diagnostic fragment of flat roof tile. Hard light red fabric (10R/6/8)

The post-medieval ceramic building material

A complete voussoir brick with dimensions of 360 x 120 x 58–83 mm (14½" x 4¾" x 2¼–3¼") was recovered from 'U/S' with a weight of 6.000kg. A slight sunken margin was noted running length-wise across one face of brick. Mortar adhesions were also evident. The standing mill to the east of the site has similar bricks incorporated into its late 18th-century window frames, however, it is more likely that this example originated from the mid 19th-century railway building that occupied the western part of the site.

Discussion

The majority of the assemblage (94%) consisted of Romano-British forms which reflects other substantial assemblages of Romano-British materials recovered from excavations at Albion Street, Driffield (Crooks 1992, 26) and The Out Gang, Driffield (Tibbles 1997, 33–4). This evidence strongly suggests that a substantial building was within the vicinity of the Eastgate South excavation.

Numerous fragments of the Romano-British material displayed evidence of pre- and post-breakage burning, indicative of demolition burning. It is likely that the Eastgate South assemblage represents re-deposited materials from the aforementioned building.

The medieval and post-medieval ceramic building materials represent residual elements of activity during this period, within the vicinity of the excavation.

Recommendations

Further analysis of this assemblage should be undertaken which should incorporate the analysis of the assemblages recovered from Albion Street (Tibbles 1992) and The Out Gang, Driffield (Atkinson 1997). This will provide a better understanding not only of the ceramic brick and tile industries of the area but can also provide valuable information to the construction and the architecture of the buildings on or within the vicinity of the site during the Romano-British period.

4.5 The Biological Assemblage

Deborah Jaques, Allan Hall and John Carrott

Introduction

Two sediment samples ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al* 1992) were recovered from the deposits. Preliminary evidence (from pottery dating) gave early and late Romano-British dates for the deposits.

All of the material was submitted to the EAU for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

Methodology

The sediment samples were inspected in the laboratory and their lithologies were recorded, using a standard *pro forma*, prior to processing, following the procedures of Kenward *et al* (1980; 1986), for recovery of plant and invertebrate macrofossils. The washovers and residues were examined for plant remains. The washovers were also examined for invertebrate remains, and the residues were examined for other biological and artefactual remains.

Results

The results are presented in context number order. Archaeological information, provided by the excavator, is given in square brackets.

Context [9] [fill of pit 98. Romano-British]

Sample 3/BS (10 kg sieved to 300 microns with washover)

Moist, mid grey-brown, soft (working more or less plastic), very stony (abundant stones in the range 2–20mm), silty clay with some ?charcoal present.

This subsample yielded a very large residue of about 3.5 litres of angular chalk gravel (to 70 mm in maximum dimension), with some other gravel, including a little flint, and some sand. There were also a few fragments of baked clay/daub (to 25mm). The small washover consisted of a few cm³ of charcoal (to 5mm) and snails, with traces of charred ?heather (*Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull) root-basal twig fragments, root/rhizome fragments and unidentified charred cereal grains (the ?heather and root/rhizome material seems most likely to have originated in peat or turves burnt for fuel or burnt as a result of destruction of a roof or wall).

The small snail assemblage included some *Pupilla muscorum* (Linnaeus) and *Cochlicopa lubrica* (Müller) together with smaller numbers of *Trichia hispida* (Linnaeus), *Vallonia* sp., *Carychium* sp., ?*Aegopinella* sp., ?*Vitrea* sp., and *Cecilioides acicula* (Müller). The latter a modern burrowing species almost certainly intrusive to the deposit.

Context [56] [primary fill of ditch 58. Late Romano-British (4th–5th century)]

Sample 2/T (3kg sieved to 300 microns with washover)

Moist, mid to dark grey-brown, crumbly (working soft and slightly sticky), slightly stony, clay silt with some clasts of mid reddish-brown clay.

There was a large residue of about 600cm³ of angular chalk gravel (to 30mm), some other gravel, including flint, a trace of brick/tile (to 20mm) and a little sand. The small washover comprised a few cm³ of charcoal (to 10mm) and snails with a few charred wheat (*Triticum*) grains and one barley (*Hordeum*) grain, as well as and some ?spelt (*T. cf. spelta* L.) glume-bases (the latter few in number, but quite well preserved). There were also traces of charred ?*Calluna* root-twig fragments.

The small snail assemblage was very similar to that recovered from [9] (Sample 3) though no *P. muscorum* were seen and there were a few freshwater planorbids.

Discussion and statement of potential

Archaeobotanical evidence from the Driffield area is very meagre and the late date of some of this Romano-British material is significant: it is a period when we should be considering what changes to agriculture took place as the influence of the Roman establishment declined (at least in terms of any kind of centralised system of organisation and trade). The presence of remains which may have arrived as fuel or in

building materials is of importance in adding to a growing body of such evidence from late prehistoric and early historic sites in this area of England.

The small snail assemblages had two components, the first indicating a dry, calcareous, open landscape, and the second a damp, more heavily vegetated one. Such assemblages are fairly common from cut features at sites on chalk — the ‘dry’ component reflecting the general local environment and the ‘damp’ component the modified conditions within the cut. The presence of planorbid remains in the sample from [56] indicates that the ditch contained water at some point.

Recommendations

Though charred plant remains were very sparse, it is perhaps worth examining more material, especially from [56] and other similar feature fills to check for cereals, chaff and other material. Certainly, any further excavation should be accompanied by careful sampling of suitable deposits (especially pit and ditch fills, hearths and floors, if found).

No further work is recommended on the current snail assemblages. The numbers of recovered remains were small but of some use in the interpretation of the local environment and, in the event of further excavation, the possibility of recovering similar assemblages should be considered. In particular, variation between assemblages recovered from sequences of samples taken through cut features may reflect changes in local land-use or in the use of the feature.

Retention and disposal

All of the current material should be retained for the present.

Archive

All material is currently stored in the Environmental Archaeology Unit, University of York, along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

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4.6 The Animal Bone

J. Buglass

Introduction

An assemblage of animal bones and both marine and terrestrial molluscs was recovered from archaeological contexts within the site. The bone collection was largely composed of domestic species, including some fowl, with a few examples of

small mammal. The marine molluscs were all edible species and the two terrestrial species were common, widely distributed, catholic species indicative of damp, open areas.

Hand collected faunal remains were recovered from a total of 27 contexts. These were examined and identified using standard reference guides, and the detailed results are given below.

Methodology

Collection

During the excavation all animal bone encountered were collected, a process variously known as ‘hand collection’ or ‘hand picking’. This method is used extensively and is widely considered to be a suitable method for the recovery of large animal bones as well as marine shell (Westman 1994), whereas wet sieving of soil samples is the preferred method for systematic recovery of small mammal, bird and amphibia remains due to their generally small size and fragility. A very small number of small mammal bones were recovered during the excavation. The assemblage was then washed, air dried and bagged by context.

Identification

The faunal remains were examined and identified using standard reference guides (Serjeantson & Cohen, 1996; Schmid 1972). They were identified to species and part of body where possible. Where full identification was not possible, the remains were catalogued as to the approximate size of the animal, *ie* sheep-sized or cow-sized.

In addition to identification, the bones were examined for evidence of butchery (in the form of cut, chop or saw marks), gnawing and pathological changes, and the presence of any of these conditions was noted.

Biological age of the remains was only recorded when the individual bone was obviously from an immature animal, represented by the unfused ends (epiphyses) of long bones or partially erupted dentition.

Due to the small size and fragmentary nature of the collection it was considered impracticable to carry out detailed measurements of bones; the presence of measurable bones was, however, recorded.

Results

Phase 1a

A single cow-sized, gnawed long bone fragment was recovered from this phase, too small a sample to be able to comment upon.

Phase 1b

Only two contexts from this phase yielded faunal remains, 74 (animal bone) and 78 (bone and terrestrial mollusc). The bone remains were of cattle and sheep, all heavily gnawed, showing that the material was exposed for some time before burial. Common domestic species were present, but the assemblage was too small for meaningful analysis. The terrestrial snail species represented (*Cepaea nemoralis*) is a common, widely distributed species found in almost any open, damp areas in large numbers.

Phase 1c

A slightly larger range of material was retrieved from phase 1c, with a total of seven bone bearing contexts ([6], [13], [14], [18], [19], [27] and [73]), and four with terrestrial molluscs ([6], [13], [14] and [19]). Two species of mollusc remains were present: *Cepaea nemoralis* and *Helix aspersa*, both indicative of open ground that would be typical of cleared woodland or slightly overgrown gardens.

The animal bone collection consisted almost entirely of cattle and sheep remains and predominantly of long bones, the main meat-bearing elements. The exception was a single specimen from an immature domestic fowl. This material is typical of the remains of reasonable quality food, albeit from a limited range of species. As with the other phases, there was extensive dog gnawing, indicating that the material had not been buried immediately after consumption.

Phase 1D

Phase 1D produced the biggest assemblage of material, with ten contexts containing animal bone ([44], [54], [56], [57], [59], [60], [62], [80], [90] and [94]) and eight with molluscs ([17], [56], [57], [59], [60], [80], [90] and [94]).

The range of species present in this phase is more diverse than previously seen, and the food species now include pig (though only a single example) and three species of marine mollusc (oyster, mussel and, unusually limpet), though all in small numbers. The numbers of terrestrial mollusc have now dropped to a few individuals, indicating that the ground cover is probably now reduced and more prone to drying.

With the assemblage being larger than previously examined there is, as would be expected, a greater diversity of body parts represented, including skull and pelvis fragments. This could possibly indicate the slaughter and initial butchery of the animals on site rather than just consumption, and as seen previously there was widespread dog gnawing. The other occurrence that should be noted was the presence of dog bones, though only two bones were recovered they were from a reasonably sized animal, possibly a mastiff. It is possible that they came from the same animal, though this is not provable. The jaw fragment is of the size that would have done the damage seen in the other, gnawed, bones.

Phase 1E

This phase had the second largest assemblage, six context with animal bone ([15], [17], [37], [51], [52] and [75]) along with six with molluscs ([15], [17], [20], [21], [52] and [75]).

Two contexts yielded terrestrial molluscs, confirming, to a degree, the general reduction of vegetational cover, however, the marine molluscs are now at their most diverse with four species being represented, but, as ever, in low numbers. The marine species are interesting in that two of the less common species are present, common limpet and periwinkle. These are both animals of rocky shores and are not commonly seen on archaeological sites, oysters and mussels are the most frequent food species. This diversity of species from different habitats, and hence collection methods, would seem to indicate that this community is drawing upon a widespread area.

Phase 2

A single context [5] with animal bone was recorded from this phase, which contained cattle and sheep remains.

Conclusions

The faunal remains from the site are typical of domestic food remains that have remained unburied for a sufficient period of time to allow dog gnawing. There is a slightly higher degree of pathological changes than normally seen, which could be a result of the slaughter of older animals. The amount of material, and the range of species, present increases towards the end of Phase 1, which would strongly suggest an increase in activity or population numbers.

Table 9 Animal bone catalogue

Context	Species	Identification/Comments	Measurable
U/S	<i>Avis</i>	Sternum fragment, poss. Gallus sp.	
5	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Metacarpus, Adult	Y
	Cow-sized	Long bone frags x 5	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Basal part horn core	
6	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Molar, some wear	Y
	Cow-sized	Distal end ulna	
		Long bone fragment	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Mandible, left hand side, fragmented, some wear on teeth	Y
		Mandible, right hand side, fragmented, some wear on teeth	Y
		Mandibular hinge, right hand side	Y
		Scapula, 3 frags, one with pathological changes on articulating surface	
	Sheep-sized	Long bone mid shaft, dog gnawing	
		Metapodial fragment	
Long bone fragments x 16, one burnt			
<i>Gallus</i> sp.	Femur, immature		
13	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Scapula RHS, dog gnawing, chop marks, two parts	
		Radius fragment, proximal end	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Distal end humerus, gnawed	

14	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Cervical vertebra, sub adult, two parts	
		Distal end of rib	
		Radius fragment, proximal end	
	Cow-sized	Long bone fragment	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Molars x 3, some wear	Y
		Radius, proximal end, sub adult, burnt	
Sheep-sized	Long bone fragments x 17, one burnt		
	Skull fragment		
15	<i>Bos</i> sp.	LHS Mandible, distal end	
		Astragalus	Y
		Scapula, LHS, chop marks	Y
	Cow-sized	Five fragments	
	<i>Canis</i> sp.	Radius, proximal end, largish animal	Y
	Frog/Toad	Urostyle	
	?Small mammal/bird		
17	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Mandible	
		Phalange 1, LHS, pathological changes	Y
	Cow-sized	Fragments long bone x 8, one burnt	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Mandible frags x 2	
		Molars x 2, some wear	Y
		Humerus distal end, dog gnawing	Y
	Sheep-sized	Neural spine	
Frag x 12 long bone			
Frag x 6 skull			
18	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Proximal articulating surface	Y
19	Cow-sized	Long bone frags. x 2.	
	Sheep-sized	Metapodial fragment	
27	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Tibia, proximal end, 2 parts, chopped	
	Cow-sized	Long bone frags. x 3	
	Sheep-sized	Long bone frags. x 4, gnawed	
		Metapodial mid shaft, gnawed	
		Skull fragment	
37	Sheep-sized	Mid shaft, long bone, gnawed	
44	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Phalange 1	Y
		Astragalus	Y
	Cow-sized	Rib frags. x 3	
		Skull frag.	
		Fragmented vertebra, sub adult, 4 parts	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Pelvis fragment	
Proximal end metacarpus			
51	Cow-sized	Rib frag. Chopped	
		Skull frag.	
52	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Molar, worn	Y
	Cow-sized	Skull frags. x 5	
54	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Mandible, 4 parts, cut mark	
	<i>Canis</i> sp.	Radius, distal end	Y
56	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Scapula, 10 parts	
		Phalange 1	Y
		To acetabulum	Y
		Pelvis frag.	
	Cow-sized	Frag. x 3	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Distal end ulna, gnawed	
	Sheep-sized	Radius frags. x 2	
		Long bone mid shaft	
Frag. x 6			

57	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Vertebra frag.	
		Pelvis frag.	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Mandible, left hand side, some wear	Y
		Mandible, right hand side, worn, diseased	
		Mandible, fragmentary, little wear	
Sheep-sized	Long bone frags. x 5		
<i>Sus</i> sp.	Metatarsus 3, dog gnawed	Y	
59	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Humerus, distal end	Y
	Cow-sized	Long bone frags. x 6, heavily gnawed	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Tibia, whole, immature, gnawed	
60	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Incisor	Y
	Cow-sized	Pelvis frag.	
		Scapula frags. x 7, chopped	
		Rib frag.	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Maxilla frag., left hand side, some wear on teeth	
<i>Canis</i> sp.	Mandible, right hand side, large animal		
62	Cow-sized	Frag.	
	Sheep-sized	Rib frags. x 2	
73	Sheep-sized	Long bone frag. Cut marks	
74	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Molar	Y
75	<i>Bos</i> sp.	Ulna, proximal end, gnawed	Y
	Cow-sized	Skull frags. x 5	
		Articulating surface frag.	
Sheep-sized	Long Bone frag.		
78	Cow-sized	Vertebra frag. Heavily gnawed	
		Long bone frag. Heavily gnawed	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Incisor	
80	Cow-sized	Rib frag. Dog bite	
		Skull frag.	
84	Cow-sized	Long bone frag. Gnawed	
90	<i>Bos</i> sp	Metacarpus, heavily gnawed	
		Mandible, 6 parts	
		Cervical vertebra	Y
		Proximal end tibia, heavily gnawed	
		Mandibular hinge x 2	
	Cow-sized	Rib frags. x 4, cut marks, gnawed	
		Scapula frags, x 7	
		Long bone frags x 16	
		Skull frag. Orbit	
		Pelvis frags. x 3	
		Vertebra frag. X 2	
	<i>Ovis</i> sp.	Mandible, left hand side, very worn teeth	Y
	Sheep-sized	Rib frags. x 2	
Metapodial mid shaft, heavily gnawed			
Long bone mid shaft, heavily gnawed			
94	Sheep-sized	Long bone frags. x 3	

All material is fragmentary unless otherwise stated.

Table 10 Identification and minimum numbers of individuals of hand-collected marine molluscs

Species	Context										
	15	17	20	21	52	57	59	60	80	90	94
<i>Ostrea edulis</i> L. (Edible Oyster)											
Top (Left) valve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2

Bottom (Right) valve	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	0
Min. No.	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	5	2	2
<i>Mytilus edulis</i> (L.) Common Mussel											
	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Min No.	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	0
<i>Patella vulgaris</i> Limpet											
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<i>Littorina littorea</i> Periwinkle											
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Opening mark, large nick, bottom of 15.

Table 11 Identification and minimum numbers of individuals of hand-collected terrestrial molluscs

Species	Context									
	6	13	14	17	19	56	57	60	75	78
<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>	9	–	4	5	2	1	–	1	2	18
<i>Helix aspersa</i>	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–

5 Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Conclusions

Taken together, the evidence suggests extensive Romano-British exploitation of the site, particularly in the later period. The presence of late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery, and some possible fully Romanised pot of late 1st- to early 2nd-century date, also seem to confirm that Phases 1A and 1B represent earlier Roman activity. A coin of the Emperor Hadrian (AD 117–38) was recovered from the upper contact horizon, although this must be regarded as residual. Sherds from a very late 2nd-century samian bowl were found during the 1993 evaluation, and a range of 2nd- to 4th-century types were also present at nearby Albion Street.

Some features can be dated to the second half of the 4th century from the inclusion of Huntcliffe ware, and there are other late forms and fabrics, including a fine Crambeck ware decorated rim sherd. Continued occupation into the early 5th century in Phase 2, and perhaps Phase 1E, cannot be ruled out.

The first concerted activity appears to be represented by the Phase 1B enclosure, of which three sides have been recorded, perhaps laid out in the late 1st or 2nd century AD. The Phase 1C ditch and possible fence-line mark substantial changes to this initial layout, which is not surprising given the apparent difference in date between the two phases, provided by late 3rd- to 4th-century pottery from dumped layers sealing the earlier features. There is, however, a similarity in alignment, which may be influenced by persisting factors outside the immediate environs of the site, such as the line of Driffield Beck, or the presence of a road or other longer-lasting landscape features. The alignment, in fact, survives until the end of Phase 2, perhaps into the early 5th century. The Phase 1D enclosure broadly follows the same arrangement as the first structure, although shifted a little to the north-east. It is uncertain whether this represents a deliberate move away from the Driffield Beck to the west, with dumped deposits raising the ground level, or whether the dumps were part of a platform for a phase of buildings. The number of pits containing food waste associated with the later phases suggests that there was occupation on or near the site, although the only clear structural evidence, in Phases 1E and 2, do not suggest a building.

The presence of Roman roof tile and chalk implies that substantial buildings were constructed in the area, although the ceramic material was fragmentary, and could have been brought some distance. This adds to the discovery of a larger quantity of building material at Albion Street in 1992, where a flue tile (from a heated building), shaped chalk blocks, and both ceramic and sandstone roof tiles were also recovered.

On balance, the Phase 1B–1D ditches could have been field boundaries or stock enclosures representing agricultural activity; again, ditches were found on site in 1993 and at Albion Street in 1992. One possibility is that any Roman masonry building or buildings may have been part of a farm or small villa complex positioned to take advantage of Driffield Beck as a water source. As no masonry building has ever been

located, the nucleus may lie outside the current occupied part of Driffield. If this is the case, the site was probably a peripheral part of the agricultural estate.

Only one definite dated feature of post-Roman date was encountered, a 12th-century pit, although further medieval pits and deposits, and several post-medieval features were found in 1993, including a 12th-century pit and layer in the 1993 Trench 2, immediately adjacent to the 2001 excavation. The results of the earlier evaluation, and those of Albion Street, therefore need to be considered together with those of DES2001, in order to present a fuller picture of local development.

5.2 Recommendations

The sequence is of sufficient interest for publication in the form of a short article in *The East Riding Archaeologist*, incorporating the results of the 1993 evaluation. To this end, a publication synopsis has been produced, and is included below. The publication report will include a discussion of the pottery and registered finds in relation to previous archaeological work in the vicinity, particularly the 1993 Eastgate and 1992 Albion Street evaluations. It will also summarise the results of the 2001 excavation presented in this report.

Publication synopsis

Summary

Introduction

Site background, and short introduction to Driffield and its relationship to the East Riding

Fig: East Riding, showing principal Roman features

Archaeological background

Previous work in Driffield, including the work of Mortimer, more recent excavations and evaluations. Discussion of initial topsoil stripping and interpretation by TGC, based on 1992 evaluation results

Fig: Location plan, showing sites and SM records in Driffield, with historic street pattern superimposed

Fig: Trench location, including 1993 evaluation

Plate: overall site view

Archaeological sequence

Natural geology and topography

Possible early Romano-British settlement and native elements/influences

Later Romano-British occupation

Saxo-Norman and medieval development

Figs: 5 (approx) phase plans, appropriate sections, including selected 1992 trench sections if appropriate

Plates: up to 4 details

The finds

Registered finds, including the coins

Figs/plates: selected finds illustrations

The pottery

The late Iron Age/early Roman period

The late Roman pottery

The medieval pottery

Figs: selected reconstructed forms, the 1992 decorated samian

The environmental evidence

Discussion of the selected samples. Any evidence for diet, local economy and environment in the later Roman period

Discussion

Possible early Romano-British settlement: ?evidence for continuity from late Pre-Roman Iron Age through pottery development

Evidence for Romano-British land-use

Evidence for Romano-British masonry buildings, such as a substantial farmstead or villa

Evidence for Anglian/Anglo-Scandinavian, and medieval settlement

Contribution to our understanding of the development of the medieval town

Need for pottery typology for Driffeld area

Figs: ?historic map(s)

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Bibliography

[Approximate word count: 6–7000]

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The text was edited by Trevor Brigham, and any factual or typographical errors remain his sole responsibility.

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Plate 1 The trench following initial clearance, looking north towards Eastgate



Plate 2 The trench during clearance, looking south



Plate 3 Phase 1b slot [32] and postholes [28], [30], looking south-west



Plate 4 Section through Phase 1c ditch [41], with yellow gravel fill [13]. In the foreground is a modern sondage, looking west



Plate 5 Section through the fills of Phase 1d boundary ditch [58], looking north

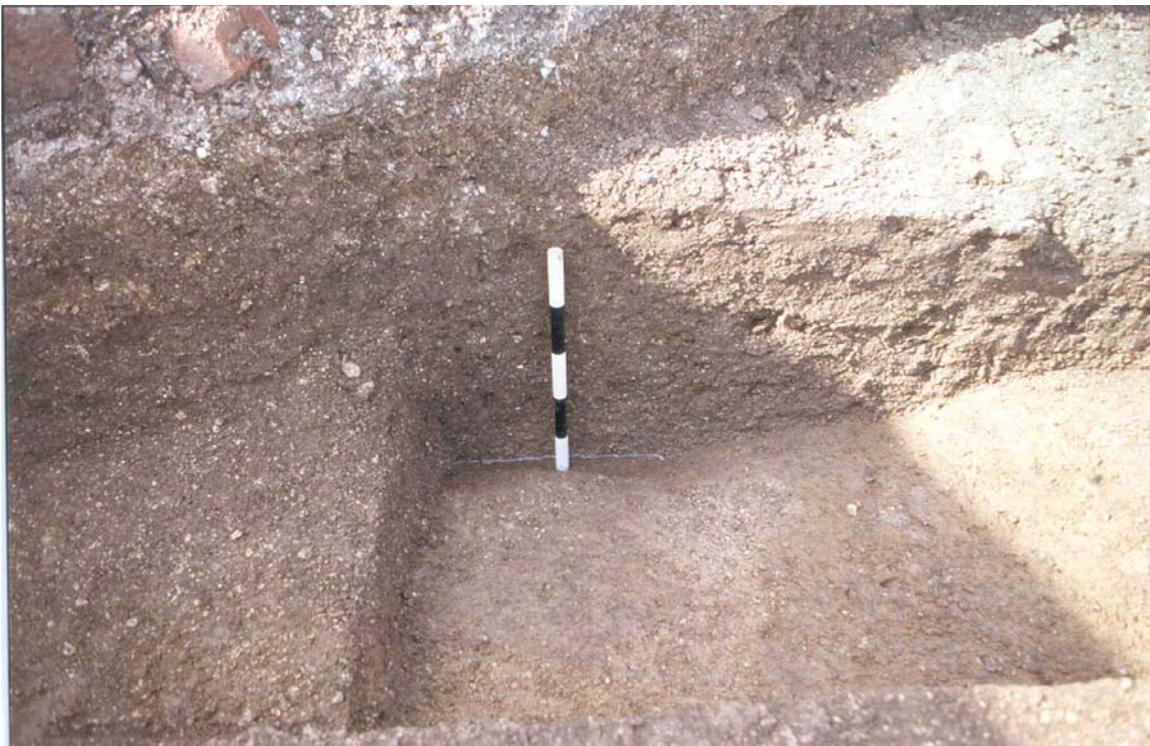


Plate 6 Section through Phase 1d pit [38], looking south-west



Plate 7 Phase 1e cut [66], looking west

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Project Management • Desk-based Assessment • Field Survey • Excavation
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