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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
BLUE BRIDGE LANE
FISHERGATE, YORK

EVALUATION REPORT
MARCH 2001

In association with: Mike Griffiths and Associates
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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the site of Blue Bridge Lane, Fishergate, York. Part of the site had already undergone a previous scheme of evaluation carried out by York Archaeological Trust in 1995. The site lies within the precinct of the medieval priory of St Andrews and the putative site of the Anglian *wic*, the remains of which underwent extensive excavation in 1985 and 1986. The present scheme of work comprised a series of 14 trenches across the south-eastern and northern areas of the development area.

The evaluation made contact with archaeological deposits which ranged in date from the Roman through to the post-medieval periods. The western half of the development area was characterised by up to 1.5m of made ground and modern overburden. The eastern half of the site, fronting onto Fishergate itself, had undergone a severe degree of modern truncation and post-medieval intrusion.

A large pit of Anglian date was exposed and partially excavated within Intervention 1. To the north of this another large pit dating to the 12th century was fully excavated. These features clearly indicate that significant archaeological remains from the early medieval and medieval periods survive in at least one area of the site.

A mitigation strategy has been accepted which will see the south-eastern area of the site being opened as an area excavation. This will be in addition to the excavation of archaeological deposits in areas where pile caps could potentially disturb significant archaeological remains.

Acknowledgements

Field Archaeology Specialists gratefully acknowledge the support and help provided by staff of the Mecca Bingo Hall and Shepherd Homes for their assistance during the fieldwork. We are also grateful for the assistance provided by Alan Vince and the staff of the Environmental Archaeology Unit during the production of this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document reports on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Field Archaeology Specialists on the site of Blue Bridge Lane, Fishergate, York in association with Mike Griffiths and Associates on behalf of Shepherd Homes and Rank Developments. The fieldwork was carried out in two separate phases. The first phase of work, undertaken in December 2000, involved the excavation of five trenches to evaluate the southern half of the site. The second phase of work, carried out in January 2001, involved the excavation of a further nine trenches in order to evaluate archaeological deposits across the Mecca Bingo Hall car park and access road in the northern half of the site.

1.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

The site at Blue Bridge Lane (Fig.1) is located on the eastern bank of the confluence of the River Foss and River Ouse (NGR SE 60605100). It comprises of a rectangular strip of land some 130m east to west by 65m north to south, enclosing an area of almost 7800m² (Fig.2). The site slopes dramatically from a height of 13.5m AOD in the east down to 9.1m toward the river at its western boundary. The northern half of the site is covered by the Mecca Bingo Hall, a substantial multi-storey brick building, which fronts onto Fishergate and has a covered car park behind to the west. To the north of this the site is bounded by the car park and grounds of the Novotel. To the east the site is delimited by Fishergate and to the south by Blue Bridge Lane itself. The southern half of the site is presently waste ground over which the concrete rafts of previous structures are still visible. The car park and bingo hall are still in use.

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

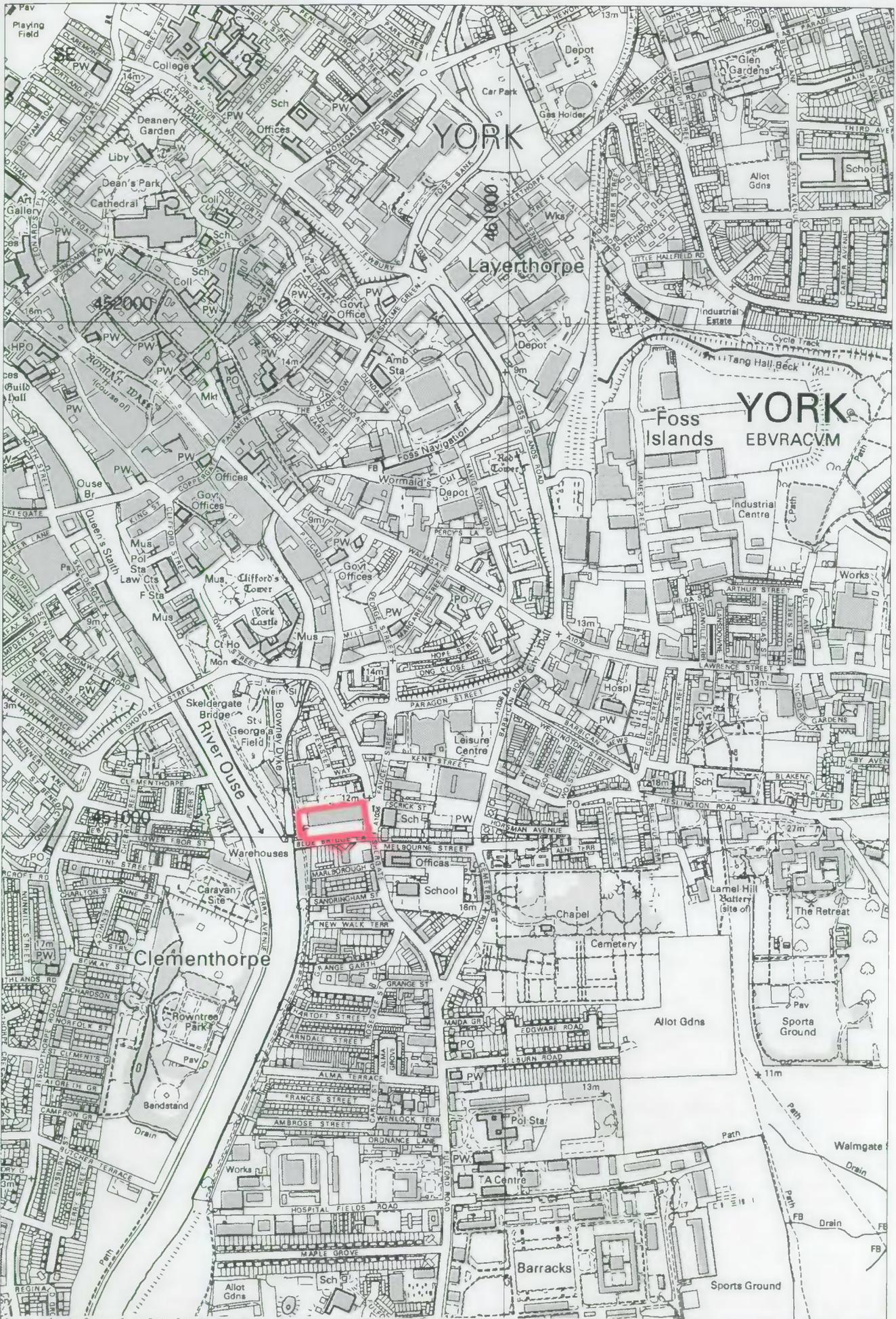
A scheme of evaluation trenching was designed to further ascertain the depth, character and extent of significant archaeological deposits which had been recorded in previous evaluation work on the site. The more comprehensive evaluation of archaeological deposits aimed to guide a mitigation strategy for construction on the site.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Nicola Watts MA)

The general area surrounding Blue Bridge Lane, including St George's Field between the Foss and the Ouse to the west, and the area to the east of Fishergate, is known from historical and archaeological evidence to have been in use from Roman times, throughout the medieval period to the present day.

1.3.1 *Roman*

Immediately to the east of the Blue Bridge Lane site, on the opposite side of Fishergate, chance finds and excavation have located a Roman cemetery, dating to the 1st or 2nd century. This cemetery is known to have extended from Winterscale Street northwards towards the junction of Fishergate and Fawcett Street (RCHM 1962, fold out map). A Roman cremation cemetery located on Paragon Street,



Blue Bridge Lane site location (red)

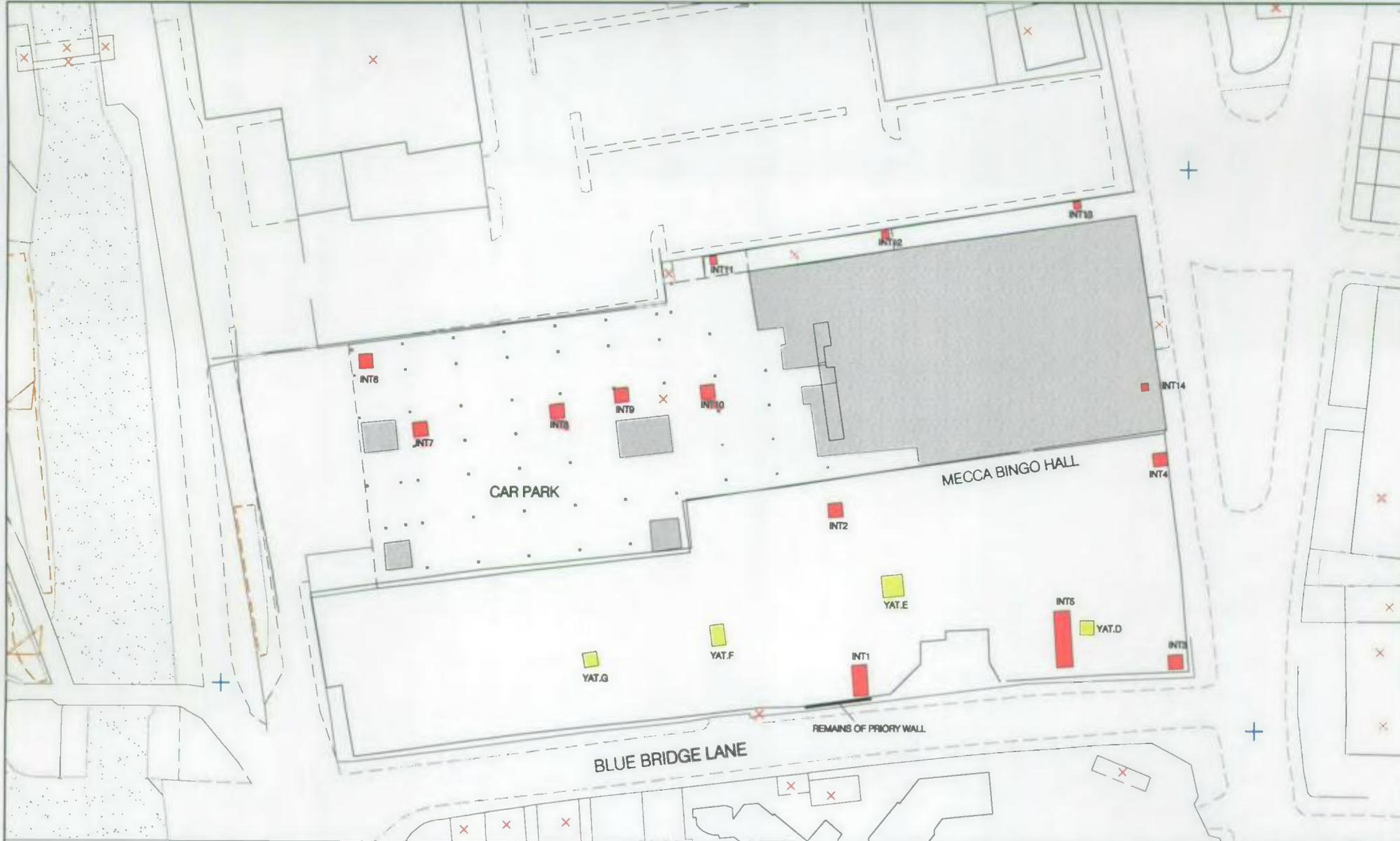
Scale 1:10000



Figure 1



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Blue Bridge Lane - location of Interventions 1 to 14 (red) and YAT Trenches D to G (yellow)

Scale 1:750



Figure 2

near the Barbican Leisure centre, may also have belonged to this cemetery, representing its extension further to the east (YAT.Gaz. 1988.2). The cemetery is believed to have been bounded on the west by the predecessor of Fishergate. Ditches and pits located in Paragon Street have also been dated to the Roman period (YAT.Gaz. 1988.2).

1.3.2 *Anglian*

Evidence for Anglian activity is known from the excavated site of the St Andrew's Priory near to the north of Blue Bridge Lane, although there is little evidence for this period to the east of Fishergate. This lack of evidence has been interpreted as an indicator that Anglian activity would have been focussed primarily by the confluence of the rivers Foss and Ouse (YAT.Gaz. 1988.2).

1.3.3 *Medieval*

Evidence for medieval activity, in the form of metal-working finds and pits has been discovered on Paragon Street (YAT.Gaz. 1988.2). Inhumations exposed prior to the construction of a cycle path at Kent Street and Fawcett Street (YAT.Gaz. 1991.15) have been identified as medieval, and tentatively interpreted as burials relating to the church of All Saints, Fishergate. During this period, documentary evidence begins to provide a more comprehensive view of activity in the area, not least through sources relating to the numerous churches and references to property ownership.

The area to the west of the Blue Bridge Lane site, between the Foss and the Ouse, is known historically to have been the location of a small medieval chapel dedicated to St George, thus giving the land the name of St George's Field. The chapel is believed to have been identified, in addition to other medieval buildings, in an evaluation carried out in 1990 (YAT.Gaz. 1990.17). It is recorded as having several phases of use including that as a chapel of York Castle, a Royal Free Chapel from 1311, and in 1447 when it fell into disuse, it was established as a house for the Guild of St George (Cal.Pat. Rolls. 1447). In earlier centuries there are also known to have been mills in this area, referred to in some documentation as the 'castle-milns' (Drake 1736, 249). As early as 1232, Henry III granted to the Order of the Knight's Templar, land between their mill on the Foss, from the bar beneath the Castle, to Fishergate and it was on this land that St George's chapel was erected (Benson 1919, 21). The area of St George's Field is described by Francis Drake (1736, 249) as being used in the 18th century as a place for the women of the city to dry linen.

1.3.4 *St Andrew's Priory*

The site on Blue Bridge Lane is believed to have been part of the Gilbertine priory of St Andrew. An excavation of the priory site was carried out between 1985 and 1986 by the York Archaeological Trust to the north of the present area of investigation. The excavation recorded activity on the site running from the Roman period to the 20th century. This activity was divided by the excavators into ten main periods (Kemp and Graves 1996, 68 to 73) which are summarised below.

Archaeology from Period 2, following the natural subsoils of Period 1, consisted of a thin plough soil which was associated with several shallow ditches. These contained sherds of abraded pottery which were dated roughly to between the 1st and 4th centuries. It is thought that this period represents a Roman agricultural use of the site.

Period 3, dated from pottery to between the 7th and 9th centuries, was divided into three separate phases. The first of these was identified by a 'complex of pits, ditches and postholes,' which were dated to the 7th or early 8th centuries. This might also have been associated with a settlement unit defined by ditches, and a possible road that would have run parallel to the postulated line of the River Foss. Finds from this period (3a) represented both personal items, and evidence for craftwork, which included spinning, weaving, bone and comb manufacture, fur preparation and metalworking. This has been interpreted as representing part of the Anglian settlement of York, or *Eorforwic*. As a putative *wic*, the site would have been advantageously located at the confluence of two navigable rivers, and an important focal point for the network of Roman roads. This *wic* is suggested to have been established to serve the early medieval ecclesiastical centre based within the Roman fortress.

The use of the *wic* site appears to have ended suddenly. Evidence suggested many of the structures were dismantled and backfilled. Features were covered by a 'distinctive charcoal-laden deposit,' interpreted generally as levelling of the first settlement, created by the spreading of earlier middens and debris across the site. Following this, a boundary ditch was cut. This was associated with several pit groups and is interpreted as re-occupation on a reduced scale. This site is not believed to have been settled again after the Viking capture of the city in AD 866 until c.AD 1000.

Period 4a comprised a series of refuse pits and structures, dated to the late 10th or early 11th century, indicating the re-occupation of the site. In the south-western corner of the excavation a possible timber church and associated cemetery were identified (Period 4b). Burials continued in this cemetery until the 12th century, and the church itself appears to have been replaced by a stone church on a nearby site (Periods 4d and 4c). This is the church believed to have been that dedicated to St Andrew, referenced in the Domesday Book and later sources. The features from this general period were, according to Kemp and Graves (1996, 72), 'part of a settlement that may have belonged to a continuous ribbon suburb represented by a string of churches on either side of Fishergate'.

Periods 6 and 7 were separated from earlier periods by a deposit of imported earth, interpreted as the remains of a foundation platform for the new priory of St Andrew, dedicated in 1202. Evidence relating to the priory was identified, including several stone foundations, pieces of wall plaster, window glass, floor tiles and architectural fragments. It was noted, however, that there was little evidence of every day life amongst the assemblage, such as animal bone, organic debris, pottery and personal items. It was suggested that waste was being dumped into the river at this time.

The structures of the priory were summarised as 'comprising a cruciform church, low central tower, north and south transepts with eastern chapels, a presbytery and aisleless nave; chapter house with western vestibule; an eastern dormitory with latrines to the north; and a northern refectory. All were

linked by a continuous alley around the cloister garth. A presumed west range had been destroyed by the modern factory. Architectural fragments broadly confirmed the historical date of construction and, along with the window glass, showed some Cistercian influence.

Modifications and alterations continued throughout the 14th to the 16th centuries, until the priory was dissolved in 1538. The main buildings were demolished, and a limekiln was built in the cloister garth using elements of the cloister arcade. The site was robbed of materials on a large scale, some of which was documented at the time. The north range may have been used as stables or a store in this later period until it, too, was robbed. The latest evidence from this period consisted of rubbish pits, dating to the later 16th century.

The final periods, 8, 9 and 10, are briefly mentioned in the description of site sequence provided in the report. The site was apparently virtually abandoned, and used as an orchard until the encroachment of the Glass Works in the later nineteenth century. During the 20th century, the site came under 'intensive industrial use'.

The archaeological periods identified in the report on the priory site appear to support historical evidence from the foundation of the Gilbertine priory onwards. A comprehensive report on the historical evidence was included in the publication (Burton 1996), some of which refers directly to the area adjacent to Blue Bridge Lane.

The earliest written records concerning the site refer to the church of St Andrew's, which was in existence prior to the establishment of the Gilbertine priory. The church is believed to have been that mentioned in the Domesday Book, stated as having been purchased by Hugh Fitzbaldric (DB fo 298b; Burton 1996, 49), despite other interpretations that this reference is to St Andrew, Ketmongergate (VCHY, 376).

Documentary sources from the mid 12th century concerning this church are difficult to assess. A grant of 1142/3 donated the church to the Augustinian priory of Hood (EYC 9), and another from the 12th century records that Lambert the chaplain granted St Andrew's to St Mary's Abbey, York. There is no evidence as to whether these grants were actually realised, and whether the respective religious houses ever took possession of the church on Fishergate (Burton 1996, 49). At this point it is unclear whether the area of the Blue Bridge Lane site would have been included in the lands of the church. Lambert's endowment was accompanied by another charter which granted 'all my land of my patrimony which is in Fishergate next to the church of St Andrew, which land was once held by my grandfather Ernisius' (in Burton 1996, 49). This could possibly be a reference to the land next to Blue Bridge Lane, although this is not certain.

The Gilbertine Priory

The foundation of the Gilbertine priory, the existence of which is attested by continuing documentation up to the Dissolution, occurred between 1195 and 1202, generally attributed to 1202.

Hugh Murdac, 'disputed' Archbishop of Cleveland (Burton 1996, 49), established the priory for twelve canons, and granted the church to the Order of Sempringham (Dugdale in Burton 1996, 50). The priory land is presumed to have extended northwards from the predecessor of Blue Bridge Lane, occupying an area of c.5.5 hectares (VCHY, 360). This is supported by a document of 1195, granting permission for the prior and canons to enclose a lane running from Fishergate to the Ouse, in order that they might drain water into the river (*Cal. Pat. 1281-1292*, 507; Burton 1996, 55). This is the earliest reference which seems to indicate that the land of the priory extended right up to Blue Bridge Lane, although the lane is not referred to by the current name. The document was later copied in 1502, to support claims over common land called 'Saynt Andrewe Grene' (YCA B8 of.132v). The existence of a length of wall along Blue Bridge Lane, identified as part of the original priory boundary, would also seem to support this. The northern boundary wall of the priory, abutting the glassworks, is recorded as having been in existence in 1850 and 1864 (VCHY, 360).

St Andrew's Priory appears to have been a substantial landowner within the city of York and in areas further afield (*cf.* Burton 1996, 53f). The initial foundation grant included land adjoining the church, stone houses at St Peter's, meadowland in Bishopthorpe, and amongst other properties, land in Clementhorpe, Goodmanham and Acaster. In an inquisition of 1230, the canons were recorded as owning tenements in the parishes of Holy Trinity, St Sampson and St Benet. Further written evidence, generally concerning the granting of land, or documenting disputes over land rights, provide evidence concerning the assets of the priory. By the time of the Dissolution, the land comprising the immediate site consisted of the priory site itself, with court and gardens extending to c.1 acre, 4 acres of pasture land lying near to the priory, and an orchard near 'le castlemylne' (a reference to mills on the Foss, beneath the Castle). Although St Andrew's Priory appeared to have owned a considerable amount of property, the house was not wealthy. Grants for the repair of the buildings in 1335 were made because the priory was impoverished (in Burton 1996, 60).

The layout and organisation of the site do not appear to have been well recorded, although the area and description of the land surrounding the priory suggests that some subsistence activity would have taken place. The priory is known to have had a staithe on the Foss (VCHY, 360), and the canons were likely to have used the rivers Ouse and Foss for resources and transport. In April 1497, a net belonging to the prior of St Andrew's was seized and destroyed, on account of it having been used for 'theyr wrong fyshyng.' (YCR, 132; YCA B8 fo. 21), indicating that, albeit illegally, the inmates of the priory used the river for food resources. In 1516, documentation mentions that Paul Gille was paid 100s as part of mending the 'wattes' on the new jetty of the Ouse, against St Andrew's Green (YCA B9 fo. 88)

Dissolution

The priory, valued at about £59, faced dissolution as a lesser monastery in 1536, and was finally surrendered in 1538 (Burton 1996, 63). Immediately following the Dissolution, the site was held in tenure by Richard Goldthorpe. In 1545, the site was granted to John Broxholme and John Bellowe, including the land and orchard belonging to it (Burton 1996, 64; VCHY, 360). After apparently being

in the ownership of Thomas Goodyear in 1558, the site was again controlled by Goldthorpe in 1560, in addition to other lands owned by the priory, and was then passed on to his wife and son.

Documentation following the dissolution of the priory is largely concerned with ownership of property, although some reference is made to water management within the area. In 1552, during a search for water sources in the area, a spring was located 'nigh St Andrewes' (YCR 5, 80). Hargrove (1818) observes the well in the field adjacent to the glassworks. The spring is marked on the 1852 edition of the Ordnance Survey map, within Stone Wall Close. In 1575 and 1577, presentations were made due to the failure of individuals to scour the water sewers in the area. In 1575, Mistress Goodyere neglected to scour 'the watter sewer in St Andres towards Fyshergaite,' and two years later, someone was presented for 'stoppyngge upp a common wattir sewer which shold have passage from Fyshergate thorowe the late dissolved monesteyre of St Andrews and so fourth into Owse.' (in Burton 1996, 64).

The church was not parochial and as such, fell quickly into disuse. Later the site came into the parish of St Lawrence, and maps and references to the site seem to indicate that the area was used as pasture, meadow or arable land. On maps by Archer (1680), Horsley (1694), Drake (1736), and Chassereau (1750) the area along the east side of the Foss, outside the walls, appears to be divided into two or three fields. Drake, in 1736, mentions the site as 'Stone Wall Close', and on later maps, including the Ordnance Survey map of 1852, the site is labelled as such.

In 1739, a deed between Thomas Fairfax and Darcy Preston described the sale of land comprising 'all the site of the late dissolved priory of St Andrew near the city of York, and all that parcel of arable, meadow or pasture land sometimes called the orchard, one close of arable, meadow or pasture land called the Mudd Close. One close of arable, meadow or pasture land ground called St Andrews and one other parcell of arable meadow or pasture land called Shoulder of Mutton, in the several tenures or assigns of John Wilson...' (YCA Redfearn deeds). In 1765, the land was divided into closes commonly called Mudd Close, Stone Wall Close and Shoulder of Mutton Close, formerly known by the name of the site of the dissolved priory of St Andrew (in Burton 1996, 65). The identification of these closes is unclear. The maps of Horseley (1694) and Drake (1736) show the area to the east of the Foss as being divided into three fields, with a fourth to the south of what became Blue Bridge Lane. The description of the assets of the priory before the Dissolution as including an orchard near the castle mills could lead to an association of the northernmost of these fields as being the orchard described in the 1739 deed. If Drake's map accurately delineated the closes, and the four shown were linked with the 1739 deed, then the land of the priory site would extend beyond the proposed, and generally accepted, boundaries. The 1765 deed more conveniently describes three closes that would fit more neatly into suggested area of the priory. Drake's map need not be accurate in showing all the field boundaries of the area, however, as the map of Archer (1680) shows the same area divided into six or seven fields, and Chassereau's map (1750) shows only two in the same area.

In 1851, Sir William Eden leased land to the owners of the Glass Works, established in 1794 on the site to the north of the Blue Bridge Lane site. In the deed it is described as 'all that messuage, dwelling



Figure 3 1892 Ordnance Survey Map

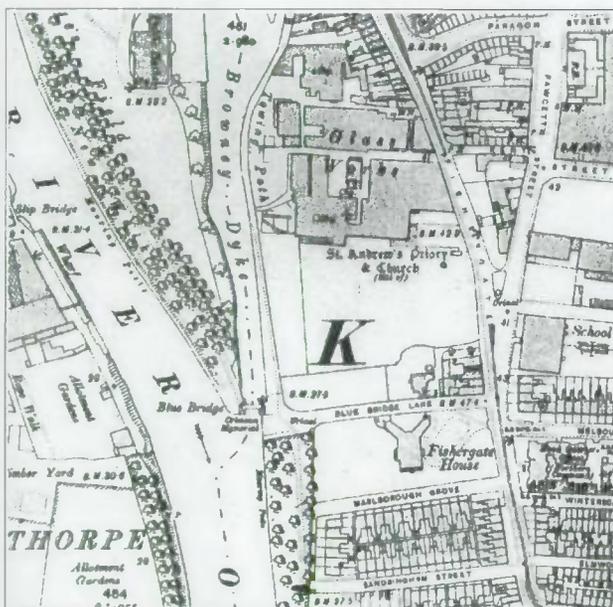


Figure 4 1902 Ordnance Survey Map

houses or tenement with the icehouse, stables, outoffices, gardens and yard ... now in the occupation of Thomas Harrison. And also all that close and parcel of land wherein the said dwellinghouse stables and buildings are standing called or known by the name of St Georges or Glass House Field situated in the parish of St Lawrence in the suburbs of the city of York and containing with the gardens yards and homestead five acres (be the same more or less) bounded by the Highroad between York and Fulford on the east on a messuage and garden belonging to Mr John Waite and on a lane leading to the Rivers Ouse and Foss to the south, by the said River Foss, and by a glass manufactory and premises... on or towards the north' (YCA Redfearn deeds). This is indicative that probably a large area of the Blue Bridge Lane site was in private occupation. The Ice House is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1852, but by 1892 (Fig3) is simply shown as a small mound. The land was later sold to James Meek, Joseph Spence and George Wilson, and the 1854 document provides a plan, which labels the area as Stone Wall Close, and also includes the property of Mr Waite (YCA YL/Eden M41).

Property to the south-east of the site, on the junction of Blue Bridge Lane and Fishergate, was occupied in the 18th century by one Henry Waite, probably a relative of the John Waite mentioned in William Eden's later documents. In 1745 he made an application to enclose this land (YCA B43/169), and in 1755 it is documented that the wall was removed (YCA B43/482).

1.3.5 Glassworks and later

The earliest glassworks in York was established on Marygate in 1735, but failed due to a lack of business. Undeterred, in 1794, John Prince established a Glass Making Industry in York, on three acres of pasture land in Fishergate, known as 'Scutt's Close' (Spence n.d, 3; YCA Redfearn deeds). Wilson (1954/5, 3) mentions the division of land on the west side of Fulford Road into two fields, Scutt Close to the north, and Stone Wall Close to the south, separated by a stone wall. The glassworks

established in Scutt Close are believed to have been partly built on land belonging to St Andrew's Priory. A report of a find by the workmen during construction describes a 'small cubicle about eighteen inches square, formed of flags loosely put together, in which imbedded in the soil, which had penetrated through the crevices of the flags was a human skull and a gold finger ring or ear-ring. The skull was perfect with the exception of a deep hole in one side of the head. Near to this was also found a curious leaden medallion, about two inches across, stamped with an Ecclesiastical device, and some fragments of the priory buildings' (Spence n.d., 3: YCA Redfearn deeds).

In 1835, the York Flint Glass Company was established by Joseph Spence, and the firm is known to have expanded from this period. The company specialised in the production of accurate measures for medical and pharmaceutical companies. The documented acquisition of land by Messrs Spence, Wilson and Meek from William Eden in 1854 suggests that they extended into the area known as Stone Wall Close.

The Glass Works became a limited company in 1918, and a modernising programme was undertaken until 1923. In 1923, the site closed down, and the land to the south of the original glassworks was sold off, presumably Stone Wall Close, and developed into a cinema and working men's club (Wilson 1954/4, 5,14). A photograph in the brochure for Redfearn National Glass Ltd (after 1974; YCA Redfearn deeds) shows the whole of the site to the north of Blue Bridge Lane built up, whether with factory buildings or other constructions. The firm continued production on the site to the north after 1929, and Wilson in 1954/5 sounded optimistic about the future of the company. The Victoria County History for York mentions that the Glass Works built on the land of the priory again in 1958 (VCHY, 360), although this is not referred to in the Redfearn documentation stored in the York City Archives.

The cinema, described by the Victoria County History as having shown films as early as 1910 (VCHY, 27), suggests that the land may have been sold off earlier than 1923. The City Palace, as it was then, was renamed as Rialto, and as such burnt down in 1935.

An account recorded as part of the York Oral History Project does not wholly agree with the records of the Victoria County History, and there appears to have been some incongruity with dates. Reg Lambert (YOHP 1988, 15) states that before the Mecca Bingo Hall that now stands on the site, there was the Rialto cinema, and prior to this it was the Casino. When Mr Lambert was at Fishergate School, presumably in the early 1920's, the site was occupied by a 'smallish cinema in front, with a roller skating rink at the back'. The proprietor of this business was John Fabier Prenderghast, who had come from Leeds in the 1920s and owned the Casino as it was. In 1923, the Casino went up in flames, observed by Reg Lambert and his friends from the school, and was rebuilt by Mr Prenderghast almost immediately, as a 'brick built effort ...in 1928, 1929'. The new cinema, named the Rialto, remained as it was until 1935 when that too burned down. The second Rialto was soon rebuilt, and continued showing films throughout the war years, until at least 1947.

1.4 PREVIOUS EVALUATION

York Archaeological Trust (YAT) carried out a scheme of evaluation across the southern half of the Blue Bridge Lane site in 1994. This was undertaken on behalf of Shepherd Homes in association with Mike Griffiths and Associates as part of a programme of work which included the site of Fishergate House to the south. Four trenches were excavated across the area (Fig.2) and are labelled D to G. The results of these trenches are of particular relevance to this phase of work and are summarised below.

Trench D exposed subsoil at a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface. All the contexts above this were modern in character.

Trench E was excavated to a depth of 1.5m below the modern ground surface. It was suggested that the earliest deposits within this trench were the backfill of a possible north-south aligned ditch running parallel to Fishergate. This feature was sealed by a layer of mixed dark brown sandy silt (5005) containing a mixture of Anglo-Saxon and 15th century pottery.

Trench F was excavated to a depth of 0.8m below the present ground surface. At this point a dump of greyish brown silty clay was exposed with four features cutting into it. These comprised a series of three sub-circular post holes and an east-west aligned slot dated from pottery to the 8th to 9th centuries. Sealing this was a 0.4m thick pack of greyish brown clay silt (6014) which was of a medieval date. Later deposits were modern in origin.

Trench G exposed natural subsoil at a depth of 1.85m below the present ground surface. Sealing this was a levelling layer of clay and cobbles (7007) from which a sherd of abraded Roman pottery was recovered. This was cut by a large posthole which was associated with a deliberately laid cobble surface (7006). A north-south aligned robber trench was identified running across the northern end of Trench G. This has been interpreted as the remains of a possible medieval terrace wall associated with St. Andrew's Priory. This activity was sealed by a pack of brown silty clay (7005) and a layer of black silty clay (7004) which contained an assemblage of pottery ranging from the Roman period to 18th century in date. The uppermost 0.9m of Trench G was characterised by modern material.

The evaluation of the Blue Bridge Lane site by YAT made contact with archaeological deposits ranging in date from the Roman period through to the 19th century. Notably a number of possible structural features dating to the Anglian occupation of the site were identified in Trench F. Interestingly, the post-priory deposits appear to be characterised by a substantial and extensive pack of greyish brown clay silt (5005, 6014, 7005) present in Trenches E, F and G, which in turn is covered by a black clay silt soil (6013,7004). The origin of this material is worthy of debate and is discussed later within this document.

2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

This evaluation was undertaken in two phases, covering different areas of the site. A local site grid was used for recording purposes. This was later transferred to the Ordnance Survey grid to which all alignments and coordinates expressed in this document refer. All heights are expressed in metres AOD and originate from a benchmark located on the boundary wall of Tower House, Fishergate.

The recording system followed *Field Research Procedure* (Carver, 1990), the standard operating system employed by Field Archaeology Specialists. A single index was created for contexts starting at C1000 and for features starting from F1. A summary of these records created during the evaluation are presented in Appendix A.

The location of any live services were mapped and marked out. Prior to excavation a walkover survey was carried out using a cable avoidance tool. Each intervention was marked out on the ground and where concrete was present, the edge was cut using a floor saw. Remaining concrete was broken out using a hydraulic breaker. Interventions 1 to 5 were excavated using a JCB wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.2m wide ditching bucket. Interventions 6 to 10 were excavated using a tracked minidigger fitted with 0.8m wide ditching bucket. Intervention 14, like Interventions 11 to 13 was excavated by hand after the concrete surface had been broken up..

2.1 PHASE 1

Phase 1 involved the excavation of four trenches (Intervention 1 to 4) in the south-eastern quadrant of the site (Fig.2). In 1994 the presence of standing buildings along the eastern and southern boundary meant that the original YAT evaluation trenches were limited in their placement to a strip of open land running along the centre of the area. With this in mind the present scheme sought to evaluate the periphery of the development area.

Intervention 1 (4.5m x 2.0m) was located behind a length of standing wall along the southern boundary of the site. This stone built wall was assumed to be the surviving remains of the southern precinct boundary of St Andrew's Priory. It was hoped, therefore, that Intervention 1 would address the issue of the origins of the wall as well as evaluate any associated activity.

Intervention 2 (2m x 2m) was positioned close to the southern wall of the Mecca Bingo Hall. Its location served to evaluate archaeological deposits in an area of the site which was known not to have been disturbed by later cellars.

Intervention 3 (2m x 2m) was located in the south-eastern corner of the site at the junction between Blue Bridge Lane and Fishergate. Its location sought to determine the presence or absence of any medieval or earlier roadside activity along Fishergate. In addition to this it also ventured to establish whether the medieval cemetery recently discovered on the other side of Blue Bridge Lane in the grounds of Fishergate House extended northwards into the development area.

Intervention 4 (2m x 2m) was located close to the Mecca Bingo Hall, fronting onto Fishergate. Like Intervention 3, this trench was positioned in a previously inaccessible area of the site to test for roadside archaeological deposits.

After the evaluation trenches were opened an additional trench, Intervention 5 (8.0m x 2.0m) was located along the southern boundary of the site in order to test for the continuation of a feature identified in Intervention 1 (F4).

2.2 PHASE 2

With the exception of the continued excavation of features in Intervention 1, Phase 2 commenced once Phase 1 had been completed. Phase 2 of the evaluation involved the excavation of a further nine trenches (Interventions 6 to 14) (Fig.2). These were located in the northern half of the site primarily to characterise the depth and survival of archaeological deposits in the covered car park to the rear of the Mecca Bingo Hall as well as along the access road to Fishergate which runs along the northern boundary of the site. These areas of the site were previously unevaluated.

Interventions 6 to 10 (each being 2m x 2m) were positioned in the car park area. Interventions 7, 8, 9 and 10 were located at regular intervals, centrally across the car park. This was done with the objective of producing a continuous profile of deposits through this zone. In addition to this, Intervention 9 was positioned to intersect one of the 56 vertical steel pillars which support the above building in order to ascertain its method of construction.

Interventions 11 to 13 (each being 1m x 1m) were located along the east-west access road to the car park along the northern boundary of the site. These trenches were positioned to provide a profile of deposits running east to west along this area of the site.

Intervention 14 (1m x 1m) was positioned in the Mecca Bingo Hall itself within an unused room at the south-eastern corner of the building.

2.2.1 Fieldwork Constraints

Several logistical constraints were imposed on the project by the continuing use of the Mecca Bingo Hall. The car park remained open during the evaluation and consequently all the trenches had to be made secure and spoil heaps cordoned off. Spotlights were used to supplement overhead lighting during the excavation and recording of these trenches. The low level of the car park ceiling required the use of a bobcat tracked mini-digger with its cab removed, equipped with a toothless ditching bucket to excavate the trenches.

In order to keep the northern access road open during working hours, Interventions 11, 12 and 13 were excavated by hand at night with the use of spotlights. During the day these trenches were covered by a steel road plate to allow traffic to drive safely over them into the car park.

3.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

The assessment of the pottery assemblage and of the ceramic building material has been incorporated into the results of this evaluation. Pending further excavation on the site, it has been decided that the assessment of other material types and the analysis of environmental samples will wait until future fieldwork has been completed. A catalogue of this additional material is presented in Appendix D which includes a list of the metalwork, animal bone, glass, stone objects and soil samples retrieved so far from the site.

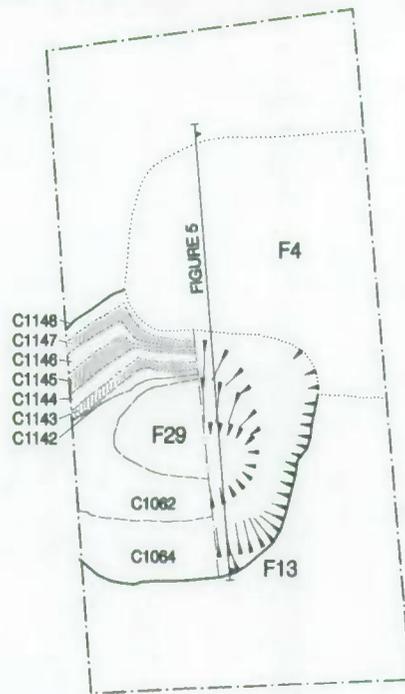
INTERVENTION 1

The machine excavation of Intervention 1 was stopped almost immediately after the removal of a concrete slab overlying the southern half of the trench. Here, at a depth of only 0.2m below the present ground surface (12.25m AOD) an orange brown clay deposit was exposed. This was identified as natural subsoil, against which a number of archaeological features were defined and excavated.

The earliest archaeological deposits contacted within Intervention 1 comprised a series of silt, clay and ashy backfills of a large sub-circular pit (F13). This feature was 2.05m in diameter and when half sectioned revealed a steep-sided cut, 1.85m deep, with a shallow concave base (Fig.5). This feature had been truncated along its southern edge by a later pit F4. During initial definition and excavation of the eastern half of F13 (C1025-C1027) six pieces of early medieval pottery and a large amount of animal bone were recovered. This comprised three sherds of Northern Maxey ware, one sherd of Ipswich ware, one sherd of Sandstone-tempered ware and, unusually, a single sherd of Torksey ware. In addition to this three abraded sherds of Romano-British pottery were also recovered as well as a total of 15 fragments of fired clay loom weight. With the possibility that this feature may be of a late Anglian date, it was decided to employ an appropriate recovery strategy. Subsequently all the backfills of F13 were 100% sieved by context.

In plan the earliest backfills of F13 were located in the western half of the feature. They comprised a series of charcoal rich, ashy layers separated by alternate layers of brown silt which tipped steeply into the pit from the west (C1142-C1148). These contexts were not sampled during the evaluation as they did not continue through into the excavated eastern half of the pit. This sequence appears to represent the disposal of primary waste possibly associated with metalworking or cooking. C1143, C1145 and C1147 all contained a high incidence of charcoal and burnt clay pieces within an ashy silt matrix. Further investigation will be required to provide a firm interpretation of this feature. It is possible, however, that the process which created this material was being undertaken close by, and F13 may be indicative of the presence of structures and buildings.

The remaining deposits within F13 also require further investigation. In plan and section it appears that F13 may be cut centrally by a later feature. This takes the form of a vertical shaft 0.5m in diameter

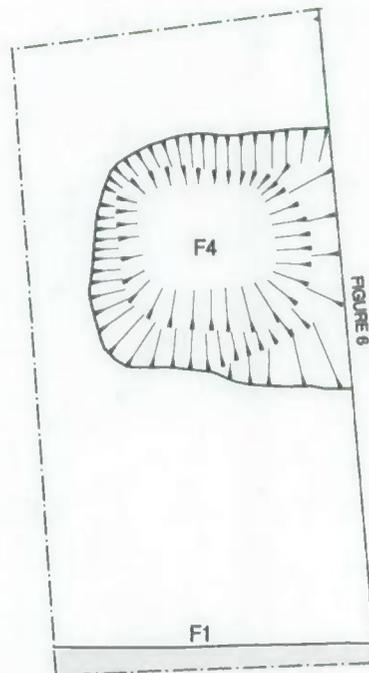


Intervention 1 - plan of pit F13

Scale 1:50



Figure 5



Intervention 1 - plan of F1 and F4

Scale 1:50



Figure 6



Plate 1 East facing section of F4 and F13



Plate 2 F4 post excavation



Plate 3 East facing section of F13 post excavation

which possibly continues to the very bottom of the pit. Whether this shaft is a cut or a void is difficult to establish at present as the backfills are very similar to the surrounding strata. Nevertheless it can be said with certainty that this feature was identified at the very top of the sequence. Its fill (C1058) contained two pieces of pottery, a sherd of Sandstone-tempered ware and a sherd of Northern Maxey ware both of which are of Anglian date.

The presence of this anomaly leads to two possible explanations. Firstly that the shaft is in fact a void for a substantial upright. If this is the case the evidence would suggest that F13 was recut after partially filling with industrial waste and then a large vertical upright, some 0.5m in diameter and in excess of 2.5m in length was inserted into the cut. Material was then packed around this. This backfill was very different in character to the ashy fills of the original pit. In plan and section it comprised alternate deposits of dark grey silt and compact orange clay (C1065, C1141). When the upright was eventually removed the void was filled with material already within the pit which consequently blurred its edges. The second explanation involves the disturbance of F13 by a later feature. In either case this activity pre-dates the cutting of pit F4 to the north and is almost certainly late Anglian in date.

The argument that the later use of F13 may be structural is supported by the presence of a well defined, vertical sided, flat based slot roughly aligned west-east (F29). This feature contained a dark grey brown silty clay (C1062) which appeared to abut the post void. The slot appeared to be set into a well defined compact orange clay (C1064) from which a single sherd of Sandstone-tempered ware was recovered. If the reuse of F13 is structural then the

implications for the use of such a substantial upright need to be addressed.

F13 was cut along its northern edge by a substantial sub-rectangular pit (F4). This feature (Fig.6) comprised a steeply sided cut, 1.7m across, 1.8m deep with a U-shaped profile and flat, rectangular base. It was backfilled with a sequence of mixed redeposited clay deposits (C1028, C1030 and C1039) separated by occasional dumps of grey clay silt (C1029, C1031 and C1040). All this material was 100% sieved by context. In the base of F4 was a thin layer of clean white limestone mortar (C1041). This deposit was only 0.1m thick and appeared to contain small pieces of straw and animal bone.

The section (Fig.7 and 8) through this feature appears to imply that between the episodes of deliberate backfilling (indicated by C1006, C1028, C1030 and C1039) the feature had been left for long enough for material to erode into the open cut from the adjacent pit F13. This material is represented by the grey silt layers C1029, C1031 and C1040. Pottery recovered from these deposits comprised a small assemblage of Anglo-Scandinavian pottery and York Gritty ware. The Anglo-Scandinavian material included two sherds of Torksey ware from C1029, and one sherd of Torksey ware from C1040. It can be said with certainty that this material, which also included a coin and fragment of bronze were originally in the backfill of F13. This notion is further supported by the recovery in F4, C1028, of a fragment of the same loomweight found in F13, C1025, C1027.

Other pottery recovered from F4 included several sherds of abraded Roman-British fabrics, York ware, Yorkshire Gritty ware, York Splash Glaze ware and Staxton ware in addition to several pieces of Anglian pottery and four sherds of 10th century York ware. This mixed assemblage appears to point to a date of around the mid-to late 12th century. A single piece of Brandsby type pottery was recovered from C1030. This sherd is of a mid-13th century date and may be intrusive, although the possibility that F4 was backfilled at this later date should not be discounted.

The function of F4 has not been established. It consists of a large pit with a shallow layer of mortar in its base. This feature was backfilled gradually with a mixture of redeposited clay subsoil and grey silty clay dumps. The backfills appear to indicate, therefore, that the purpose of this pit was not for the disposal of domestic or industrial waste. An amount of animal bone was recovered from the excavation of F4 but this would appear to be redeposited with much of the pottery assemblage. The backfilling sequence is more akin to a robbing or quarrying backfill. If F4 is in fact a robbed-out construction cut it is difficult to envisage at this stage what it may have contained.

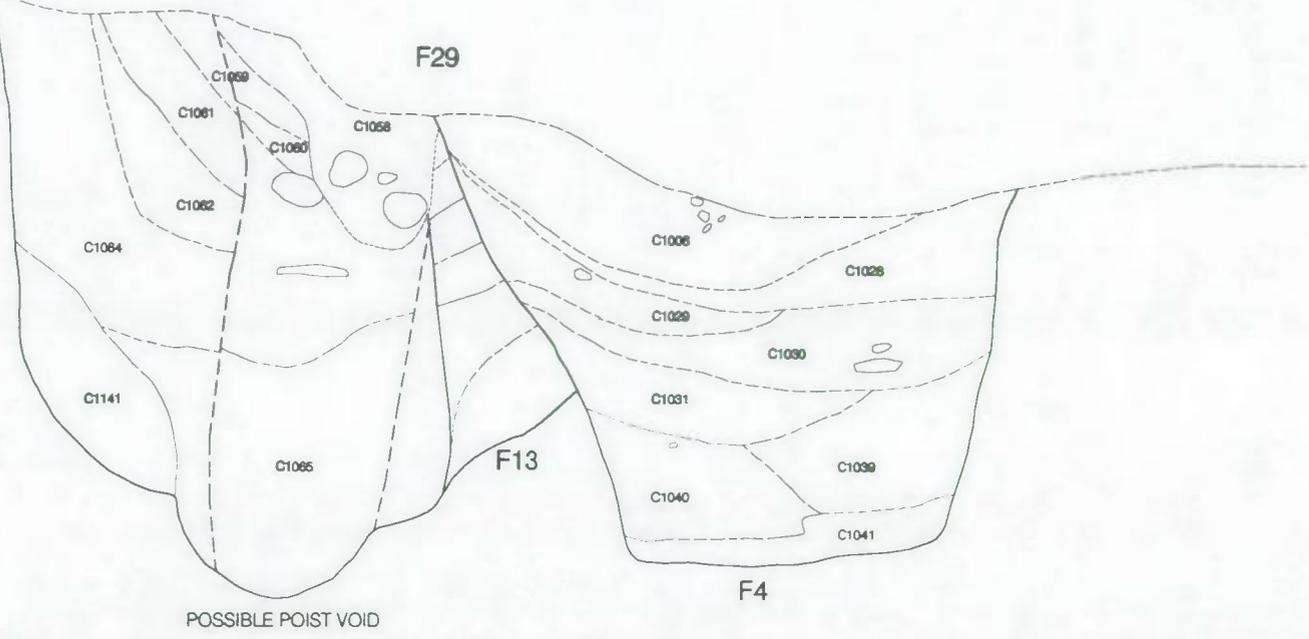
F1 was allocated to the construction cut for the surviving stretch of stone wall which forms the southern boundary of the site in this area. This wall is traditionally considered to be the southern precinct wall of St Andrew's Priory. A recent investigation of the structure by the Historic Buildings Section of Field Archaeology Specialists suggested a late medieval date based on its fabric and construction (Appendix A). F1, which was well defined against the natural subsoil was not tested archaeologically for health and safety reasons.

The latest features within Intervention 1 comprised two shallow scoops or pits (F38 and F39). F38 was

SOUTH

NORTH

12.24



Intervention 1 - F4 and F13 east facing section

Scale 1:20



Figure 7

NORTH

SOUTH

12.61

12.61

C1005

F1

C1139

C1140

F38

SUBSOIL

C1006

C1028

C1029

C1030

C1039

C1031

C1040

C1041

F4



Intervention 1 - west facing section of excavation

Scale 1:20

Figure 8

located in the eastern half of the evaluation trench and truncated the top 0.4m of both F4 and F13. It was approximately 3.4m wide with steeply sloping edges and a shallow concave base. F39 was located in the north-western corner of Intervention 1 and comprised a 0.5m deep cut with a U-shaped profile and sides sloping at around 45°. This feature was the construction cut for a large concrete stanchion which was removed by machine.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 1

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|------------------|------|----------|--|
| 1000 | makeup | 1 | variable | limestone block brick and mortar makeup of stone wall |
| 1001 | foundation | 1 | - | concrete foundation for wall F1 |
| 1003 | surface | | - | concrete ground surface |
| 1004 | layer | | variable | mortar, brick, tile and concrete foundation for surface C1003 |
| 1005 | backfill | 38 | 10YR3/2 | mottled greyish brown silty clay backfill |
| 1006 | backfill | 4 | 10YR3/2 | dark greyish brown silty clay backfill |
| 1007 | backfill | 5 | 10YR3/2 | backfill of foundation trench for wall F1 |
| 1025 | recovery context | 13 | - | context allocated to recovery of finds during definition of the western half of pit F13 |
| 1026 | recovery context | 13 | - | context allocated to recovery of finds during definition of the eastern half of pit F13 |
| 1027 | recovery context | 13 | - | context allocated to recovery of finds during initial excavation of the eastern half of pit F13 |
| 1028 | backfill | 4 | 10YR3/2 | compact yellow brown clay backfill of pit F4 |
| 1029 | backfill | 4 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay with charcoal fleck inclusions backfill of pit |
| 1030 | backfill | 4 | 10YR5/3 | firmly compact brown clay backfill of pit F4 |
| 1031 | backfill | 4 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay backfill of pit F4 |
| 1039 | backfill | 4 | 10YR4/2 | greyish brown clay backfill |
| 1040 | backfill | 4 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay backfill with charcoal and mortar fleck inclusions |
| 1041 | fill? | 4 | 2.5Y8/2 | limestone mortar deposit within base of pit F4 containing very occasional straw and animal bone inclusions |
| 1058 | backfill | | 10YR3/2 | very dark grey clay silt with frequent animal bone, charcoal and occasional shell inclusions |
| 1059 | fill | 29 | 10YR3/2 | very dark grey clay silt with charcoal and animal bone inclusions |
| 1060 | backfill | 29 | 10YR4/2 | homogenous dark greyish brown silty clay |
| 1061 | backfill | 13 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay with animal bone and charcoal inclusions |
| 1062 | backfill | 13 | 10YR4/2 | greyish brown silty clay with shell and charcoal inclusions |
| 1064 | backfill | 13 | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey clay silt with animal bone, shell and redeposited subsoil clod inclusions |
| 1065 | backfill | 13 | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey clay silt |
| 1088 | deposit | 13 | variable | context of large stones within possible post void |
| 1139 | backfill | 38 | 7.5YR3/1 | dark brown silty sand |

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|--|
| 1140 | backfill | 38 | 7.5YR3/2 | dark brown sandy clay with brick inclusions |
| 1141 | backfill | 13 | 10YR4/4 | clay |
| 1142 | backfill | 13 | 10YR3/3 | silty clay with charcoal inclusions |
| 1143 | fill | 13 | 2.5Y3/2 | silty clay with a high incidence of ash and charcoal inclusions |
| 1144 | fill | 13 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay with charcoal inclusions |
| 1145 | fill | 13 | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey clay silt with charcoal and burnt clay inclusions |
| 1146 | fill | 13 | 7.5YR3/2 | dark brown silty clay |
| 1147 | fill | 13 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey clay silt with charcoal and burnt clay inclusions |
| 1148 | fill | 13 | 7.5YR3/2 | dark brown silty clay lining western edge of F13 |
| 1149 | backfill | 39 | 10YR3/3 | silty sand with brick fragment and pebble inclusions |
| 1150 | backfill | 39 | 10YR3/6 | yellowish brown silty sand with stone and brick inclusions |

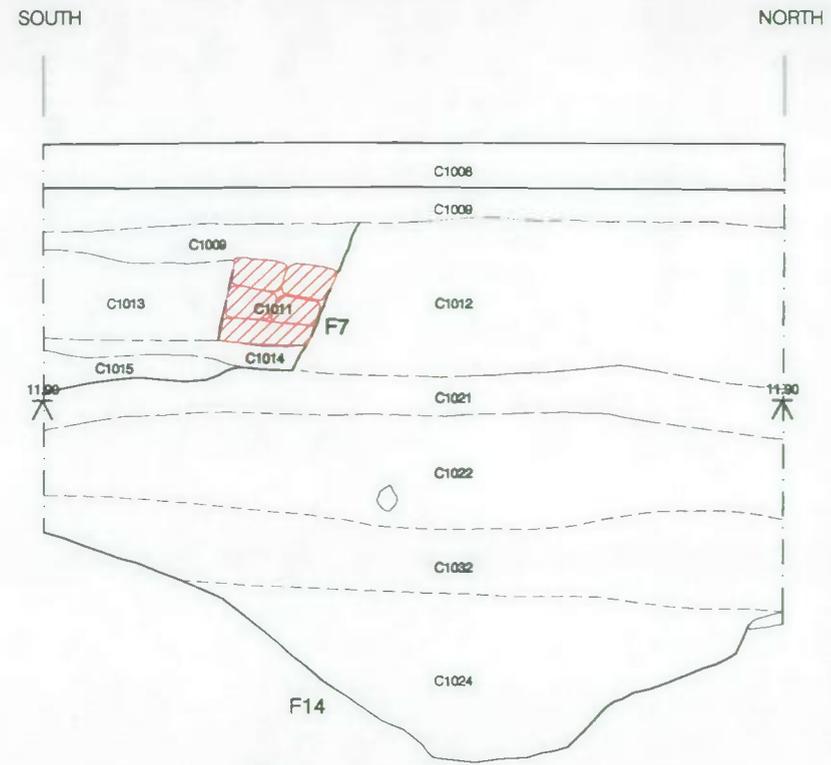
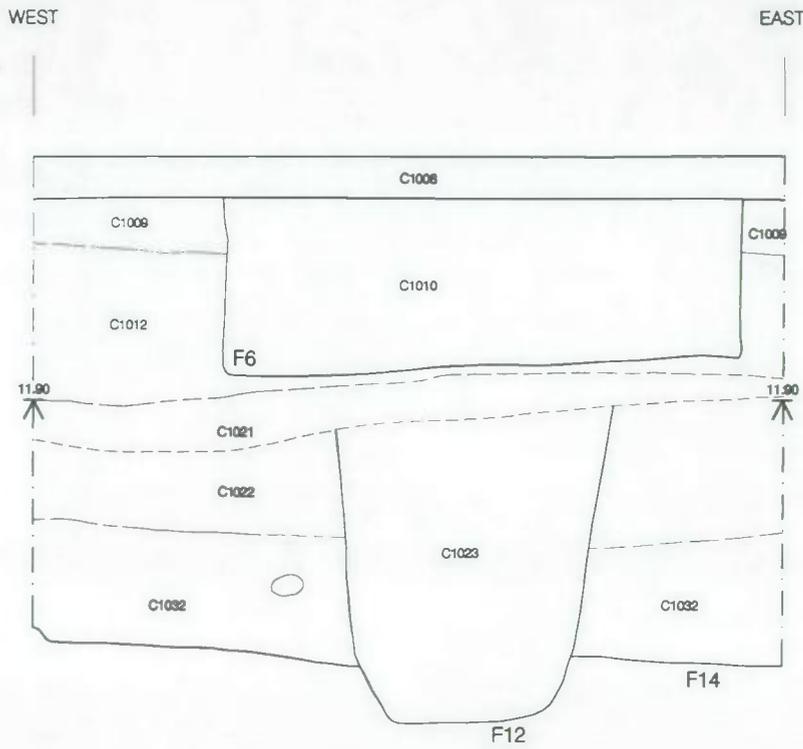
Summary of features from Intervention 1

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|-------------------|--|-------------------|-----------|
| 1 | wall | 1000 | L 10.0m x W 0.5m | - |
| 4 | pit | 1005, 1006, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1039, 1040, 1041 | W 1.7m x D1.8m | U-shaped |
| 5 | foundation trench | 1001 | L 2.0m+ x W 0.5m+ | - |
| 13 | pit | 1025, 1026, 1027, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1064, 1065, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148 | W 2.05m x D1.85m | irregular |
| 29 | slot/post void | 1058, 1088 | W 0.5m | U-shaped |
| 38 | scoop/pit | 1139, 1140 | W 3.4m x D 1.0m | U-shaped |
| 39 | foundation | 1149, 1150 | D 0.5m | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 2

Intervention 2 was excavated by machine to a depth of 0.4m below the present ground surface. At this point a square posthole (F12), located against the northern limit of excavation (Fig.9), was identified and excavation was continued by hand.

The earliest deposits contacted within Intervention 2 comprised the single backfill (C1024) of an east-west aligned ditch (F14) running through the centre of the excavation (Fig.10). This feature was 1.6m wide, cut to a depth of 0.5m and had a variable U-shaped profile, well defined against the surrounding sand and gravel subsoil (C1159) (Fig.11). Its backfill consisted of a slightly mottled grey brown silty sand from which pieces of animal bone and pottery were recovered. The pottery from F14 was a mixed assemblage containing a single sherd of Stamford ware, five sherds of Yorkshire Gritty ware and a single piece of 13th century Humber ware. In addition to this two fragments of tile and a piece of brick were also recovered which appear to date between the 14th and 16th centuries. There was



Intervention 2 - south facing section

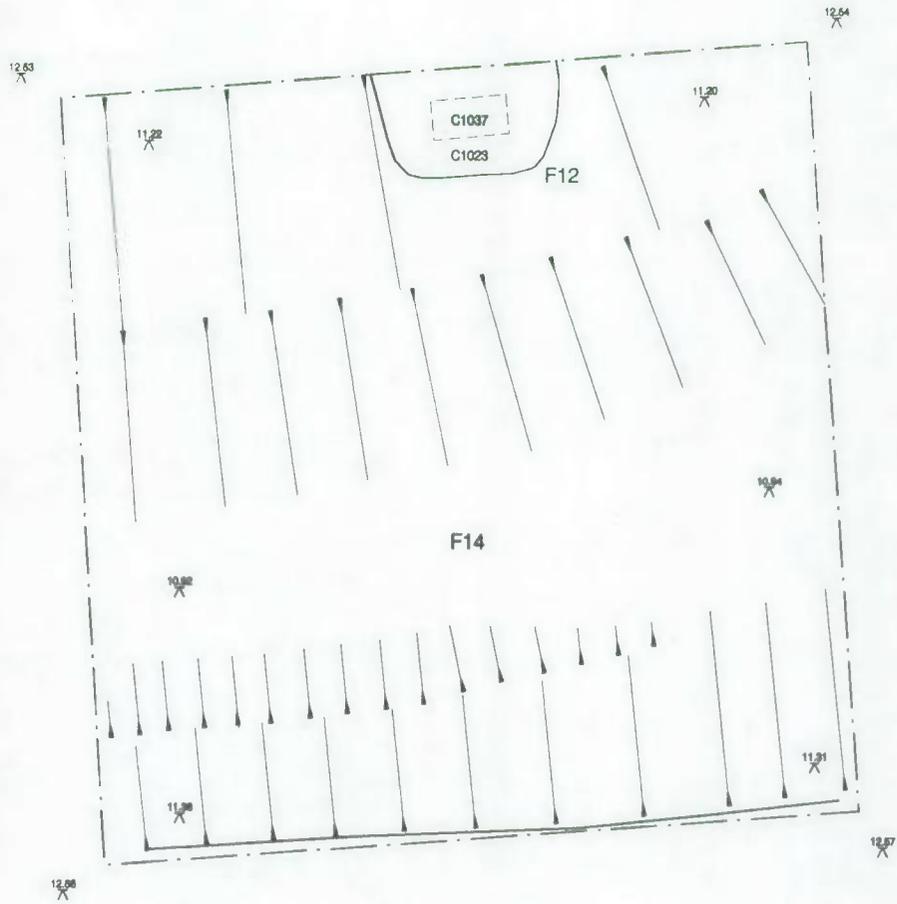
Scale 1:20

Figure 9

Intervention 2 - east facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 10



Intervention 2 - post excavation plan

Scale 1:20



Figure 11

no obvious evidence of silting or an accumulation of material within the ditch. This feature appears to be of a late medieval origin and may be one the east-west aligned drains running from Fishergate to the Foss which is referred to in the 16th century documentation (1.3.4, p6).

F14 was sealed by a mixed and mottled orange brown and mid brown silty sand (C1032). This deposit appeared as a thin variable band of material in section apart from in the south-eastern corner of the intervention where it appears as a raised dump, 0.3m high. This layer appears to comprise a mixed deposit of subsoil and grey silty sand and may represent a layer of tread or an old ground surface.

C1032 was sealed by a homogenous pack of grey brown silty sand (1022). This deposit varied in depth between 0.4m and 0.15m and appeared to level the ground within the intervention. C1022 was sealed in turn by a thin layer of black sandy silt (C1021) 0.1m thick. This sequence of soils (ie. the pack of brown silt sealed by thin layer of black silt) is recorded throughout many of the Interventions in this evaluation across the site. Material recovered during the excavation of C1022 ranged in date from the mid-13th through to the 18th century and included a wide range of pottery fabrics. It would appear that within Intervention 2, these soils represent a possible levelling deposit sealed by a buried soil or surface which originates in the late 18th century.

Cutting C1022 was a sub-rectangular post hole (F12). This feature was excavated until to the base of the trench was at a maximum safe depth of 1.5m. F12 contained a backfill of mid-brown mottled sand against which a rectangular post void measuring 0.2m by 0.1m was clearly visible (C1037). This feature appears to be post-medieval in origin.

The top 0.6m of the trench was characterised by a series of modern levelling deposits (C1008, C1009, C1012, C1013, C1014) and two modern brick structures (F6 and F7).

Summary of contexts from Intervention 2

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|------------|------|----------|---|
| 1008 | surface | | - | concrete |
| 1009 | surface | | - | concrete |
| 1010 | foundation | 6 | - | brick and cement foundation for wall |
| 1011 | wall | 7 | - | possible east west aligned brick (unbonded) wall |
| 1012 | layer | | variable | brick and rubble levelling deposit |
| 1013 | layer | | 7.5YR3/1 | dark brown silty sand with mortar and brick inclusions |
| 1014 | layer | | 7.5YR3/1 | black silty sand, cobble and brick layer |
| 1015 | backfill | | variable | brick rubble and mortar backfill of construction cut |
| 1021 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | black sandy silt with brick fragment, mortar and animal bone inclusions |
| 1022 | layer | | 7.5YR3/2 | dark brown, streaked silty sand with stone, brick and charcoal inclusions |

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|-------------|------|------------|---|
| 1023 | backfill | 12 | 7.5YR3/3 | mottled mid brown silty sand with gravel inclusions |
| 1024 | backfill | 14 | variable | mixed silty sand backfill |
| 1032 | dump/spread | | 7.5YR4/6 | mottled brown dump or spread of silty sand |
| 1037 | post void | 12 | 7.5YR2.5/2 | very dark brown sand rectangular post void |
| 1059 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | sand and grave subsoil |

Summary of features from Intervention 2

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 6 | concrete structure | 1010 | W 1.35m x D 0.45m | U- shaped |
| 7 | wall | 1011 | W 0.25m x D 0.25m | |
| 12 | posthole | 1023, 1037 | W 0.6m x D 0.8m+ | U-shaped |
| 14 | ditch | 1024 | W 1.55m x D 0.5m | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 3

Within Intervention 3 boulder clay subsoil was exposed at (12.81m AOD) only 0.2m below the present ground surface. This trench was characterised by a series of modern features including a large sewer pipe (F10) running along a NW-SE alignment and a regular mortar filled scoop (F11). These features were sealed by a layer of reinforced concrete and tiled floor. No earlier archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench (Fig.12).

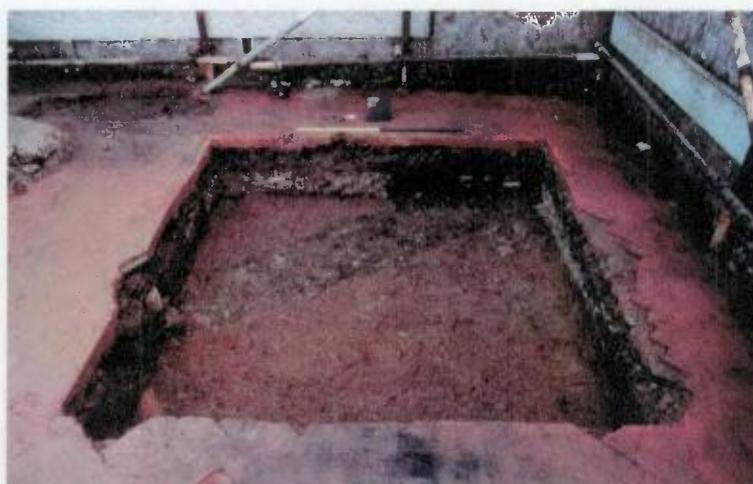


Plate 4 Intervention 3 looking east

Summary of contexts from Intervention 3

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|---|
| 1016 | floor | | - | tile floor |
| 1017 | layer | | variable | concrete and brick foundation deposit for C1016 |
| 1019 | backfill | 10 | variable | mixed silty sandy clay and redeposited subsoil backfill with brick inclusions |
| 1020 | backfill | 11 | variable | mixed silty sandy clay and white mortar backfill |

Summary of features from Intervention 3

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 10 | trench | 1019 | L 2.4m+ x D 1.0m+ | U-shaped |
| 11 | scoop | 1020 | W 1.6m+ x D 0.25m | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 4

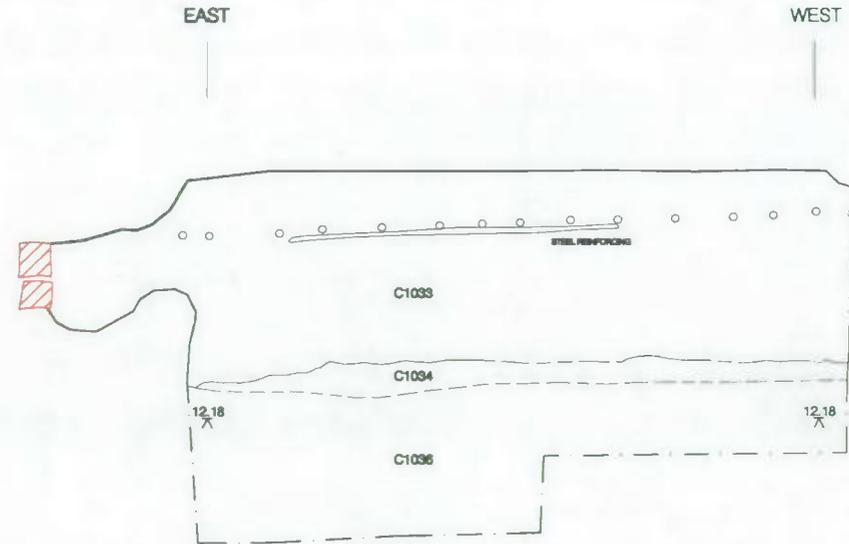
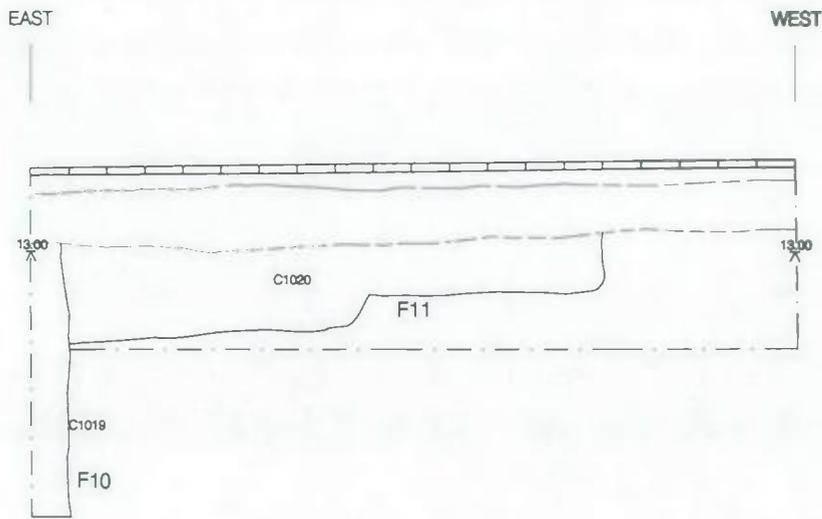
The excavation of Intervention 4 exposed natural subsoil (C1036) at a depth of only 0.6m from the present ground surface (12.05m AOD). This trench was capped with a 0.5m thick layer of steel reinforced concrete (C1033) which overlay a plastic membrane and layer of crushed slag (C1034) (Fig.13). This deposit sat directly on the subsoil. No earlier archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench. Both Interventions 3 and 4 suggest that the frontage of the site onto Fishergate has undergone a degree of modern truncation which may have resulted in the loss of archaeological deposits.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 4

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|---|
| 1033 | surface | 15 | - | concrete surface with steel reinforcing |
| 1034 | layer | 15 | 10YR2/1 | black slag layer |
| 1035 | wall | 16 | - | north south aligned brick wall |
| 1036 | layer | | 7.5YR4/3 | veined boulder clay subsoil |

Summary of features from Intervention 4

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|----------|------------|-------------------|---------|
| 15 | trench | 1033, 1034 | W 2.0m+ x D 0.5m | unseen |
| 16 | wall | 1035 | W 0.3m+ x D 0.5m+ | |
| 17 | test pit | | | |



Intervention 3 - north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 12

Intervention 4 - north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 13

INTERVENTION 5

Intervention 5 was an additional trench in the first phase of evaluation. It was positioned to test whether F4 (Intervention 1) was the terminus of a ditch which ran eastward, along the edge of Blue Bridge Lane to Fishergate.

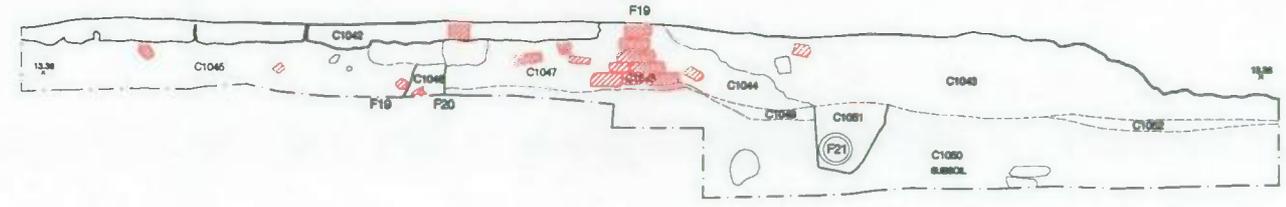
On excavation it soon became apparent that this was not the case. Boulder clay subsoil (C1050) was exposed at (13.25m AOD) only 0.25m below the present ground level at the southern end of the intervention (Fig.14). The northern half of the trench contained a brick lined cellar (F24) which had truncated everything except a thin line of subsoil visible against the western edge of the excavation. Intervention 5 was characterised by a series of modern drains and defunct service pipes (F19, F20, F21) and an east-west aligned brick wall (F18) which was tied into the cellar and continued eastward beyond the limits of excavation toward Fishergate. This wall appears to have been part of the 20th century building that had once been on this part of the site. The remains of this could still be seen across this area.

The earliest deposit recorded within Intervention 5 was a thin layer of material (C1049) at the base of the modern overburden. This deposit of dark brown silty clay contained a single piece of Brandsby ware dating to the mid-13th century. Whether this deposit represents an intact soil or is on the other hand a secondary deposit is impossible to say, particularly within the confines of the evaluation trench.

Although Intervention 5 made contact with only one possible pre-modern archaeological deposit it did show, like Interventions 3 and 4, that this area has undergone a severe degree of modern truncation and that the natural subsoil lies immediately beneath the modern ground surface.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 5

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|---|
| 1042 | surface | | | concrete surface |
| 1043 | spread | | variable | variable mixed dump of silty clay, vegetation, wood and brick rubble |
| 1044 | dump | | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty sandy clay with brick and mortar inclusions |
| 1045 | backfill | 19 | variable | mixed silty clay backfill of modern service trench |
| 1046 | backfill | 20 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey sandy silty clay backfill of modern service trench |
| 1047 | dump | | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey sandy silty clay with brick and mortar inclusions |
| 1048 | wall | 18 | | brick and cement wall aligned east west |
| 1049 | layer | | 10YR3/3 | mottled grey brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of tile fragments and mortar - possible buried soil? |
| 1050 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | veined boulder clay subsoil |
| 1051 | backfill | 21 | variable | mixed clay backfill and 8 inch ceramic pipe |
| 1052 | layer | | 10YR3/2 | greasy dark grey brown sandy clay with redeposited subsoil and brick |



Intervention 5 - east facing section of excavation

Scale 1:50

Figure 14

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|--|
| 1053 | spread | | variable | mixed clay brick and mortar levelling deposit |
| 1054 | layer | | 7.5YR4/3 | brown clay infill of brick lined cellar |
| 1055 | backfill | 24 | 10YR3/2 | dark grey silty clay backfill |
| 1056 | wall | 25 | | north south aligned brick wall and foundation for cellar (Structure 1) |

Summary of features from Intervention 5

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 18 | wall | 1048 | W 0.6m x D 0.42m | |
| 19 | trench | 1045 | W 0.3m= | |
| 20 | trench | 1046 | W 0.6m | |
| 21 | trench | 1051 | W 0.45m x D 0.46m | U-shaped |
| 24 | wall | 1055 | W 0.3m x D 0.4m+ | |
| 25 | foundation trench | 1056 | W 0.7m x D 0.4m+ | U-shaped |

3.2 PHASE 2

INTERVENTION 6

Intervention 6 was the first Phase 2 evaluation trench to be excavated. The western half of the trench was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.3m (9.8m AOD) below the car park surface. The resulting section showed a sequence of car park surface and hardcore preparation overlying a series of modern dumps and levelling layers. This material was a mixture of slags, rubble and running sand. Further excavation of Intervention 6 was abandoned as the soils became too unstable to continue safely, although the exposed section was photographed and sketched. All the observed deposits were modern in character. The sands and slag tips and layers appear to be pre-construction levelling for the car park and originate in the disuse of at least part of the glassworks.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 6

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|---|
| 1066 | surface | | | tarmac car park surface |
| 1067 | layer | | | preparation of limestone hardcore |
| 1068 | backfill | 26 | | loose brick backfill of trench F26 |
| 1069 | layer | | variable | mixed dumps and spreads of modern levelling material - sands, slag and concrete |

Summary of features from Intervention 6

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|----------|----------|----------------|---------|
| 26 | trench | 1068 | D 1.2m | Unseen |

INTERVENTION 7

Intervention 7 was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.5m (9.70m AOD) below the present car park surface. The excavation exposed a series of modern levelling layers (C1073, C1074) and dumps below the hardcore preparation (C1071) and concrete surface (C1070) of the car park (Fig.15). Modern material was still visible in the base of the trench at this level. This area of the site therefore was characterised by modern pre-construction levelling deposits to a depth in excess of 1.5m from the present ground surface.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 7

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|------------|--|
| 1070 | surface | | | present tarmac surface of car park |
| 1071 | layer | | | preparation of limestone hardcore |
| 1072 | layer | | variable | levelling deposit of large concrete blocks and grey brown silty clay |
| 1073 | layer | | 2.5YR2.5/1 | firmly compact levelling deposit of reddish black coarse sand |
| 1074 | layer | | variable | mixed silty clay sand levelling deposit containing inclusions of concrete, brick, tile, wood and glass |
| 1075 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | yellow brown sandy clay levelling deposit |

INTERVENTION 8

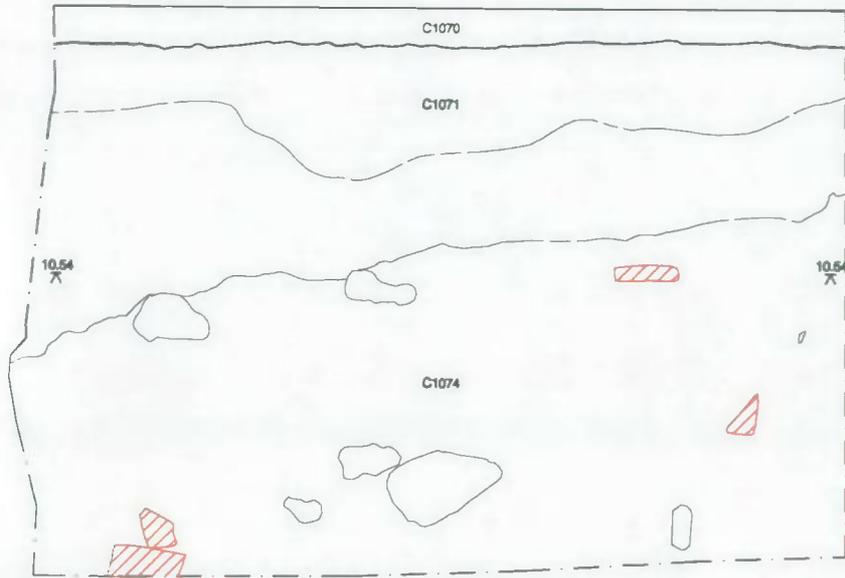
Intervention 8 was excavated by machine to 1.45m below the present ground level (10.55m AOD). Underneath the car park surface (C1119) and hardcore preparation (C1120) a series of modern levelling deposits (C1122, C1123, C1124) were observed tipping from north to south (Fig.16). This material comprised a mixture of clays and sands containing varying amounts of charcoal, brick and concrete block inclusions. Within the base of the trench modern deposits were still visible.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 8

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|---------|---|
| 1119 | surface | | | tarmac surface of car park |
| 1120 | layer | | | limestone hardcore preparation |
| 1121 | layer | | 10YR3/2 | modern layer of clay sand, mortar brick and cobbles |
| 1122 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | compact levelling deposit of dark grey sandy clay with charcoal and mortar inclusions |

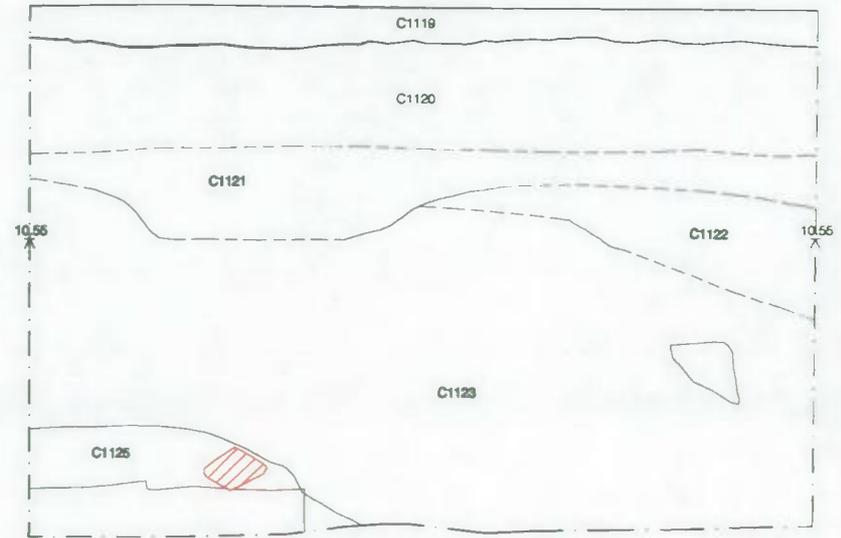
WEST

EAST



EAST

WEST



Intervention 7 - south facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 15

Intervention 8 - north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 16

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|-----------|---|
| 1123 | layer | | 10YR2.5/2 | dark grey levelling deposit of clay sand |
| 1124 | layer | | variable | mixed sand and clay levelling deposit |
| 1125 | layer | | 5YR2.5/1 | very dark grey clay and sand with mortar and brick inclusions |

INTERVENTION 9

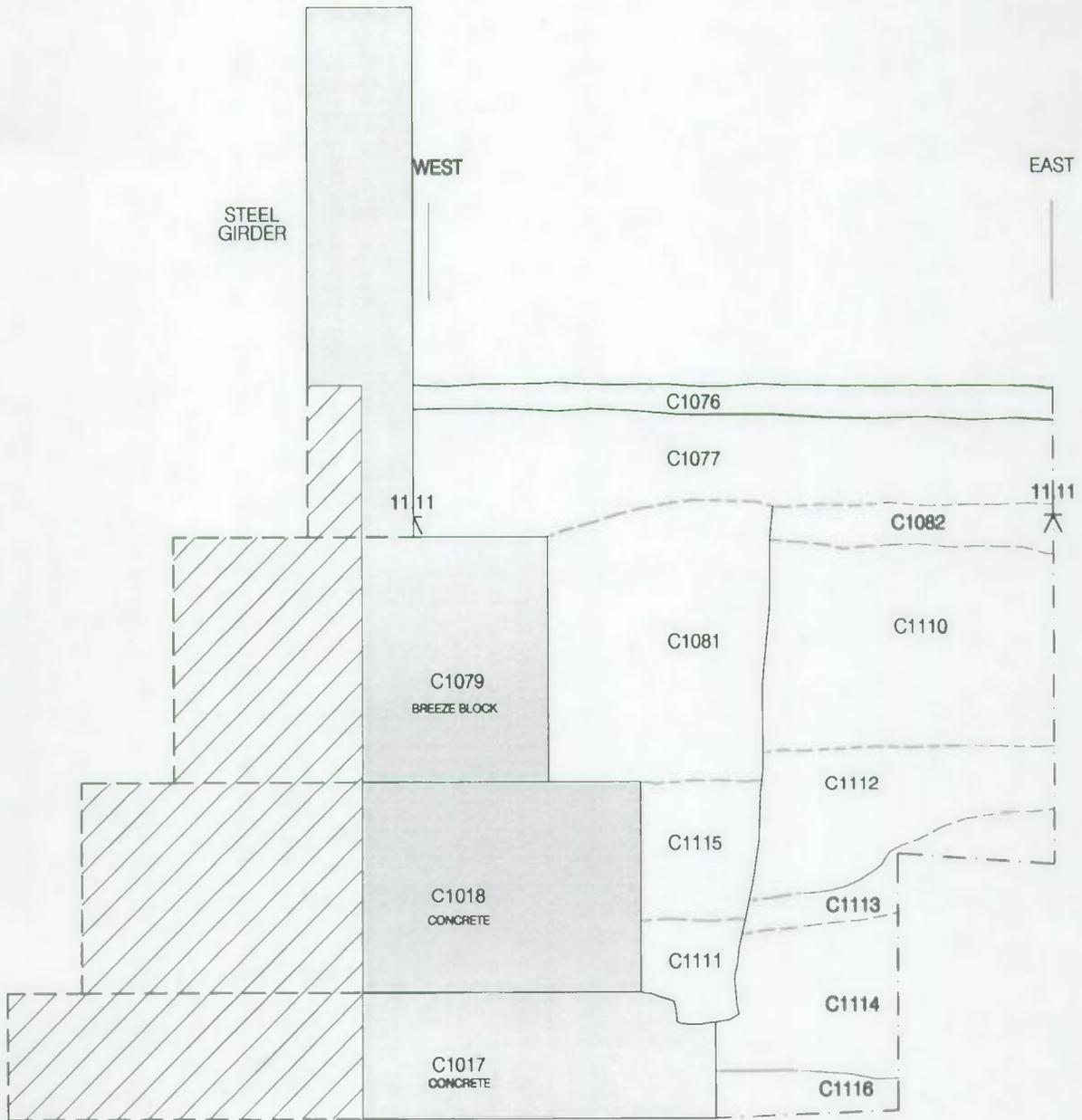
Intervention 9 was positioned to intersect one of the steel upright pillars which form the main structural supports for the raised building behind the Mecca Bingo Hall complex. This structure was thought to sit on piled foundations of which the depth and level of intrusion to any archaeology was not known. Consequently Intervention 9 was placed so that its north-western corner clipped the edge of one such pillar.

Intervention 9 was machine excavated to a depth of 1.4m below the present ground surface. At this point the trench was stepped in and excavation was continued by hand to expose the bottom of the concrete foundations for the pillar.

The steel pillar was found to sit on a square concrete platform 1.6m across and 0.9m thick (C1077, C1078) (Fig.17). This platform appeared to be cast *in situ* within a 3m square cut (F27), excavated to a depth of 2.2m (9.37m AOD) from the present car park surface. The base of the pillar was encased in 3 courses of breeze blocks (C1079). The construction cut (F27) had been backfilled with a sequence of sandy clay (C1111), sand (C1115) and limestone hardcore (C1080). The form and scale of this construction appears to be consistent with the other pillars observed in the evaluation of the car park. Each of the 56 steel pillars in the car park area is assumed to sit within a foundation cut measuring approximately 3.0m square and cut to a depth of at least 1.6m.

The earliest archaeological deposits encountered within Intervention 9 consisted of a layer of rounded cobbles held within a matrix of compact yellowish brown sandy clay (C1114). No cultural material was recovered during the limited excavation of this layer but the presence of three ordered, large, flat, rounded cobbles would suggest that this context is archaeological and not geological in origin. In many respects C1114 was very similar to a deposit of cobbles recorded in Intervention 10 to the east (C1090) and as such may be of possible Roman date. Below this a soft plastic boulder clay subsoil was recorded at 9.5m AOD, some 2m below the present car park surface.

Sealing C1114 was a series of modern destruction and levelling deposits. This included C1113, an undulating deposit of crushed and broken bricks which tipped into the area from the east. This deposit was sealed by a 0.4m thick deposit of loosely compacted black charcoal and wood (C1112). This material appeared to represent the remains of a modern destruction episode and an equivalent was identified in Intervention 10 (C1105). Overlying C1112 was a substantial pack of mixed black sandy clay, 0.6m thick, containing brick rubble, tile, glass and asbestos sheeting. This appears to have been a late levelling deposit laid down prior to the construction of the car park surface.



PROJECTED WESTERN HALF OF PILLAR SUPPORT



Summary of contexts from Intervention 9

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|--------------|------|----------|--|
| 1076 | surface | | | tarmac surface of car park |
| 1077 | layer | | | limestone hardcore preparation |
| 1078 | steel pillar | 27 | | upright steel pillar (0.31m x 0.31m) |
| 1079 | casing | 27 | | breeze block casing for C1078 |
| 1080 | plinth | 27 | | concrete plinth for C1078 |
| 1081 | backfill | 27 | | limestone hardcore backfill of construction cut |
| 1082 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | firm sandy clay levelling deposit |
| 1110 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | black sandy clay dump with brick, tile, glass, plastic and asbestos sheeting inclusions |
| 1111 | backfill | 27 | 10YR4/4 | sandy clay backfill of construction cut |
| 1112 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | black charcoal and wood layer |
| 1113 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | mixed deposit of mortar, brick and gravel held within a black clay sand matrix - levelling deposit |
| 1114 | layer | | 10YR5/8 | firmly compact yellow brown sandy clay and cobbles |
| 1115 | backfill | 27 | 10YR2/1 | black sand backfill of construction cut |
| 1116 | layer | | 10YR4/4 | firm plastic sandy clay subsoil |
| 1117 | plinth | 27 | | base of concrete plinth |
| 1118 | layer | | 7.5YR3/1 | firmly compact deposit of dark grey clay |

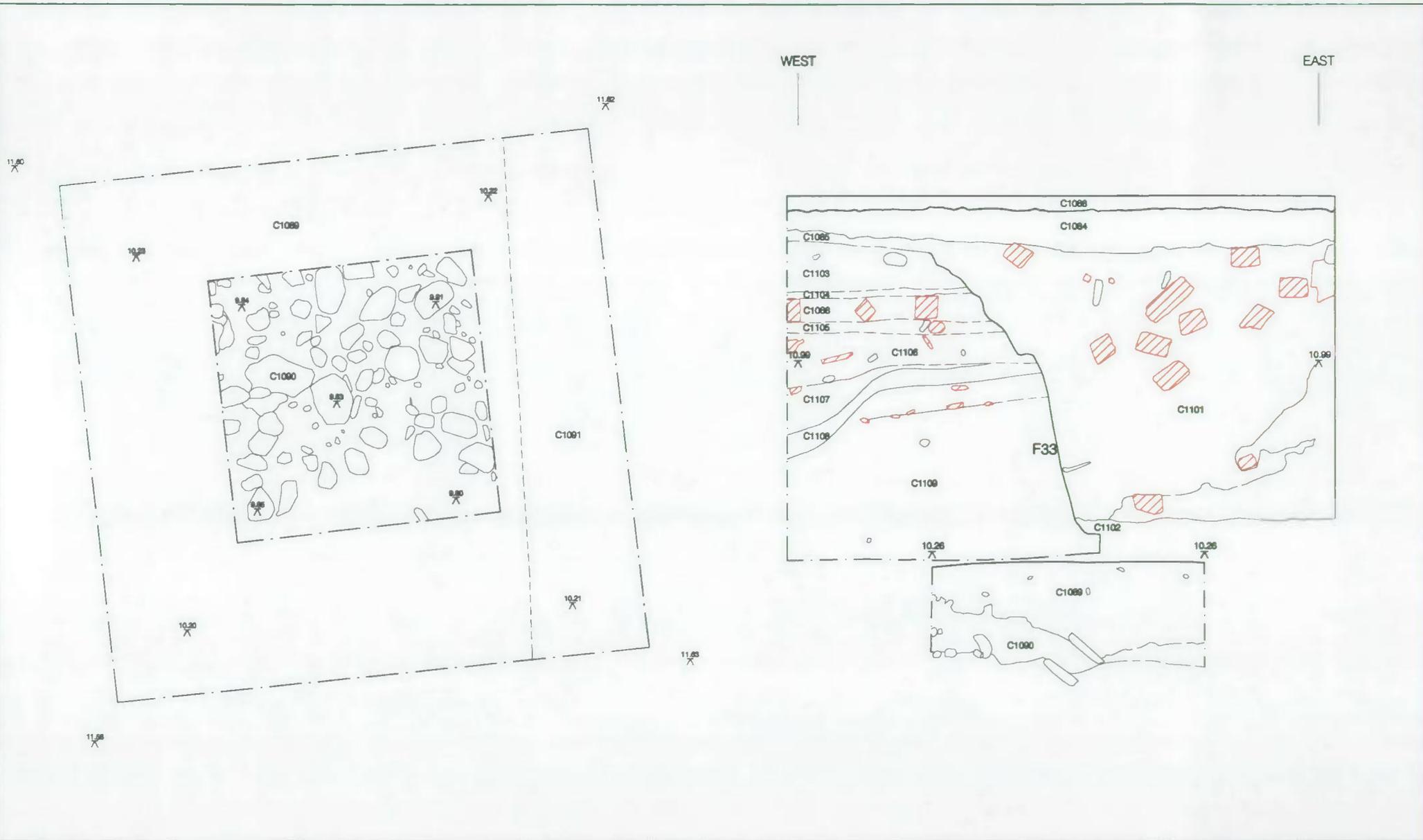
Summary of features from Intervention 9

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|------------------|--|------------------------|----------|
| 27 | construction cut | 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1111, 1115, 1117 | W 1.5m+(3.0m) x D 1.8m | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 10

Intervention 10 was excavated to a depth of 1.4m (10.05m AOD) from the present car park surface before being stepped in and excavated a further 0.3m. This trench was significantly different from any of the previous interventions within the car park area. Instead of being dominated by modern levelling and destruction there was a discrete and intact sequence of earlier deposits (Fig.18).

The earliest archaeological deposit encountered within Intervention 10 comprised a layer of rounded cobbles set within a yellow brown clay matrix. (C1090). This surface or dump was, in many respects similar to C1114 recorded in Intervention 9 and lay at a height of 9.8m AOD. C1090 was sealed by a slightly mottled deposit of sandy clay silt with occasional charcoal inclusions, 0.3m deep (C1089). Six abraded sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from this context.



Intervention 10 - post excavation plan

Scale 1:20



Intervention 10 - south facing section and step

Scale 1:20

Figure 18

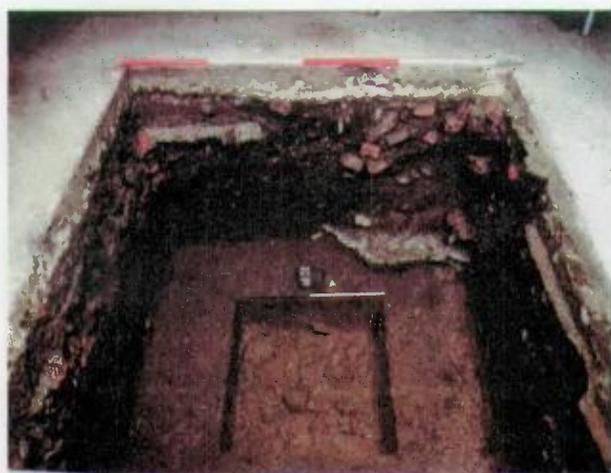


Plate 5 Intervention 10 south facing section
and cobbles C1090

Sealing this layer was a 0.8m thick pack of slightly crumbly dark brown grey silt which contained rare brick and tile fleck inclusions (C1109). This deposit appeared homogenous in character and contained only a lens of tile visible in the upper part of the west facing section. The tile recovered from this context ranged in date between the 13th and 16th centuries. C1109 was sealed by a thin layer of black silt (C1108) which appeared to be the remains of an old turf line and, along with C1109, constituted a sequence of soils which bears remarkable similarities to those found in the YAT trenches in the area to the south. C1108 tipped from west to east before finally dipping into a well

defined north-south aligned depression running across the western end of Intervention 10. This may be the remains of an old cut feature which has been allowed to grass over, surviving as an earthwork before being backfilled with C1107 prior to the site being levelled in advance of modern construction.

C1107 was covered by a compacted deposit of grey brown silt containing frequent brick and tile fragments. This material appears to represent another levelling deposit which ranged in depth between 0.05m in the east to 0.15m. As such it was made up of destruction debris including brick and tile which dates to between the 17th and 19th centuries.

The remaining deposits visible in the sections of Intervention 10 were essentially modern in character. C1005 was a thin layer of charcoal and burnt wood which, from the discolouration of the deposit below, appears to have been burnt *in situ*. C1005 is the same material as C1112 (Intervention 9). These contexts can be correlated to the burning of one of the cinema buildings on the site in either 1923 or 1935. This destruction is sealed by a brick floor (F26) which in turn is covered by a layer of mixed clay trample (C1104) and a modern levelling deposit (C1103).

Summary of contexts from Intervention 10

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|---------|--|
| 1083 | surface | | | tarmac surface of car park |
| 1084 | layer | | | limestone hardcore preparation |
| 1085 | layer | | 10YR4/1 | firmly compacted silty clay layer contemporary with the construction of the Mecca Bingo Hall |
| 1086 | floor | 28 | | ordered brick floor surface set with white mortar |
| 1089 | layer | | 10YR4/3 | mottled grey brown sandy clay silt deposit containing charcoal inclusions |
| 1090 | surface? | | | Layer of loosely ordered rounded cobbles (average 60mm - 200mm diameter) set within a matrix of mid brown clay |

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|------------|---|
| 1091 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | firm plastic brown sandy clay |
| 1101 | backfill | 33 | | |
| 1102 | fill | 33 | | |
| 1103 | layer | | variable | mixed levelling deposit of grey and brown mottled sandy and silty clay containing frequent brick charcoal and limestone pebble inclusions |
| 1104 | layer | | 10YR4/1 | thin layer of dark grey coarse sand with occasional brick and mortar inclusions |
| 1105 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | black spread of charcoal, soot and charred wood destruction |
| 1106 | layer | | 7.5YR3/1 | mottled dark grey silt spread with frequent brick and tile fragments, mortar and pebbles |
| 1107 | layer | | 10YR3/3 | dark brown fine silt containing rare inclusions of mortar and brick flecks |
| 1108 | layer | | 7.5YR2.5/1 | very dark grey/black clean silt - possible soil horizon |
| 1109 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | dark grey crumbly silt with rare broken tile lenses, charcoal flecks and bone fragments |

Summary of features from Intervention 3

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 28 | floor | 1086 | W 2.0m+ x L 2.0m+ x 1.3m | |
| 33 | construction cut | 1101, 1102 | W 1.5m+ x D 1.05m | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 11

The excavation of Intervention 11 did not expose subsoil. Instead a similar sequence of deposits to those recorded in Intervention 10 was observed. Intervention 11 (Fig.19) was hand excavated to a depth of 1.4m below the present ground level (10.35m AOD). At this level a layer of rounded cobbles



Plate 6 Intervention 11 looking west with cobbles C1099, F31

was exposed which appeared to form the remains of a surface or road (C1099, F 31). In addition to a single fragment of 13th century tile, a sherd of York Gritty ware (1050-1250AD) and a sherd of Pingsdorf-type ware (1000-1200AD) were recovered from amongst the stones.

A hand augur into the base of Intervention 11 revealed that this surface sat on top of a further 0.2m of grey brown silt, under which was a layer of soft brown clay very similar to C1136 (Intervention 12).

Overlying the cobbles of F31 was a 0.2m thick

pack of dark grey clay silt, homogenous in character and containing few inclusions (C1098). The only datable material from this deposit was a fragment of 13th century tile and a piece of Roman brick. Sealing this was C1097, another homogenous layer of dark brown silty clay, 0.3m thick, firmly compact with few inclusions. C1097 contained a piece of 13th century tile, one sherd of York Gritty ware and fragment of amphora.

Sealing C1097 was a thin layer of black clay silt (C1096). This deposit appeared to be the remains of an old turf line and was the equivalent of C1105 in Intervention 10. This was sealed by a levelling layer (C1095) which comprised of a compact silty clay containing a mixture of ceramic building material ranging in date from the Roman period to the 19th century. The remaining deposits within Intervention 11 (C1094, C1093, C1092) were essentially modern in character.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 11

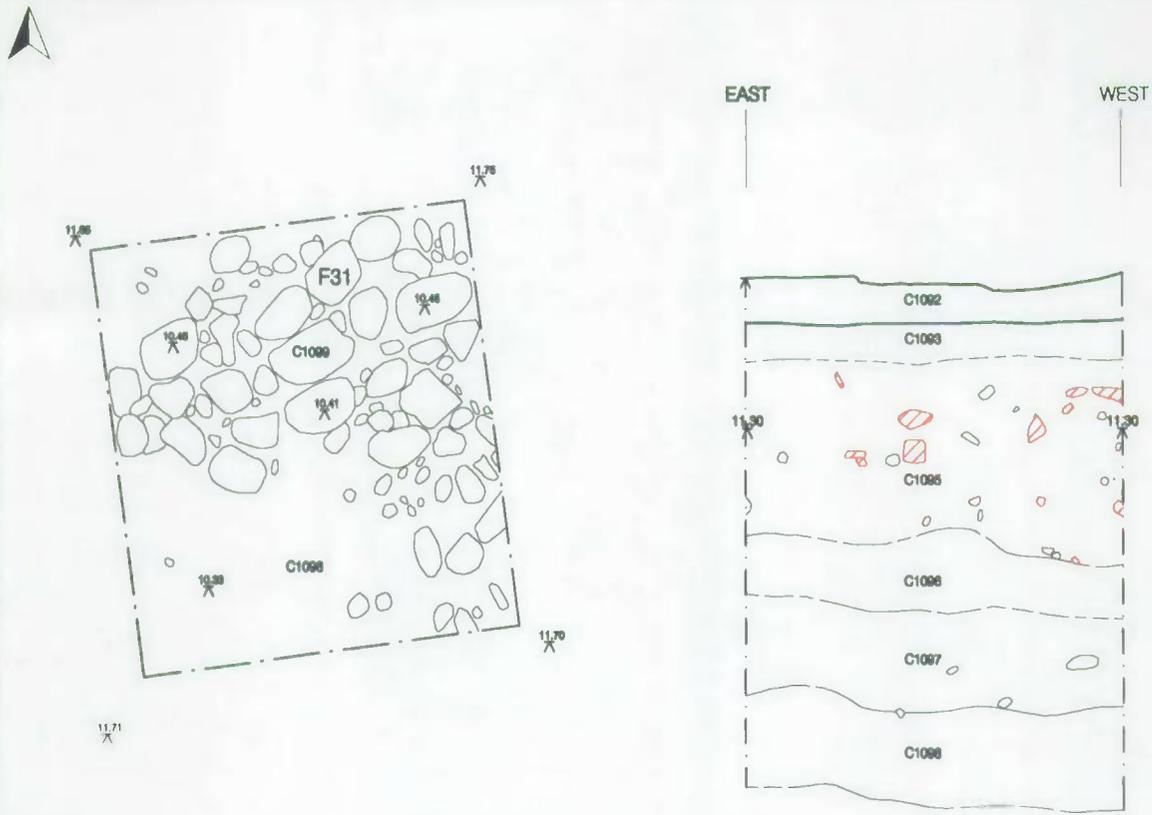
| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|---------|---|
| 1092 | surface | | | tarmac and concrete ground surface |
| 1093 | layer | | | limestone hardcore preparation |
| 1094 | wall | 30 | | brick and concrete foundations for an east-west aligned wall |
| 1095 | layer | | 10YR3/2 | dark greyish brown levelling deposit of mottled silty clay containing frequent brick fragment inclusions with glass and cobbles |
| 1096 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | fine black clay silt, firmly compact homogeneous in character - possible soil horizon |
| 1097 | layer | | 10YR3/3 | dark brown compact silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions |
| 1098 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey homogenous clay silt layer with rare gravel inclusions |
| 1099 | surface? | 31 | | Layer of loosely ordered rounded cobbles (average 60mm - 200mm diameter) set within a matrix of dark grey silty clay |

Summary of features from Intervention 11

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 30 | foundation | 1094 | W 0.4m+ x D 0.5m | U-shaped |
| 31 | surface | 1099 | W 1.0m+ x L 1.0m+ | |

INTERVENTION 12

The excavation of Intervention 12 (Fig.20) revealed a similar sequence of deposits to those recorded in Intervention 11. The earliest archaeological deposit within this trench was C1136. This was a mottled, slightly variable layer of dark brown sandy clay, 0.4m in depth, from which two pieces of Samian, a sherd of Ebor ware and a large chunk of mortaria were recovered. The top of this deposit was exposed at a depth of 1.1m from the present ground surface (10.80m AOD). All of the pottery appeared to be abraded but the size of the sherds suggests that C1136 may be from an intact Romano-



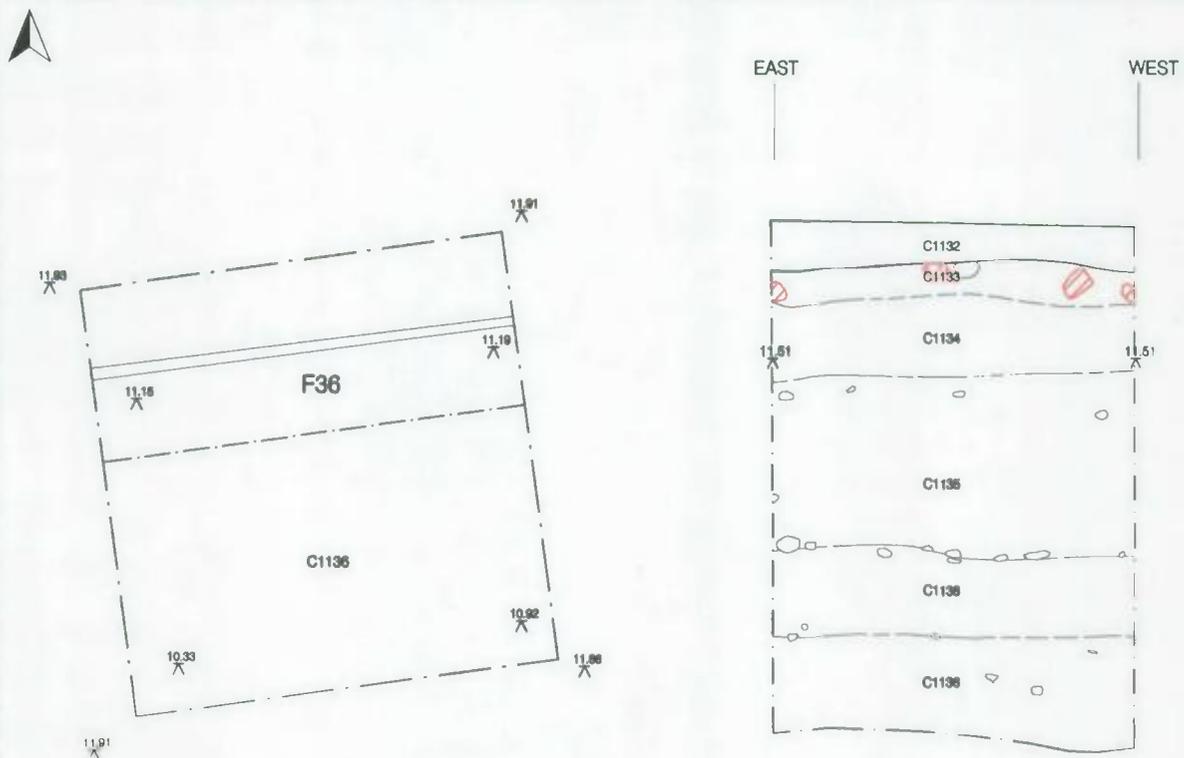
Intervention 11 - C1098

Scale 1:20

north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 19



Intervention 12 - post excavation

Scale 1:20

north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 20

British deposit.

C1138 sealed C1136. This context comprised a 0.2m thick layer of dark grey silty clay, homogenous in character with few inclusions and appeared to be the equivalent of C1098 (Intervention 11). C1138 was sealed by a 0.45m thick pack of dark brown grey crumbly silt (C1135) the interface between which was marked by a thin spread of gravel. C1135 appears to be the equivalent of C1097 in Intervention 11.

The upper deposit in this sequence of grey brown soils was a thin layer of black clay silt (C1134) representing the old turf line recorded in Intervention 10 (C1105) and Intervention 11 (C1096). The remaining deposits within Intervention 12 were essentially modern in character. These included an east-west aligned copper service pipe running across the northern half of the excavation trench (F36) and a brick and clay levelling deposit, C1133.

The base of the trench was augured before backfilling in order to ascertain the depth of the subsoil in this trench. The resulting soil profile showed that boulder clay was detected at approximately 10.10m AOD, 1.75m from the present road level. Above this was a 0.2m thick layer of variable gritty clay underneath C1136.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 12

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|------------|--|
| 1132 | surface | | | tarmac and concrete surface |
| 1133 | layer | | 7.5YR2.5/3 | mixed dark brown silty clay with frequent brick, gravel and pebble inclusions |
| 1134 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | fine, firmly compact black clay silt with rare gravel inclusions - possible soil horizon |
| 1135 | layer | | 10YR3/2 | dark greyish brown clay silt with rare gravel inclusions |
| 1136 | layer | | 7.5YR2.5/3 | dark brown sandy clay deposit with occasional gravel inclusions |
| 1137 | backfill | 36 | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey silty clay backfill of east-west aligned service trench |
| 1138 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | very dark grey silty clay with a lens of pebbles marking its upper interface with C1135 |

Summary of features from Intervention 12

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| 36 | trench | 1167 | W 0.5m+ x D 0.6m+ | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 13

Boulder clay subsoil (C1155) was exposed in the base of Intervention 13 at a level of 11.29m AOD (Fig.21). This was approximately 1.0m from the present ground surface. The soil sequence within

this trench was similar to that recorded within Interventions 11 and 12.

The earliest archaeological deposits encountered within Intervention 13 took the form of two features. The earliest (F42) was only clipped by the evaluation trench and consequently only a small portion of the cut was visible. From what could be observed, F42 appeared as a shallow scoop backfilled with a mottled brown silty sand (C1157). F42 was truncated by a shallow scoop or pit (F41) along its eastern edge. This feature was excavated in plan and contained a single backfill of dark grey sandy clay (C1154) from which a fragment of Brandsby ware jug, dating to the between the 13th and 15th centuries, was recovered. This feature had a shallow, slightly irregular base and sides that sloped at approximately 35°. It was difficult to determine with certainty the level at which F41 had been cut, as its backfill (C1154) was very similar to the layer of dark grey sandy clay (C1153) above. This later layer was a pack of soil similar to C1138 (Intervention 12), 0.35m thick, and sealed by a black turf horizon (C1156).

Above C1156 deposits were essentially modern in character. These included an east west aligned copper service pipe running across the northern half of the excavation trench (F40) and a brick and clay levelling deposit C1160.

C1158 was allocated as a recovery context for material recorded during the excavation of soils in Intervention 13. This assemblage comprised seven sherds of Humber Ware, two sherds of Brandsby ware and a fragment of Post-Medieval redware. It appears likely that some of this material, at least, would have originated from F41.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 13

| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|------------------|------|----------|--|
| 1151 | surface | | | tarmac and concrete surface |
| 1152 | backfill | 40 | 10YR2/1 | mixed and mottled silt and clay backfill of east-west aligned service trench containing a 2 inch copper pipe |
| 1153 | layer | | 10YR3/1 | dark grey rooted sandy clay layer |
| 1154 | backfill | 41 | 10YR3/1 | dark grey sandy clay with rare mortar flecks |
| 1155 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | brown clay subsoil with rare gravel and pebble inclusions |
| 1156 | layer | | 10YR2/1 | black silt with rare gravel inclusions - possible soil horizon |
| 1157 | backfill | 42 | 10YR3/2 | mottled dark grey and brown sand |
| 1158 | recovery context | | | allocated to the recovery of finds during hand excavation of the sequence of brown soils C1153, C1154, C1156 |
| 1160 | layer | | 10YR3/3 | dark brown clay sand levelling layer containing frequent brick and mortar inclusions |

Summary of features from Intervention 13

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|--------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 40 | trench | 1152 | W 0.5m+ x D 0.6m+ | U-shaped |
| 41 | pit/scoop | 1154 | L 0.5m+ x W 0.3m+ x D 0.4m+ | U-shaped |
| 42 | pit/posthole | 1157 | L 0.25m+ x W 0.25m+ x D 0.2m+ | U-shaped |

INTERVENTION 14

Natural subsoil (C1131) was exposed at 0.4m below the floor surface within the reception room (12.1m AOD). Above this a 0.15m thick layer of sandy orange clay and pebbles (C1130) was recorded (Fig.22). It is not known whether this context is archaeological or geological in origin.

A single service trench (F35) was excavated and recorded within the trench.

Summary of contexts from Intervention 14

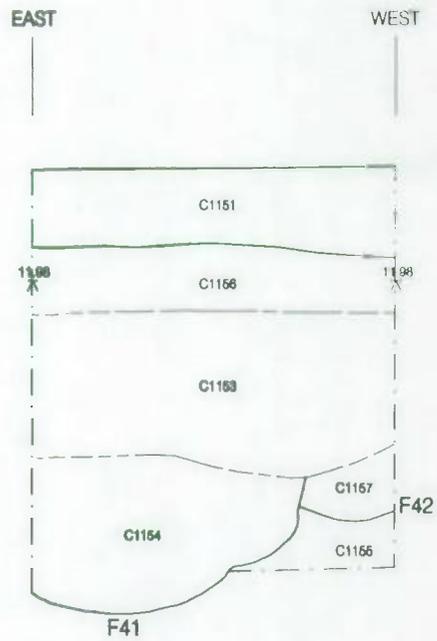
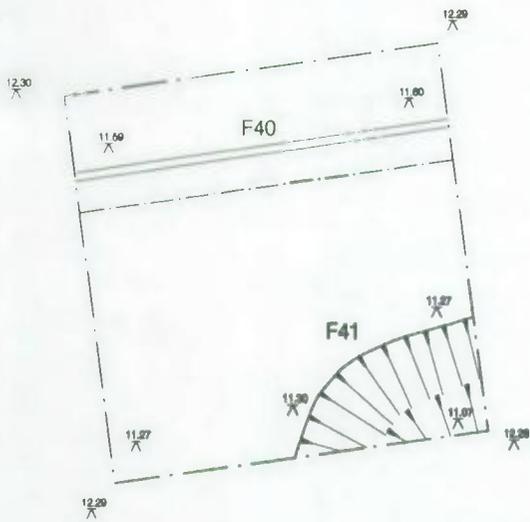
| C no | Identity | F no | Munsell | Description |
|------|----------|------|----------|--|
| 1127 | fill | 35 | variable | mixed backfill of service trench containing 5 inch ceramic pipe |
| 1128 | surface | | | concrete floor of Mecca Bingo Hall |
| 1129 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | spread of brown sandy clay with mortar flecks |
| 1130 | layer | | variable | layer of compacted gravel and pebbles within a brown sandy clay matrix - may be remains of a surface? or natural in origin |
| 1131 | layer | | 7.5YR4/4 | brown sandy clay natural subsoil |

Summary of features from Intervention 14

| F no | Identity | Contexts | Dimensions (m) | Profile |
|------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|
| 35 | trench | 1127 | W 0.5m+ x D 0.4m | U-shaped |

4.0 ASSESSMENT

The evaluation succeeded in making contact with deposits from a number of periods as well as indicating areas where archaeological deposits are likely to survive beneath a substantial amount of overburden.



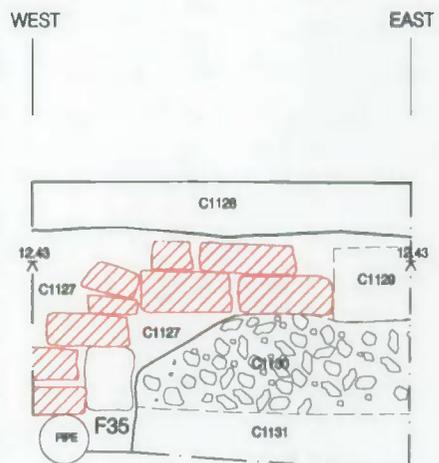
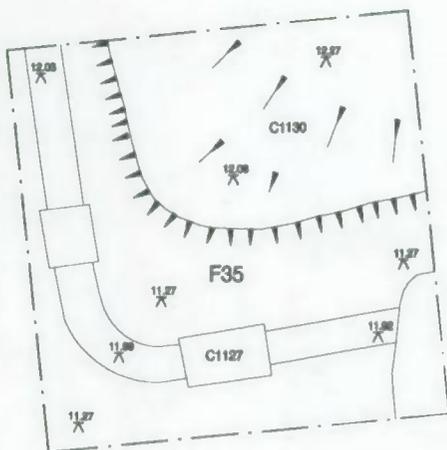
Intervention 13 - F41

Scale 1:20

north facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 21



Intervention 14 - post excavation

Scale 1:20

south facing section

Scale 1:20

Figure 22

4.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

Roman

Roman material, in the form of pottery, building fabric and glass was recovered from a number of interventions across the site (Interventions 1, 10, 11, 12, 13). The majority of this was secondary in nature, having been redeposited in later features and layers by subsequent reworking of the site. This is particularly the case in Intervention 1 where two later pits (F4 and F13) contain 60% of the Roman brick and 40% of the Roman pottery recovered from the site. The thickness and fabric of the Roman brick (Appendix C) suggests that it originates from hypocausts, floors or from wall courses and is found to the exclusion of roof tile. The general assemblage of pottery (Appendix B) is described as spanning the later 2nd to the 4th century and post-dates the foundation of the colonia. The types of vessels included in the assemblage "suggest that the occupation was of a fully Romanised nature" and was "contemporary with civilian settlement of Eboracum" (Appendix B, p1).

C1136 in Intervention 12 may, however, be an intact deposit of Roman-British date. The assemblage from this context was dated to the late 2nd or early 3rd century and comprised four sherds, two of which were abraded. A third consisted a large piece of mortaria, the size and condition of which seems to indicate "2nd century activity nearby rather than manuring or rubbish disposal from the fortress/colonia" (Appendix C, p4). A comprehensive assessment of this deposit is impossible within the limitations of the evaluation. Similarly C1089 (Intervention 10) may also be a Roman layer. In this case this the deposit sealed a rough cobble surface within the base of the trench which if the dating is correct may indicate the presence of structural remains of this period.

It is interesting that the size and condition of some of the sherds implies that they were "present in an old ground surface" (*op cit*) which has later been redeposited. A Roman phase was recorded within the Fishergate excavations of 1985 and 1986 on the adjacent site to the north. This period was characterised by "plough score, minor ditches, mixed natural deposit containing abraded Roman pottery". This was interpreted as material ploughed into the ground from middens. Agricultural activity of this kind could account for the condition of some of the pottery recovered in the Blue Bridge Lane assemblage and may even be responsible for the presence of C1136, but goes little way, however, in explaining the presence of the Roman brick encountered across the site.

The previous evaluation of the site by YAT did not identify any definite Romano-British deposits or features but did record a number of residual sherds of pottery in later deposits. Similarly residual Roman pottery was present in quantity throughout every phase of the Fishergate excavations.

Early Medieval

Intervention 1 contained the only evidence for Anglian occupation on the site during this phase of evaluation. Pit F13 contained an assemblage of Anglian pottery dating between the 8th and mid-9th century. This included Northern Maxey, Ipswich and Sandstone-tempered wares recovered from

C1025, C1026 and C1027. Similar pottery from pit F4 to the north had originated from F13. The presence of this pottery potentially dates the early life of F13 to the beginning of the 9th century. The early use of F13 appears to be associated with the disposal of primary waste from either cooking or an industrial process. It seems reasonable to suggest that whatever this activity may be, it was being carried out close by, probably to the north-east of the pit.

The sequence of deposits visible in the section of F13 indicate that the backfilling of this pit was a complex and lengthy process. Evidence published from the Hamwic excavations suggest that pits of this size and type often existed in their disuse as shallow hollows being backfilled intermittently over a period of time with "the opportunist disposal of waste in convenient pits"(Andrews, 1997 p177). At Hamwic this waste could represent both domestic refuse or rubbish created during craft work. The reuse of features in this way may be present on the Blue Bridge Lane site indicated by the large amount of animal bone and the loom weight fragments recovered from the later contexts. It should be noted that many of the pits at Hamwic were capped with redeposited clay after their initial use. In many cases this was shown to subside as organic fills decayed and slumped. The profile of C1064 may be attributable to this but until it is excavated further, its function remains uncertain.

From the available evidence it would appear that the latest use of F13 may be that of a construction cut and/or slot (F29) from which, along with Anglian pottery, a single sherd of Torksey ware was recovered. This piece of pottery would appear to be part of an assemblage which includes other sherds which had slumped into the backfill of F4. This material would, therefore date a possible structural phase of F13 to the mid-to late 9th century or later, a period for which previous archaeological excavation/investigation has suggested a hiatus in occupation in this area. It should not be discounted either that the five sherds of York ware recovered from F4 were originally deposited within F29. If this is the case then it would indicate structural activity was occurring on the site well into the Anglo-Scandinavian period of York.

The activity associated with F13 has so far produced an rich assemblage of well dated and stratified animal bone, slag and pottery. It is hoped that further investigation of this sequence of features and an enlargement of the area in any later phase of mitigation will resolve important issues concerning the chronology and layout of the site during this period.

Medieval

Archaeological deposits and material dating from between the 11th and 15th centuries were recorded in Interventions 1, 2, 5, 11, and 13. Much of this material was recovered from pit F4 (Intervention1). The only other archaeological features which can be placed in this period are the east-west aligned ditch (F14) excavated in Intervention 2 and the shallow pit or scoop (F41) in Intervention 13. The remaining medieval pottery was recovered during the excavation of the sequence of brown soils which appear to characterise much of the site in its later life.

From the pottery assemblage F4 appears to date to the mid-to late 12th century. Although the function

of F4 is not certain at present it is highly likely, considering its backfilling sequence, that it is structural in nature. The presence of a thin but consistent layer of limestone mortar suggests the possible robbing of a stone upright. If F4 represents a robbing, the pottery assemblage is more likely to reflect the date of the robbing rather than that of construction and use. Consequently the presence of a single sherd of Brandsby ware (13th and 15th century date) may represent the date of the final disuse of the feature. It is known from the previous Fishergate excavations that stone elements of the priory was systematically robbed after the Dissolution and this may be reflected in the results of Intervention 1.

If F4 is in use, whatever that entails, in the 12th century then it would appear to correspond with a structural phase of St Andrews Priory (Period 4c/Period 6a). The location of this feature along the southern boundary of the priory leads to further speculation regarding its function. The scale of F4, however, will only be fully understood in the context of surrounding features and deposits. It is hoped that these will be defined during future mitigation work on the site.

Post-Medieval

Activity relating to the post medieval and post-Dissolution history of the site was represented in pottery recovered from Interventions 2 and 13. The north-eastern half of the site was characterised by a sequence of grey brown silt soils exposed and recorded in Interventions 2, 10, 11, 12 and 13. These were sealed by a thin layer of black silt which appears to represent the remains of an old turf horizon. These deposits were also recorded within the YAT evaluation of the site in Trenches E, F and G (5005, 6014, 7005, 6013, 7004).

Pottery recovered during this evaluation appears to date the black turf horizon to the late 18th or early 19th century. This would be in keeping with the history of the site representing the old ground surface associated with the documented post-medieval development of the site. The origins of the grey brown soil it seals, however, are worthy of discussion.

This deposit comprised homogenous pack of material which varied depth between 0.2m and 0.6m, and contained very occasional inclusions of pebbles, tile fragments, animal bone and pottery. When first exposed, the deposit appeared to be the result of a single episode of activity originating either as a homogenous levelling deposit or a developed garden soil. Within Interventions 10, 11 and 12, however, differences were observed in section which suggested that it was in fact stratified in nature. This took the form of lenses of gravel and tile (Intervention 10, 12) and observable changes in colour. In Intervention 10 a cobble surface (F31) was recorded at the base of this deposit. This feature contained within its matrix material dating to between the 11th and 13th centuries. The grey clay silt layer above this (C1098) contained a fragment of 13th tile and one of Roman brick.

In Intervention 13 a similar deposit sealed a pit (F41) of possible 14th century date. F41 was only defined against the subsoil in the bottom of the evaluation trench and consequently much of the pottery recovered from the excavation of the grey soil (C1153) above may have originated from this feature. It is possible that this pit was cut from within C1153 and that its cut edges were not visible against that

deposit due to the similarity of its backfill. Consequently this sequence of grey brown clay and silt may be a long lived one which started sometime in the 13th century and continued through to the 18th century. Features within this may be indistinguishable from the grey brown silt that they cut. This could include much later features which could result in artificial distribution of later material. Within the limitations of the small evaluation trenches a full assessment of these soils was not feasible. It is possible, however, that they mark an important deposit relating to the later use and consequent disuse of the priory site.

Modern

Modern activity was recorded in all of the interventions. A brick lined cellar was recorded in Intervention 5 and intrusive features were recorded in Interventions 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13 and 14. These appear to indicate that the southeastern area of the Blue Bridge Lane site had undergone a considerable degree of modern truncation. Interventions 6, 7, 8 and 9 in the car park to the rear of the Mecca Bingo Hall were characterised by modern levelling deposits. These comprised a mixture of concrete and brick rubble separated with layers of slag, sand and clay. Much of this material appears to originate from the destruction and waste from at least one part of the Redferns Glassworks.

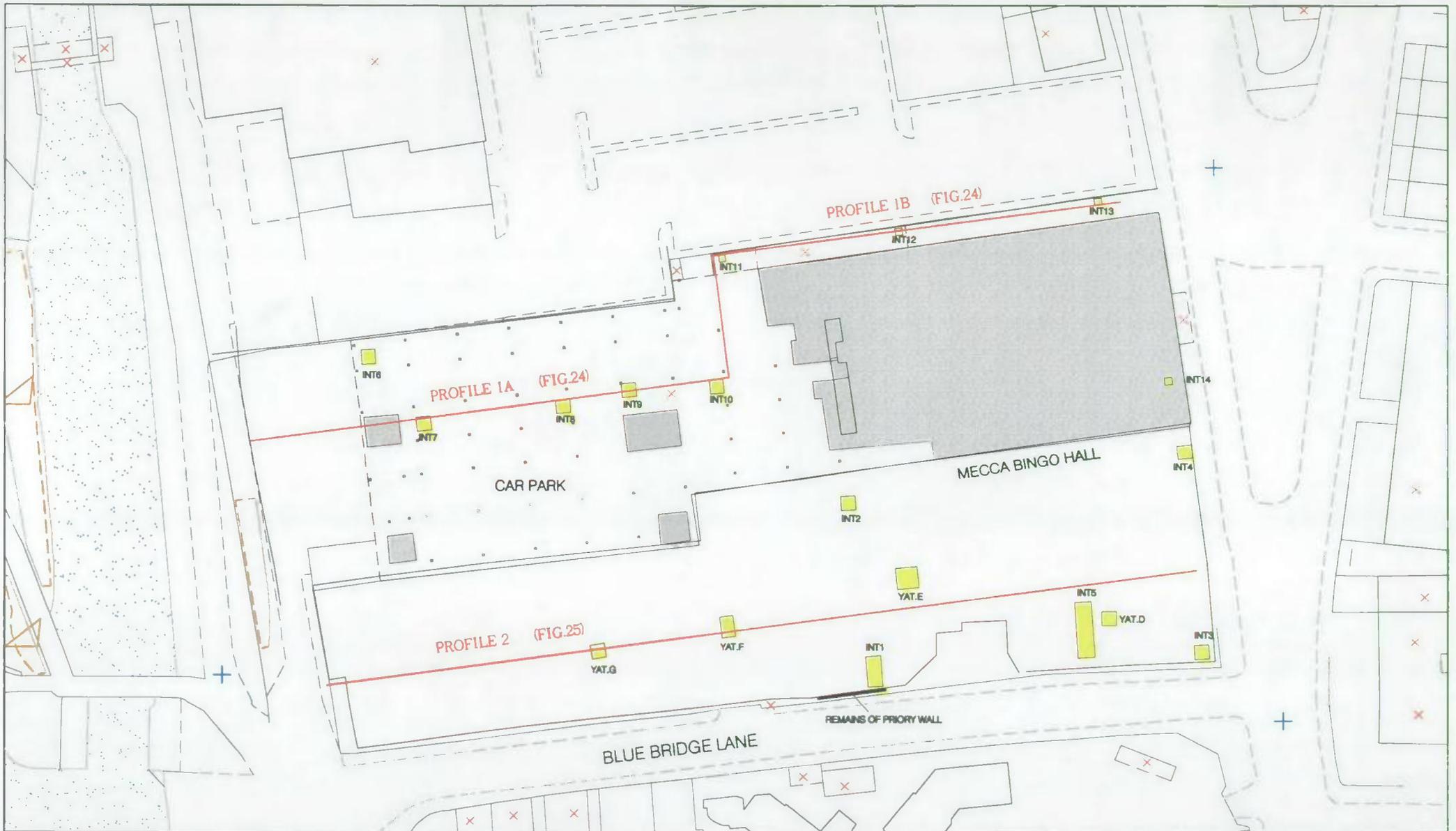
4.2 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The results from Interventions 6 to 13 together with the results from the YAT trenches and Interventions 1 and 3 have been used to produce two east west inferred profiles of archaeological deposits across the site (Fig.24 and 25). The location of these profiles is shown in Figure 23. Several observations can be made from these along with a study of the site levels in plan across the development area.

Truncation

The natural topography slopes from south-east to north-west away from Blue Bridge Lane towards the River Foss. The depth of subsoil recorded on Interventions 1, 3, 4, 5 and 14 is on average less than 0.3m from the present ground surface (Fig.26). Furthermore there is evidence that the south-eastern corner of the site has undergone a degree of truncation within the last two hundred years. Any archaeological features substantial enough to survive in this area (Fig.26, highlighted) would be encountered immediately below the modern concrete and overburden which, in some places, is as shallow as 0.2m. The absence of any pre-modern archaeological features in Interventions 3, 4 and 5 may be more a reflection of this truncation rather than a real distribution. This notion is supported by the quality and quantity of archaeological deposits exposed elsewhere at deeper levels across the site (Intervention 1).

The results from Intervention 9 show that the construction of the car park has caused a high degree of disturbance. Each of the 56 steel pillars is set within a cut of not less than 3m x 3m which has been excavated to a depth in excess of 1.5m. Considering their tight spacing this has caused a considerable



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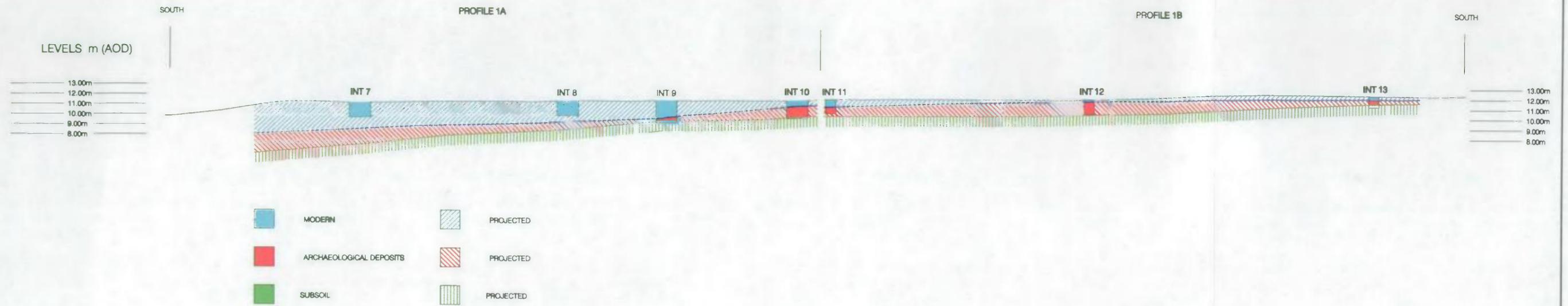
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Location of profile 1 (Fig.24) and profile 2 (Fig.25)

Scale 1:750



Figure 23

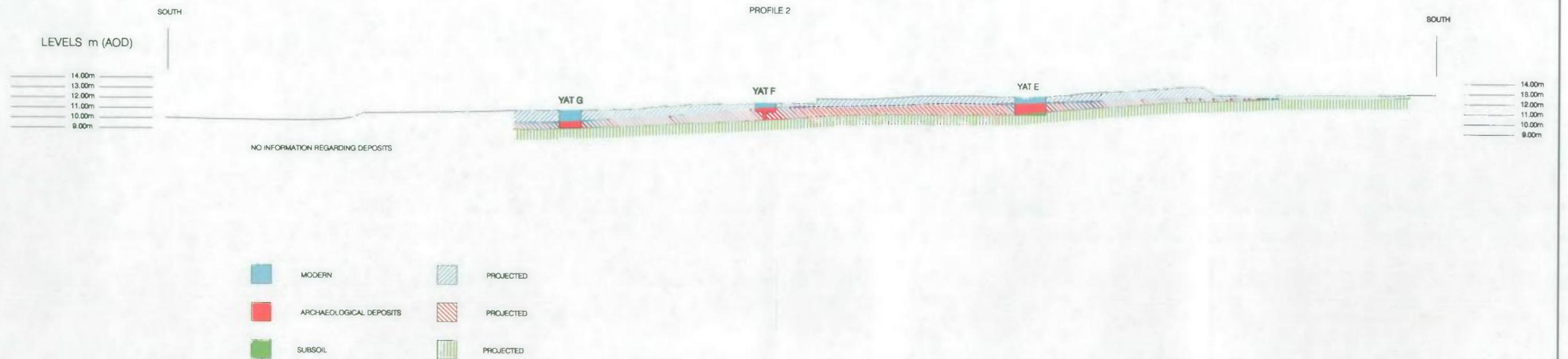


Profile 1a and 1b - based on levels from Interventions 6 to 13

0 20m

Scale 1 : 400

Figure 24



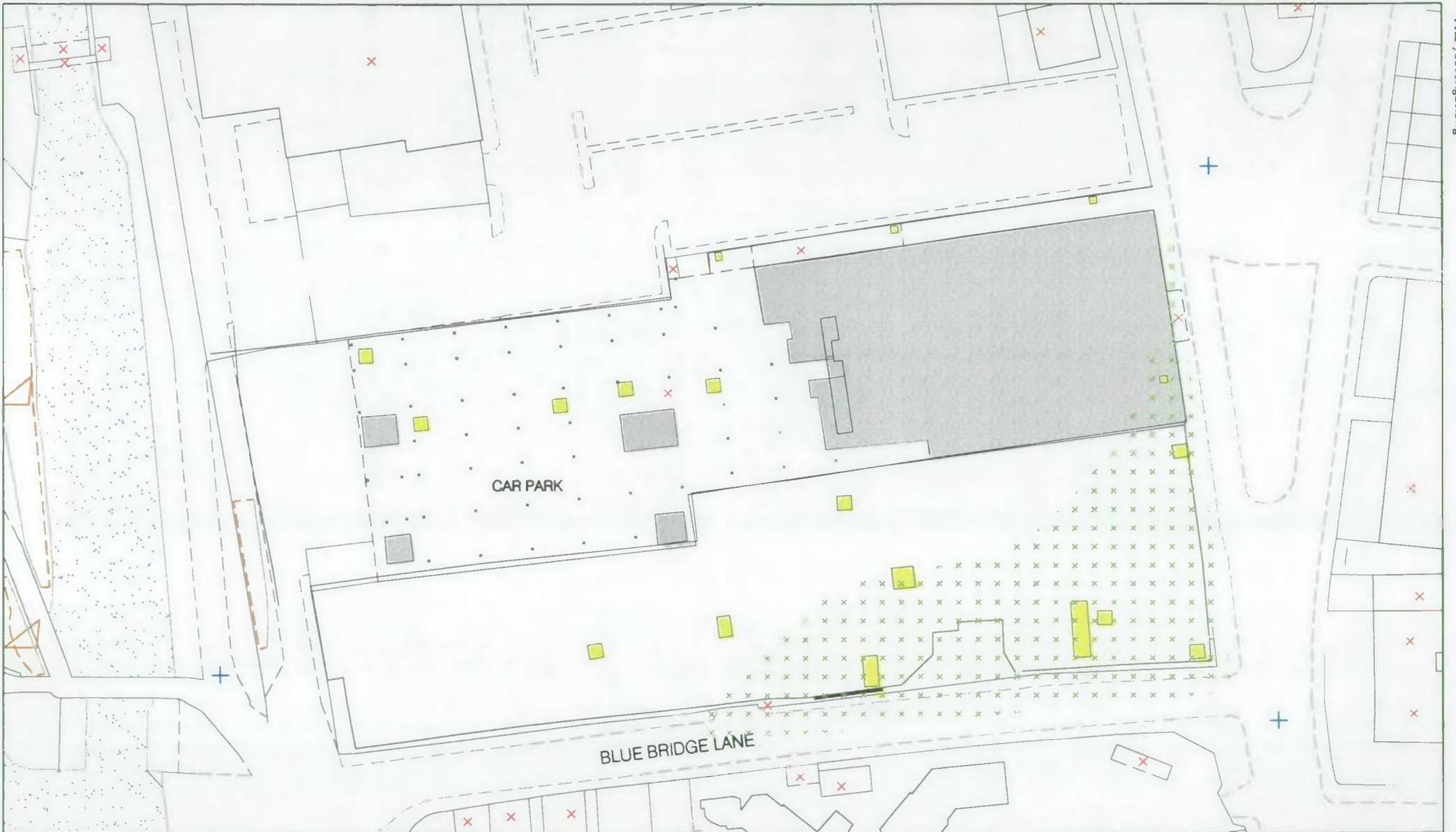
NO INFORMATION REGARDING DEPOSITS

Profile 2 - based on levels from YAT trenches E, F, G, FAS survey and Interventions 1 and 4

0 20m

Scale 1 : 400

Figure 25



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Area where natural subsoil is within 0.3m of the present ground surface (hatched)

Scale 1:750



Figure 26





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Zone of intact archaeological deposits within 0.8m of present ground surface (hatched)

Scale 1:750



Figure 27

level of disturbance particularly at the eastern end of the car park where the results from Intervention 10 suggest that intact archaeological deposits are present 0.4m below the car park surface.

Terrace?

At some point within the car park between Interventions 9 and 10 there is a significant change in the nature of deposits. This boundary has been projected and is suggested in Figure 27. The highlighted area shows a zone where known archaeological deposits have been encountered within 1.0m of the modern ground level (in most cases this is as shallow as 0.5m or less). Within the remainder of the car park the ground is characterised by modern levelling, the material which forms these deposits probably originates from the disuse of the glassworks during the early 20th century. Whether this boundary is a result of a steep natural slope, terracing, levelling or a combination of these factors is not yet known. It should not be assumed however that significant archaeological deposits are not present throughout the remainder of the car park area, just that they are covered with a substantial blanket of overburden.

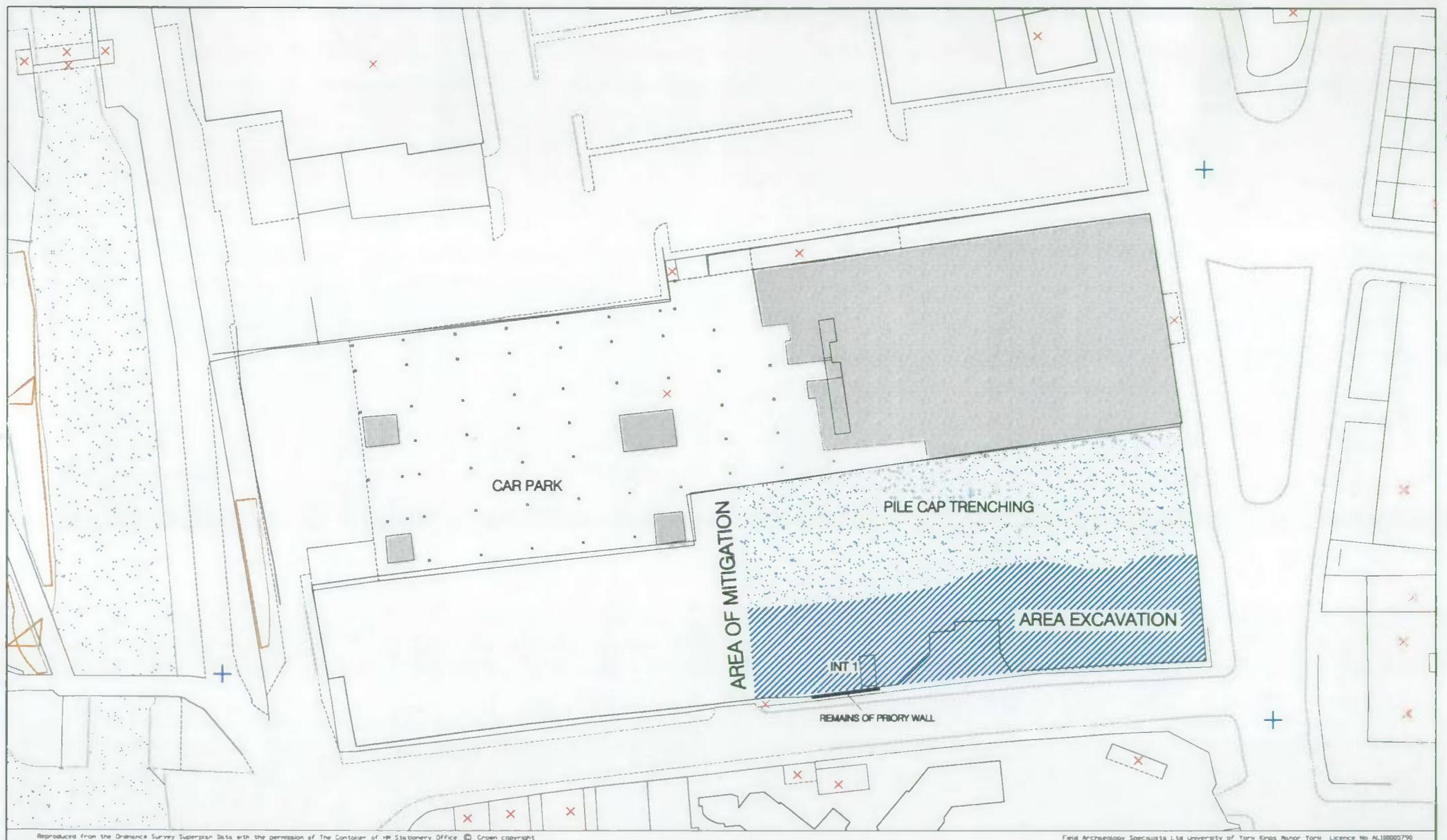
5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND MITIGATION

This phase of evaluation has clearly demonstrated that significant archaeological features and deposits relating to the former use of the site in the Anglian and Medieval periods survive within the development area. An archaeological mitigation strategy designed by Mike Griffiths and Associates and based on the preliminary evaluation report (FAS_ybb02) has been approved by the City of York Council.

In accordance with the archaeological policy of the City of York Council, the implementation of the mitigation strategy will result in the preservation *in situ* of at least 95% of archaeological deposits underneath the new development. This will be achieved by accommodating pile caps, ground beams and services within existing modern overburden or, where necessary, to raise ground levels to accommodate these new structures. However, in one part of the development area this approach was clearly not feasible.

The evaluation had shown that a rectangular area measuring approximately 55m x 15m located in the south-eastern corner of the site (Fig.28) potentially contained a scatter of truncated, yet highly significant isolated archaeological features. Furthermore, the position of any further features, similar to those identified by the evaluation, was impossible to predict. This area was also found to contain very little modern overburden and the high current ground level made any attempt to raise ground levels in order to protect the underlying archaeology impractical. Given that the preservation of at least 95% of archaeological deposits in this area could not be guaranteed, the following strategy will be adopted.

Within the new intervention modern deposits and overburden will be stripped mechanically under



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Area of mitigation

Scale 1:750



Figure 28

archaeological supervision. The exposed surface, whether it is natural subsoil or an archaeological horizon, will be cleaned by hand, photographed and mapped. Archaeological features and deposits which are situated on the location of proposed piles will be excavated fully. Selective sampling of other features will be undertaken to establish their chronology and function with a view to understanding the character of occupation in this during different periods. Particular emphasis will be put on the identification, excavation and appropriate sampling of primary deposits and in such cases an enhanced recovery level will be employed. This will include the extensive use of sieving and the recovery of environmental samples.

The location of pile caps for the proposed development which lie outside the area excavation will be marked out and excavated. These will comprise a series of 2m x 2m trenches running east-west across the area of mitigation.

The significance of the assemblage recovered so far indicates that further analysis of the finds will have to be undertaken. In terms of the pottery this will include the illustration, reconstruction and scientific analysis of all the early medieval fabrics and the illustration of two of the Roman sherds (Appendix B) already recovered from the site in addition to any more material. The assemblage of faunal material will require statistical analysis and interpretation with particular reference to the published analysis undertaken on the Fishergate excavations (YAT 15/4). Already an assemblage of metalwork, glass and stone has been recovered which will merit formal recording and analysis regarding chronological and stylistic parallels, as well as scientific investigation regarding their manufacture and physical components. It is expected that in addition to an in depth study of the sieved animal bone, an extensive and comprehensive sampling of the environmental evidence will be required. This will involve the flotation and analysis of samples recovered from secure, well dated, primary contexts of an early medieval date.

The features excavated so far in Intervention 1 are, as yet, not fully understood. They do, however, suggest that extensive activity of an Anglian or medieval date is taking place in this area of the site.

It is hoped that the study of this site will add to our knowledge of the Anglian *wic*, suggested Anglo-Scandinavian hiatus and the development of St Andrew's priory in this area of York and complement work already undertaken by YAT on the Fishergate site to the north.

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APPENDIX A EVALUATION OF HISTORIC WALL FABRIC AT BLUE BRIDGE LANE

by Dr Jonathan Clarke, Historic Buildings Section, Field Archaeology Specialists

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document reports on a survey undertaken by the Historic Buildings Section of Field Archaeology Specialists on the standing fabric of a wall located in Blue Bridge Lane, York. The purpose of the investigation was to create a preliminary record of the surviving stonework of the wall and test the assertion that the fabric was of medieval origin.

1.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The main archaeological issue concerns the identification of the section of walling as part of the precinct wall of the Gilbertine priory of St. Andrews. Nineteenth century maps clearly denote a wall in this location as part of the 'Priory Wall' including those of the Ordnance Survey from 1852 and 1891. Furthermore they also indicate a much longer stretch of walling than that which survives today. However, as already noted elsewhere, the service range of Fishergate House appears to have encroached on the current line of Blue Bridge Lane perhaps occupying as much as half its current width. Therefore the possibility that the stretch of wall currently under examination might have formed part of the service complex cannot be ignored.

2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

The fabric was surveyed using a Leica TCRM 1105 reflectorless EDM. The survey data was used to provide control for a mosaic of photographs taken with a Mamiya 645 Pro medium format camera. The photographs were subsequently computer rectified into a CAD package to provide a digital stone by stone drawing of the surviving fabric of the wall (Fig.1). This survey data has not yet been enhanced.

After survey a section of modern brickwork was removed from the wall-head to clarify the method of construction of the structure. Mortar samples were taken from the fabric thus revealed.

3.0 SURVEY RESULTS

Removal of an area of capping brickwork from the wall-head revealed that the facing stonework was within a soft lime mortar matrix. This contrasts with much of the pointing on the exterior face of the wall which is of a hard cement mortar. Behind the facing stonework elements of a rubble wall-core were noted, set within the same type of mortar as the facing work.

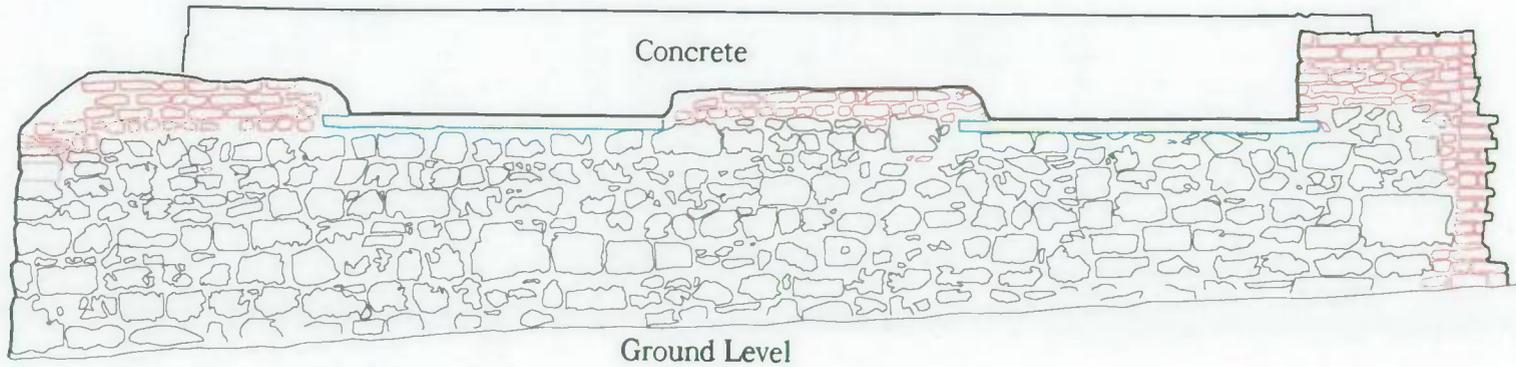
4.0 CONCLUSION

The evidence revealed by the removal of the brickwork from the top of the wall was the most conclusive evidence provided for the dating of the structure. It is clear that the wall had been of massed-wall construction prior to the removal of its rear (north) face. Both the type of construction and the bonding agent used strongly indicates that the wall must have been built prior to *c.*1700. This fact taken with the evidence from nineteenth-century maps would suggest that the wall must be a surviving element of the precinct wall of St. Andrews Priory. However, the presence of reused medieval architectural fragments within the wall facing would indicate

that the structure was built in the later life of the Priory.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Before further disturbance to the wall fabric is contemplated the existing survey record should be enhanced in detail. It is clear that the total removal of the rear (north) modern fabric of brick and breeze blocks would result in the disintegration of the remaining wall-core and possibly the wall face. This should therefore not be contemplated until there is a detailed archaeological record of the structure.



South elevation of section of wall, north side of Blue Bridge Lane, York

Scale 1:50

Figure 1

APPENDIX B POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Alan Vince with Barbara Precious and Jane Young

Summary

A collection of pottery and loom weight fragments was submitted for identification and assessment. The earliest pottery from the site was of Romano-British date. All but a few sherds are abraded and probably evidence for manuring on the site in the Roman period, rather either nearby occupation or post-Roman dumping on the site. A single Anglian pit was found, in Intervention 1. This could be dated to the late 8th or early 9th century by reference to the Flixborough ceramic sequence and as such is valuable evidence for later Mid Saxon occupation in the Fishergate area.

There is no evidence for later 9th or 10th century pottery but there are several sherds of 11th to 12th-century date, include some which are probably conquest period or earlier.

The Pottery

Roman Pottery by Barbara Precious

There is a small quantity of Romano-British pottery from the site. All but one assemblage, from C1136, is definitely residual in Anglian or later contexts. The sherds, however, all have a similar size and condition, which suggests that they were present in an old ground surface which has been incorporated into the filling of later features.

The range of wares present spans the later 2nd to the 4th centuries and excludes material predating the foundation of the colonia but includes 4th century pottery. This suggests that the activity which gave rise to this pottery scatter was contemporary with the civilian settlement of *Eboracum*. The vessels found include those used for drinking and serving of food as well as storage and cooking. The incidence of these 'fine wares' suggests that the occupation was of a fully Romanised nature.

Anglian Pottery

Three Anglian wares were found, Northern Maxey ware, Ipswich ware and Sandstone-tempered ware. All three have been found at Fishergate before but the wares have been identified to a higher level than was possible for the earlier Fishergate excavation (Mainman 1993).

All the sherds came from intervention 1, with similar quantities from the ?Anglian pit, Feature 13, and the medieval pit, Feature 14 which cut it.

Northern Maxey ware (NMAX) was produced in central or north Lincolnshire and was probably in production from the later 7th to the 9th centuries. One of the vessels consists of several joining sherds and includes the rim and much of the profile. This enables the vessel to be compared with the typological sequence constructed for the mid Saxon settlement at Flixborough, where it would be dated to the late 8th or 9th century (identified by Jane Young).

Ipswich ware was produced at Ipswich. The two sherds are from different vessels, one of which was highly burnished externally and decorated with broad burnished grooves. The other sherd is plain. Current thinking

is that this ware was probably not produced until the 8th century and even then was only used within East Anglia until some time in the later 8th century (Blinkhorn forthcoming).

The sandstone-tempered ware is tempered with a coarse quartzose sand composed of fragments of coarse-grained sandstone and its constituent grains. Organic material ("chaff") is a minor and variable component of the fabric. This fabric was in use during the early Anglo-Saxon period (ie 5th to 7th centuries) and is the main fabric used at pagan cemeteries in the Vale of York. It is also the most common fabric amongst the handmade coarsewares published from Redfern's Glassworks. There is no reason to doubt that it was still in use during the later 8th/9th centuries.

Finally, there is a sherd of Torksey ware from Pit 13. This ware is known from the Coppergate excavations to have been used in York in the Anglo-Scandinavian period (ie the late 9th to 11th centuries) but there are several cases where Torksey ware sherds have been found on sites which were predominantly occupied in the mid Saxon period, including Flixborough and Whitby (S Jennings, pers comm). The presence of Torksey ware in a late Anglian context at Fishergate is therefore not impossible.

Loom Weights and daub

Several fragments of bun-shaped clay loom weights were recovered, all from Intervention 1, together with four fragments of burnt daub, one with wattle impressions. Although found in both Pits 4 and 13 it is clear that they are of mid Saxon date and that those in Pit 4 were disturbed from the earlier pit.

Anglo-Scandinavian and Medieval Pottery

The site produced a small quantity of Anglo-Scandinavian pottery, a larger quantity of 12th-century pottery and a few sherds of later medieval wares.

York Ware (YORK). There are five sherds of York ware from the site, all from the same feature, Pit 4 in intervention 1. This ware was in use in York from the beginning of the Anglo-Scandinavian settlement in the late 9th century until some time in the 11th century. The Coppergate sequence suggests that it may well have ceased production before the Norman conquest, in the early 11th century.

Torksey ware (TORK). There are eight sherds of Torksey ware from the site, including the sherd mentioned above from an otherwise late Anglian context. All the remainder are from pit 4. As noted above, this ware may have been produced at the very end of the Anglian period (ie pre-Viking) but was certainly in production from the late 9th to the mid 11th century. Evidence from Lincoln suggests that the ware ceased to be used soon after the Norman conquest and since thin-section examination of examples from York suggests that some at least were actually produced in the Trent valley this end date must apply to the Blue Boar Lane sherds.

A rim sherd of a Lincoln Fine Shell ware (LFS) jar can be dated between the late 10th and the late 12th century. The sherd came from Pit 4 and might therefore either be associated with the other Anglo-Scandinavian wares from the pit or with the 12th-century pottery in the pit.

Four sherds from a sand-tempered, wheelthrown jar made from a red-firing clay were found in Pit 4. The vessel is therefore probably 12th-century or earlier in date.

York Gritty ware (YG). This ware, produced from a light-firing clay with coarse sandstone gravel tempering, is typical of the late 11th and 12th centuries in York. Opinions as to where it was made, and in how many centres, differ. However, there is no doubt that suitable light-firing clays do not occur in York or its suburbs but can be

found both the north and west of the city. Similar wares were certainly produced at sites in and around the North York Moors, exploiting the same Jurassic clays as were used in the Roman period at Crambeck. So far as is known, the transition from Anglo-Scandinavian wares, such as York and Torksey wares, to medieval wares (ie mainly YG) was rapid. It is not known whether splashed wares were produced from the start of the YG period or were a secondary introduction.

Almost all the sherds from this site were from jars, used for cooking, but there were in addition some jug sherds, including a crude vessel with a wheelthrown handle attached to the top of a plain vertical or slightly everted rim, and a bowl rim.

A single sherd of Stamford ware jar was found, in Intervention 2. Although Stamford wares were produced from the late 9th century it is likely that most finds in York date to the post-conquest period.

Another sherd of light-firing ware may be a Pingsdorf ware vessel from the middle Rhine (PING). However, the vessel was sooted on the exterior and cooking pots are rare (although present) in Pingsdorf ware as most were produced in Paffrath-type ware instead. A more local source is more likely. The sherd is similar in texture to late 9th-century Stamford ware but is not identical.

Nine sherds of Splashed wares (YSP) were found. All but one of these sherds was from Pit 4. Splash-glazed wares were in use in York in the 12th century (possibly starting in the late 11th century) but were quickly supplanted by York Glazed ware in the late 12th century. Their presence in Pit 4 probably dates the deposition date of the pit to the early to mid 12th century.

Two sherds of Staxton-type ware were found (STAX). One of these contained a large, rounded chalk inclusion which is consistent with the vessel being produced at either Staxton or Potter Brompton, in the Vale of Pickering. Staxton-type ware is conventionally dated to the later 12th to 15th centuries and in Pit 4 probably dates to the earlier part of this date range.

Later medieval wares were also found. They consist of Brandsby-type ware and Humber ware and were concentrated in C1158 in Intervention 13.

Post-medieval and modern Pottery

Thirteen sherds of post-medieval and early modern pottery were found. They range in date from the 16th century (RYEDALE) to the 19th or 20th centuries (WHITE) but the earlier material is represented by a single sherd, and the remainder are all late 18th century or later.

Stratigraphic/topographic interpretation

Int No 1

Pottery was recovered from two features within Int 1. The earlier of these features, Feature 13, contained Anglian pottery which can be dated to the late 8th or early 9th century or later on the basis of the shell-tempered Northern Maxey wares. This feature was cut by Feature 4 which contained material of 12th-century date. A proportion of the pottery in Pit 4 is of Anglo-Scandinavian type (York ware, Torksey ware) and Anglian wares are also present in the pit. There is also a single sherd of Torksey ware from Pit 13.

It is uncertain whether the Anglo-Scandinavian wares from this intervention were originally associated with

the Anglian wares, pushing the filling of Pit 13 into the later 9th century or whether they represent an otherwise unknown phase of late 9th to early 11th-century activity on the site. The possibility of Pit 4 actually dating to the transition period between Anglo-Scandinavian and medieval pottery types, in the mid to late 11th century, has to be raised but the presence of splashed ware and Staxton ware sherds suggests that the pit is more likely to be of mid 12th century date.

In either case, the presence of fresh Anglo-Scandinavian pottery on the site suggests that there occupation on the site at this date whereas the Redferns excavation seemed to indicate a hiatus between the occupation of the Anglian site and the establishment of the Fishergate suburb in the later 11th century.

Int No 2

Contexts 1021 and 1022 contain modern pottery and overlie a ditch, Feature 14, which contains 13th-century pottery.

Int No 5

Buried soil, C1049 contains pottery of 13th to 14th-century date.

Int No 10

Context C1089 contains abraded Romano-British pottery and could therefore be of any date from this period onwards.

Int No 11

Context C1097 is a silt layer which contains both abraded Romano-British and fresh 11th/12th-century pottery. Cobble surface, Feature 31, contains 11th/12th-century pottery and pottery of similar date was recovered from recovery context C1126.

Int No 12

The only pottery from this intervention came from C1136 and was dated to the Romano-British period (Monaghan's CP 2B, later 2nd to early 3rd century or later). One of the sherds is very large and not heavily abraded (though still in much worse condition than any of the Anglian and or later pottery from the site) whereas two of the sherds were abraded. With such slender evidence it is impossible to say for certain that the deposit is of Roman date, although it does seem to indicate 2nd-century activity nearby rather than manuring or rubbish disposal from the fortress/colonia.

Int No 13

Medieval pottery (a fresh sherd of later 13th or 14th-century date) was recovered from the backfill of Feature 41, a pit.

Discussion

The Anglian material from the trial holes is limited to a single intervention, and probably to single feature within this intervention. This does not suggest an intense occupation and is similar to the density found immediately to the north of this site (Mainman 1993). Although very little is known of the relative chronology of Anglian pottery in York there is no reason why the pottery and loom weights from this pit should not be contemporary (ie there is no evidence for earlier Anglian activity in the area).

The incidence of 11th/12th century activity is higher and includes pottery in interventions 1, 2 and 11. This might indicate a more intensive occupation of the site during this phase, but may still be within sampling error. In any case, there is no reason why those interventions which produced no Anglian finds should not have been within timber buildings such as those found to the north of the site. The presence of sherds of Torksey ware suggests that this phase of Anglo-Scandinavian activity started during the middle of the 11th century or before, since the Torksey potteries seem to have gone out of use not long after the conquest (Young & Vince forthcoming).

There is a scatter of pottery finds which probably date to the period of the Gilbertine Friary but they are insufficient to say anything about the nature or status of activity on this part of the Friary site.

Recommendations

The finds from pit F13 form a useful addition to knowledge of the Anglian period in York, since they can be dated to the later 8th or 9th-century or later, ie probably c.770-870 at the outer limits. The Anglian finds from other contexts in this intervention probably originated in the same feature. The finds ought to be fully catalogued and published for comparison with those from the Redferns glass foundry site to the north. A detailed list of tasks required and costs is given in Table 1.

The Anglo-Scandinavian material is also of interest, mainly because of its date, and the previous lack of material of this date from the suburb. Groups of pottery of this date from sites with no likely earlier Anglo-Scandinavian occupation are important as a guide to which pottery types were still in use and which, as at Coppergate, are likely to be residual. This pottery should therefore also be fully catalogued and published (See Table 1).

Table 1

| Task | Details |
|--|---|
| Illustration of Roman sherds | 2 vessels, neither represented in Monaghan's corpus, are worthy of illustration as an addition to the corpus of Romano-British pottery in York. |
| Reconstruction and illustration of Anglian vessels | One Northern Maxey ware jar, one sandstone sand tempered jar and two bun-shaped loom weights |
| Scientific analysis of Anglian wares | Thin-section analysis and Inductively-coupled plasma spectroscopy (ICPS). Comparison of Blue Boar Lane samples with those from other sites in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. |
| Illustration of Anglo-Scandinavian vessels | Two Torksey ware jar rims, one LFS jar rim, |
| Scientific analysis of Anglo-Scandinavian wares | Thin-section and ICPS analysis of three Torksey ware sherds and comparison with material from Flixborough, NE Lincs. |
| Illustration of medieval vessels | One York Gritty ware jug rim and handle. |
| Production of text for short note | |

The later medieval pottery from the site is of lesser interest, and only a few sherds were found stratified in potentially medieval deposits. No further study of these sherds is recommended.

The whole collection is worthy of retention in a museum or other archaeological store.

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Appendix One: List of Romano-British ware codes used (based on Monaghan 1997)

| cname | full name | Sherds | Vessels | Broad source | Narrow cname | Source area |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|---------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| AP25 | DR20 | 1 | 1 | Imported | Amphorae | Western Mediterranean |
| B1 | Black Burnished ware 1 | 1 | 1 | Regional industries | BB1 | Dorset |
| B12 | Crambeck B12 | 2 | 1 | Regional industries | Crambeck | Crambeck |
| B3 | Grey B3 | 1 | 1 | Local | Grey B. | Yorkshire |
| C1 | NVCC | 2 | 2 | Regional industries | NVCC | Lower Nene |
| E0 | Ebor E0 | 1 | 1 | York | Ebor | York |
| E1 | Ebor 1 | 2 | 1 | York | Ebor | York |
| E4 | Ebor 1 | 1 | 1 | York | Ebor | York |
| E9 | Ebor 1 | 2 | 2 | York | Ebor | York |
| G8 | Grey | 2 | 2 | Unknown British? | Grey | Unknown British? |
| K01 | Calcite tempered ware | 1 | 1 | | | |
| M3 | Eboracum and local mortaria | 1 | 1 | York | Mortaria | York |
| P2 | Parchment | 1 | 1 | Regional industries | Parchment | Crambeck |
| S1 | SGS | 2 | 2 | Imported | SGS | South Gaul |
| S3 | CGS | 2 | 2 | Imported | CGS | Central Gaul |

Appendix Two: List of Anglo-Saxon and later Ware Codes Used

| cname | class | naming system | full name | period | earliest date | latest date | Sherds | Vessels | broad source | narrow source | source |
|----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|--------|---------------|-------------|--------|---------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| BL | ceramic | | Black-glazed wares | pmed | 1500 | 1750 | 1 | 1 | England | various | various |
| BRANDSBY | Ceramic | YAT | Brandsby-type ware | Med | 1250 | 1500 | 7 | 6 | England | Hambleton Hills | Brandsby and other sites |
| CREA | ceramic | agv | Creamware | emod | 1770 | 1830 | 1 | 1 | England | Staffordshire | |
| CTP | ctp | agv | Clay Tobacco Pipe | PMED | 1600 | 1920 | 3 | 3 | | | ? numerous sources |
| HUM | ceramic | clau | Humberware | med | 1250 | 1500 | 9 | 9 | England | Humber Estuary | various |
| IPS | ceramic | clau | Ipswich-type ware | msax | 700 | 850 | 2 | 2 | England | East Anglia | Ipswich |

| cname | class | naming system | full name | period | earliest date | latest date | Sherds | Vessels | broad source | narrow source | source |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------|--------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| LFS | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| M3 | ceramic | Loughton | Sand and flint tempered cooking pot | med | 1050 | 1250 | 1 | | England | | ?Brickhill |
| MISC | ceramic | agv | Unidentified wares | nk | | | 24 | 12 | nk | nk | |
| NMAX | | | | | | | 10 | 9 | | | |
| PING | ceramic | clau | Pingsdorf-type Ware | lsax | 1000 | 1200 | 1 | 1 | Germany | Rhineland | Vorgebirge |
| PMRED | ceramic | AGV | Misc Post-Medieval redware | pmed | 1550 | 1900 | 2 | 2 | England | various | various |
| PMTIL | | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| RTIL | Cbm | | Roman tile | rom | | | 12 | 10 | England | - | |
| RYEDALE | Ceramic | YORK | Ryedale ware | pmed | 1550 | 1700 | 1 | 1 | England | Yorkshire | inc Stearsby |
| SST | Ceramic | agv | Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered | emsax | 550 | 800 | 4 | 4 | England | | |
| STAM | Ceramic | agv | Stamford Ware | emed | 1000 | 1150 | 1 | 1 | England | South Lincolnshire | Stamford |
| STAX | Ceramic | AGV | Staxton-type ware | Med | 1150 | 1500 | 2 | 2 | England | Yorkshire | Staxton; Potter Brompton |
| STCOAR | Ceramic | dua | Staffordshire coarseware | Pmed | 1650 | 1900 | 2 | 1 | England/Wales | Staffordshire/Buckley | various |
| TORK | Ceramic | YORK | Torksey-type ware | Lsax | 850 | 1100 | 8 | 8 | England | Trent valley | inc Torksey |
| TPW | Ceramic | agv | Transfer printed ware | Emod | 1770 | 1900 | 2 | 2 | England | Staffordshire | ? numerous sources |
| WHITE | Ceramic | agv | Modern whiteware | Emod | 1850 | 1900 | 2 | 2 | England | Staffordshire | ? numerous sources |
| YG | Ceramic | clau | Yorkshire gritty ware | Sn-emed | 1050 | 1250 | 31 | 30 | England | Yorkshire/North | |
| YORK | ceramic | YORK | York glazed ware/York White ware | Med | 1150 | 1300 | 5 | 3 | England | Yorkshire | not known |
| YSP | med | | York splashed ware | Med | 0 | 0 | 8 | 7 | | | |
| ZDATE | general comment | clau | General context date | Na | 0 | 0 | | | na | na | na |
| ZZZ | general comment | clau | General context comments | Na | 0 | 0 | | | | | |

Appendix Three: List of Anglo-Saxon and later Form Codes Used

| Form | Sherds | class | Full Form Name | functional group |
|----------|--------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| AMPH | 1 | pottery | l | storage |
| BOWL | 7 | pottery | Bowl | food preparation |
| DAUB | 4 | burnt clay | Daub | building material |
| FLAT | 1 | cbm | Flat roof tile | building material |
| FLP | 2 | pottery | Flower pot | other |
| JAR | 64 | pottery | Jar | storage |
| JAR/BOWL | 1 | pottery | l | food preparation |
| JUG | 28 | pottery | Jug | -serving |
| LOOM | 16 | loom weights | Loom weight | textile production |

| Form | Sherds | class | Full Form Name | functional group |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| PIPE | 3 | Clay pipe | | smoking |
| PLATE | 3 | pottery | Plate | serving |
| SJ | 1 | pottery | l | storage |

Appendix Four: List of identified pottery

| Context: | Int | FEATURE | REFNO: | TSNO: | Cname: | Form: | Nosh: | NoV: | Weight: | SUB | PART: | Description: |
|----------|-----|---------|-----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------|------|---------|-----|-------|--------------|
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 13 | | BS | MODERN |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 079 | | STAX | JAR/BOWL | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 080 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 080 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 081 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 083/084/115/125 | | MISC | JAR | 4 | 1 | 11 | SW | BS | OXID |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 085 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | RED FIRING |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 089 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 090 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 100 | | IPS | JAR | 1 | 1 | 16 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 101 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 102 | | B1 | BOWL | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 103 | | E1 | JAR | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | ABRADED |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 104 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 15 | | R | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 105 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 18 | | R | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 106 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 10 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 107 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 108/113 | | YSP? | | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | ID?;DEPO INT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 109 | | YORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 110/1/2 | | RTIL | | 3 | 1 | 22 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 114 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 116 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 30 | | B | RED FIRING |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 117 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 22 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 118 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 9 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 119 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 18 | | BS | RED FIRING |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 120 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 121 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 37 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 122 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 123 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 124 | | STAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 126 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 127 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 128 | | MISC | DAUB | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 129 | | MISC | DAUB | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 130 | | MISC | DAUB | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | |
| C1006 | 1 | 4 | 131 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1021 | 2 | | | ctp | CTP | PIPE | 2 | 2 | 0 | | BS | 18/19C |
| C1021 | 2 | | | | MISC | FLP | 2 | 2 | 0 | NW | BS | |
| C1021 | 2 | | | | WHITE | JAR | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1022 | 2 | | | ctp | CTP | PIPE | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | 18/19C |
| C1022 | 2 | | | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | |
| C1022 | 2 | | | | STCOAR | BOWL | 2 | 1 | 0 | | R | |
| C1022 | 2 | | 001 | | BL | BOWL | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | BROWN |
| C1022 | 2 | | 002 | | PMRED | BOWL | 1 | 1 | 0 | | R | |
| C1022 | 2 | | 003 | cbm | PMTIL | FLAT | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1022 | 2 | | 004 | | RYEDAL | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1022 | 2 | | 005 | | TPW | PLATE | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | WILLOW |
| C1022 | 2 | | 006 | | TPW | PLATE | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1022 | 2 | | 007 | | CREA | PLATE | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |

| Context: | Int | FEATURE | REFNO: | TSNO: | Cname: | Form: | Nosh: | NoV: | Weight: | SUB | PART: | Description: |
|----------|-----|---------|-------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|------|---------|-----|-------|--------------|
| C1022 | 2 | | 008 | | BRANDS | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 017 | | HUM | JAR | 1 | 1 | 17 | | BS | APPLIED |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 018 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 10 | | BS | |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 019/020 | | YG | JUG | 2 | 1 | 15 | | BS | |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 021 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 022 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 044 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 9 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 045 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 046 | | STAM | JAR | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 047 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 12 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1024 | 2 | 14 | 091 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 15 | | BS | |
| C1025 | 1 | 13 | 088 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 14 | | BS | |
| C1025 | 1 | 13 | 152 | | MISC | LOOM | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SPALL |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 132 | s | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 10 | | BS | SOOTED |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 133 | | SST | JAR | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | DEPO INT |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 134 | | K01 | JAR | 1 | 1 | 16 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 135/6 | | NMAX | JAR | 2 | 1 | 28 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 137/8/9/140 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 147 | | R | SOOTED |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 141 | | IPS | SJ | 1 | 1 | 12 | | BS | BURNISHED |
| C1026 | 1 | 13 | 145 | | MISC | DAUB | 1 | 1 | 17 | | BS | SILTY |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 4A-4B |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | 142-145 <> |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | 039 | | MISC | LOOM | 8 | 1 | 153 | | BS | BUN- |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | 039 | | MISC | LOOM | 6 | 1 | 89 | | BS | BUN- |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | 142 | | G8 | J | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BASE; |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | 143 | | G8 | J? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CLOSED; V |
| C1027 | 1 | 13 | 144 | | B12 | J? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CLOSED |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 2B-3A |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | MIX 1C SAM; |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | 000 | | MISC | LOOM | 1 | 1 | 24 | | BS | BUN-SHAPED |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | 032 | | E9 | J? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CLOSED |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | 035 | | B3 | JC | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS |
| C1028 | 1 | 4 | 038 | | S1 | CDR33? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS |
| C1029 | 1 | 4 | 086 | | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1029 | 1 | 4 | 146 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 11 | | B | SOOTED |
| C1029 | 1 | 4 | 147 | | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED |
| C1029 | 1 | 4 | 148 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 014 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 026 | | YORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 027 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 34 | | B | SAGGING |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 028/9 | | YSP | JUG | 2 | 1 | 9 | | BS | |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 030/1 | | BRANDS | JUG | 2 | 1 | 12 | | BS | CUGL |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 033 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 034 | | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 036 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | ID? |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 037 | | YG | JUG | 1 | 1 | 96 | | R | STRAP |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 048 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 18 | | R | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 049 | | SST | JAR | 1 | 1 | 11 | | BS | DEPO |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 050 | | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 051/2/3 | | YORK | JAR | 3 | 1 | 8 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 054 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 055 | | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 075 | | RTIL | | 1 | 1 | 10 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1030 | 1 | 4 | 093 | s | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 18 | | R | SOOTED EXT |
| C1031 | 1 | 4 | | | B12 | D | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BASE |
| C1031 | 1 | 4 | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 4A-4B |

| Context: | Int | FEATURE | REFNO: | TSNO: | Cname: | Form: | Nosh: | NoV: | Weight: | SUB | PART: | Description: |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|-------|--------|---------|-------|------|---------|-----|-------|--------------|
| C1031 | 1 | 4 | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | B12 ONLY |
| C1031 | 1 | 4 | 024 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 12 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1031 | 1 | 4 | 025 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 20 | | BS | SANDY |
| C1039 | 1 | 4 | 015 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | |
| C1039 | 1 | 4 | 016 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 20 | | R | |
| C1040 | 1 | 4 | 040 | s | TORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | 12 | | R | SOOTED |
| C1040 | 1 | 4 | 041 | | LFS | JAR | 1 | 1 | 5 | | R | SOOTED EXT |
| C1040 | 1 | 4 | 042 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1040 | 1 | 4 | 043 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1049 | 5 | | 087 | | BRANDS | JUG | 1 | 1 | 51 | | H | ROD |
| C1058 | 1 | 13 | 151 | | NMAX | JAR | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | |
| C1058 | 1 | 13 | 154 | | SST | JAR | 1 | 1 | 11 | | B | SOOTED |
| C1064 | 1 | 13 | 155 | | SST | JAR | 1 | 1 | 6 | | R | SOOTED |
| C1089 | 10 | | | | E1 | | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS FRAG |
| C1089 | 10 | | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 3A |
| C1089 | 10 | | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | 156-160 <>; |
| C1089 | 10 | | 013 | | E4 | BD | 1 | | 0 | | BS | RIM GIRTH |
| C1089 | 10 | | 156 | | E0 | | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CLOSED |
| C1089 | 10 | | 157 | | C1 | BK | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CC LOST |
| C1089 | 10 | | 158 | | C1 | BK | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS |
| C1089 | 10 | | 160 | | S3 | | 1 | | 0 | | BS | FLAKE;BURN |
| C1097 | 11 | | 076 | | AP25 | AMPH | 1 | 1 | 70 | | BS | ABRADED |
| C1097 | 11 | | 077 | | YG | BOWL | 1 | 1 | 19 | | R | HIGH FIRED |
| C1099 | 11 | 31 | 092 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 39 | | BS | SOOTED EXT |
| C1099 | 11 | 31 | 094/5 | | PING | JAR | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | SOOTED |
| C1126 | 11 | | 149 | | YSP | JUG | 1 | 1 | 21 | | BS | |
| C1126 | 11 | | 150 | | YG | JAR | 1 | 1 | 9 | | BS | SOOTED |
| C1136 | 12 | | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 2B |
| C1136 | 12 | | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | 9-12 <> |
| C1136 | 12 | | 009 | | M3 | ME | 1 | | 0 | | BS | RIM GIRTH |
| C1136 | 12 | | 010 | | S3 | D18/31? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | RIM FLAKE- |
| C1136 | 12 | | 011 | | E9 | J? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | BS CLSOED |
| C1136 | 12 | | 012 | | S1 | C? | 1 | | 0 | | BS | FLAKE; POSS |
| C1154 | 13 | 41 | 153 | | BRANDS | JUG | 1 | 1 | 11 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | | | ZDATE | | | | 0 | | BS | CP 4A-4B |
| C1158 | 13 | | | | ZZZ | | | | 0 | | BS | P2 ONLY |
| C1158 | 13 | | 056 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 057 | | BRANDS | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 058 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 059 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 060 | | WHITE | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 061 | | PMRED | BOWL | 1 | 1 | 0 | | R | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 062 | | P2 | | | | 0 | | BS | BS CLOSED |
| C1158 | 13 | | 063 | | MISC | | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 064 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 065 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 066 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 067 | cbm | PMTIL | | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 068 | | HUM | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | B | |
| C1158 | 13 | | 069 | | BRANDS | JUG | 1 | 1 | 0 | | BS | |

APPENDIX C ASSESSMENT OF CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

S Garside-Neville

Introduction

One box of ceramic building materials was submitted for examination. The material ranged in date from the Roman to the post medieval period.

Roman material

The Roman material consisted of small fragments of Roman brick or tile, plus larger fragments that were probably brick. The thickness of these bricks indicates that they were probably from brick used in hypocausts, floors or as wall courses. No definite roofing tile was identified. One of the fragments appears to be burnt.

Medieval material

The medieval material consists of roofing in the form of plain tile, with the possibility of some fragments of Anglo-Norman (11th- early 13th century) flanged tile, which imitated Roman roofing. Where identifiable, the plain tile took the usual York form of a flat tile with a single peg hole. A few indented borders were also observed. The possible flanged tile took the form of flat fragments of tile with a thickness above the norm for plain tile. Since curved and flanged tile was found in small quantities from the YAT excavations at St Andrews in the 1980s, it is entirely possible that these fragments do indicate the presence of 11th-early 13th century material.

Post medieval

Some of the plain roofing tile may, due to refined fabrics and neat methods of manufacture, might be post medieval date. Where this is a possibility it is indicated in the Context Listing below. There are also some fragments of brick with indications of typical post medieval manufacturing traits, including slop moulding (where the brick mould is just wetted and not sanded, leaving the brick with smooth stretchers and headers)

Other material

Slate was present in a couple of contexts. This was used in the post medieval period. The daub present seems to be associated with Roman material.

Conclusion

This small sample should be retained for further recording, as it can make a valuable contribution to the study of the brick and tile industry in York. The fragments of possible flanged material might be more certainly identified if the fragments can be matched with other fragments of such material from elsewhere.

The presence of thick Roman brick, in the absence of any other Roman type, could be pointing to selective reuse of material at a later date. However, there is no mortar on the broken edges to indicate this. There was Roman material from the Gilbertine Priory, but this has not been published.

Bibliography

Garside-Neville S, 1996. 'Ceramic building materials', in Kemp R L & Graves C P, 1996. 'The church and

Gilbertine Priory of St Andrew, Fishergate' The archaeology of York 11/2, 294-299

Context Listing Table

Key

Cxt = Context L = Length B = Breadth T = Thickness

FH = Flange Height Date range = date range of form

Date = estimated date of context * = only minimum measurement available

NB: This list indicates only forms present and any variations (such as slag attached, pawprints attached). It does not list every fragment of CBM

| Cxt | Form | T | Comments | Date range | Date |
|------|---------|----|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1006 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | 13-16 th |
| 1006 | Rbrick | | | ROMAN | |
| 1006 | Rbrick | | Small fragment | ROMAN | |
| 1021 | Pan? | 12 | | 17-20 th | 17-20 th |
| 1021 | Peg | | Square peghole | 13-16 th | |
| 1021 | Plain | | | 14-16 th | |
| 1021 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1021 | Plain | 17 | | 13-16 th | |
| 1022 | Brick | | Slip; slop moulded | EPM | 17-20 th |
| 1022 | Brick | | | PM | |
| 1022 | Plain | | Indented border | 13-16 th | |
| 1022 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1022 | Plain | | | 14-16 th | |
| 1022 | Slate | | Burnt | PM | |
| 1022 | Slate | | | PM | |
| 1024 | Brick | | | 14 th + | 17-18 th |
| 1024 | Brick | | Very neat indented border. | EPM? | |
| 1024 | Plain | | Indented border | 13-16 th | |
| 1024 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1026 | Daub | | | ? | ROMAN |
| 1026 | Rbrick | 46 | | ROMAN | |
| 1028 | Plain | | Could be flanged | 11-16 th | 11-16 th |
| 1028 | Rbrick | | Small fragment | ROMAN | |
| 1029 | Plain | 16 | Possibly flanged tile | 11-16 th | 11-16 th |
| 1029 | Rbrick | | Small fragment | ROMAN | |
| 1030 | Rbrick | 60 | | ROMAN | ROMAN |
| 1031 | Rbrick? | | Small fragment | ROMAN? | ROMAN? |
| 1040 | Daub | | | ? | ROMAN |
| 1040 | Rbrick | | X 2 fragments | ROMAN | |
| 1058 | Rbrick | 38 | Burnt? | ROMAN | ROMAN |
| 1061 | Rbrick | 52 | | ROMAN | ROMAN |
| 1061 | Rbrick | 21 | | ROMAN | |
| 1065 | Daub | | 3 small fragments | ? | ROMAN |
| 1065 | Rbrick | 34 | | ROMAN | |
| 1095 | Brick | 71 | Slop moulded | 19 th | 19 th |
| 1095 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1095 | Plain | | | 14 th + | |
| 1095 | Rbrick | 16 | | ROMAN | |
| 1097 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1098 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1098 | Rbrick | | | ROMAN | |
| 1099 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1106 | Brick | | Slop moulded | PM | 17-19 th |
| 1106 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |
| 1109 | Plain | | | 14 th + | 14-16 th |
| 1109 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | |

| Cxt | Form | T | Comments | Date range | Date |
|------|--------|----|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1109 | Plain | 18 | Possibly flanged tile | 11-16 th | |
| 1126 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | 13-16 th |
| 1136 | Brick | | | EPM? | 17 th +? |
| 1136 | Rbrick | | Small fragment | ROMAN | |
| 1158 | Plain | | | 13-16 th | 13-16 th |

APPENDIX D SUMMARY OF FINDS ASSEMBLAGE FROM BLUE BRIDGE LANE EVALUATION

Catalogue of animal bone

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | mixed mammal | 2.283 |
| 1 | 1025 | 13 | mixed mammal | 1.523 |
| 1 | 1026 | 13 | mixed mammal | 1.172 |
| 1 | 1028 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.710 |
| 1 | 1029 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.379 |
| 1 | 1030 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.310 |
| 1 | 1031 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.105 |
| 1 | 1039 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.022 |
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | mixed mammal | 0.520 |
| 1 | 1058 | 29 | mixed mammal | 3.928 |
| 1 | 1059 | 13 | mixed mammal | 0.039 |
| 1 | 1061 | 13 | mixed mammal | 0.652 |
| 1 | 1062 | 13 | mixed mammal | 0.236 |
| 1 | 1063 | 13 | mixed mammal | 0.058 |
| 1 | 1064 | 13 | mixed mammal | 0.559 |
| 1 | 1065 | 13 | mixed mammal | 1.114 |
| 2 | 1021 | | mixed mammal | 0.013 |
| 2 | 1022 | 12 | mixed mammal | 0.031 |
| 2 | 1024 | 14 | mixed mammal | 0.450 |
| 10 | 1089 | | mixed mammal | 0.037 |
| 12 | 1136 | | mixed mammal | 0.133 |
| 11 | 1099 | 31 | mixed mammal | 0.131 |
| 11 | 1126 | | mixed mammal | 0.369 |
| 13 | 1158 | | mixed mammal | 0.097 |

Catalogue of stone objects

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Material | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | quern fragment x7 | Niedermendig lava stone | 0.025 |
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | waste flake | flint | 0.002 |
| 1 | 1026 | 13 | quern fragment x1 | Niedermendig lava stone | 0.128 |
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | quern fragment x1 | Niedermendig lava stone | 0.354 |
| 1 | 1065 | 13 | waste flake | flint | 0.002 |

Catalogue of bone objects

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Material | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | 1026 | 13 | pin | bone | 0.002 |
| 1 | 1029 | 4 | sideplate of comb with decoration | bone | 0.005 |
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | pin | bone | 0.001 |

Catalogue of glass finds

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|--|-------------|
| 1 | 1027 | 13 | small fragment of Roman flask dating to the 1 st or 2 nd century | 0.001 |
| 1 | 1027 | 13 | unidentified vessel (Roman?) | 0.001 |
| 1 | 1065 | 13 | unidentified vessel (Roman?) | 0.005 |
| 2 | 1021 | | unidentified vessel (L. Med) | 0.002 |
| 2 | 1021 | | abraded blue glass | 0.001 |
| 2 | 1022 | | bottle | 0.028 |
| 2 | 1022 | | window | 0.005 |
| 2 | 1022 | | bottle (Roman?) | 0.001 |
| 2 | 1022 | | | 0.002 |
| 2 | 1022 | | fragment of stained glass window | 0.002 |
| 2 | 1022 | | bottle | 0.003 |
| 2 | 1022 | | | 0.001 |
| 2 | 1022 | | window | 0.001 |

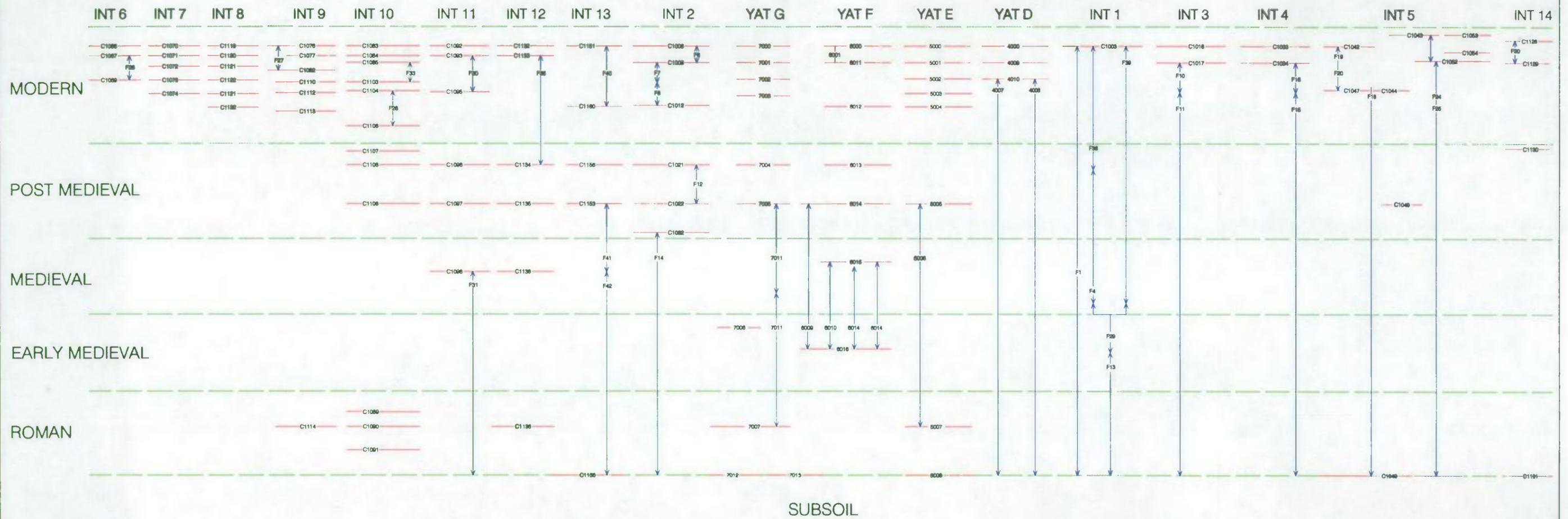
Catalogue of metal and slag

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Material | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|------------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | unidentified | Fe | 0.013 |
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | large headed nail | Fe | 0.018 |
| 1 | 1027 | 13 | nail | Fe | 0.002 |
| 1 | 1027 | 13 | pin | Cu | 0.001 |
| 1 | 1029 | 4 | plate (traces of mineralised wood) | Fe | 0.005 |
| 1 | 1030 | 4 | coin - sceat | | 0.001 |
| 1 | 1031 | 4 | unidentified | Fe | 0.029 |
| 1 | 1031 | 4 | pin | Cu | 0.001 |
| 1 | 1039 | 4 | brooch? | Fe | 0.004 |
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | unidentified | Fe | 0.015 |

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Description | Material | Weight (Kg) |
|--------------|---------|---------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | unidentified | Fe | 0.014 |
| 1 | 1063 | 13 | nail | Fe | 0.002 |
| 1 | 1006 | 4 | | slag | 0.243 |
| 1 | 1025 | 13 | | slag | 0.178 |
| 1 | 1026 | 13 | | slag | 0.011 |
| 1 | 1027 | 13 | | slag | 0.544 |
| 1 | 1028 | 4 | | slag | 0.377 |
| 1 | 1029 | 4 | | slag | 0.063 |
| 1 | 1030 | 4 | | slag | 0.010 |
| 1 | 1040 | 4 | | slag | 0.096 |
| 1 | 1058 | 29 | glass working | slag | 0.213 |
| 1 | 1062 | 13 | | slag | 0.006 |
| 1 | 1063 | 13 | Fe bloom | slag | 0.550 |
| 1 | 1065 | 13 | | slag | 0.019 |
| 2 | 1022 | | pin | Cu | 0.000 |
| 2 | 1022 | | glass working? | slag | 0.428 |

Summary of petrological samples

| Intervention | Context | Feature | Volume (l) |
|--------------|---------|---------|------------|
| 1 | 1029 | 4 | 10 |
| 1 | 1041 | 4 | 10 |
| 1 | 1058 | 13 | 10 |
| 1 | 1059 | 13 | 10 |
| 1 | 1061 | 13 | 10 |
| 10 | 1089 | | 10 |



Appendix E - provisional site matrix



FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

BLUE BRIDGE LANE FISHERGATE YORK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PRELIMINARY REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document serves as a preliminary statement on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Field Archaeology Specialists at Blue Bridge Lane, Fishergate, York, YBB01, (NGR SE 60605100) between December 2000 and January 2001.

1.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

The site at Blue Bridge Lane is located on the eastern bank of the confluence of the River Foss and River Ouse. It comprises a rectangular strip of land some 130m east to west by 65m north to south, enclosing an area of almost 7800 square metres which slopes dramatically from a height of 13.5m AOD in the east down to 9.1m towards the river at its western boundary. The northern half of the site is covered by the Mecca Bingo Hall, a substantial multi-storey brick building, which fronts onto Fishergate and has a covered car park to the rear. To the north, the site is bounded by the car park and grounds of the Novotel. To the east the site is delimited by Fishergate and to the south by Blue Bridge Lane itself. The southern half of the site is presently waste ground over which the concrete rafts of previous structures are still visible.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site of Blue Bridge Lane has undergone a previous scheme of archaeological evaluation. This was carried out in 1994 by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Mike Griffiths and Associates and Shepherd Homes. This scheme of works was designed to evaluate both the Blue Bridge Lane site and that of Fishergate House to the south. Four trenches were excavated within the present area of investigation (Fig.2). To summarise, Trench D detected subsoil at 0.35m and recorded modern truncation. Trench E exposed a possible north-south aligned linear feature of probable late medieval date. The excavation of Trench F recorded the remains of a putative structure potentially Anglian in date at a depth of 0.8m below ground level (11.00m AOD). This was sealed by two medieval soils dated by pottery to the 15th century. Trench G exposed a similar sequence of medieval soil beneath 0.9m of modern material. These soils sealed a possible north-south aligned robber trench.

The area to the north of the Blue Bridge Lane site was formerly the site of the Redferns Glassworks and underwent large scale archaeological excavation in 1985 and 1986 by York Archaeological Trust. The site produced well preserved archaeological remains relating to the Anglian *wic* as well as elements of the Gilbertine priory of St Andrews within which the Blue Bridge Lane site is known to lie.



The Gilbertine Priory was founded between 1195 and 1202 and occupied a site of five and a half acres between the River Foss and Fishergate. Its southern boundary is known to be Blue Bridge Lane which the priory was granted royal permission to enclose in order that water could drain from Fishergate to the river. There are few references to the priory during the medieval period apart from occasional mentions of the granting and exchange of land. The assessment of the priory is also missing from *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1536 and is recorded as being surrendered to the Kings Commissioners in 1538 as a lesser monastery (Burton, 19).

From the late mid 16th century until the late 18th century with the construction of the glassworks the site appears to have passed through several families. It would appear that the priory buildings may have fallen into disrepair quite soon after the Dissolution with several references in the courts in the 1570's for the leaseholder being taken to account for not maintaining the drain along Blue Bridge Lane. It would appear therefore that much of the priory site had been left as open space until well into the 19th century.

1.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The evaluation of the site was undertaken in two phases. A scheme of trenching was designed to record the depth and character of potentially important archaeological deposits indicated in previous evaluation work across the whole site, with a view to creating a suitable mitigation strategy. The first phase of work comprised Interventions 1-5 which were excavated in the south-western quadrant of the site. The second phase involved the excavation of a further eight trenches (Interventions 6-14) in and around the area of the Mecca Bingo Hall and its car park to the west (Fig.2).

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The location of any live services were mapped and marked out on the ground and prior to excavation a walkover survey was carried out using a cable avoidance tool. Each intervention was marked out and where concrete was present, the edge was cut using a floor saw. Remaining concrete was broken out using a hydraulic breaker. Interventions 1-5 were excavated using a JCB wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.2m wide ditching bucket. Interventions 2, 3 and 4 measured 2m x 2m. Intervention 1 measured 5m x 2m and Intervention 5 was 8m x 2m aligned north-south. Overburden and modern deposits were removed until either subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon was visible.

Several logistical constraints were imposed on the project by the continuing use of the Mecca Bingo Hall. Interventions 6-10 were located within the confines of the covered car park area to establish the character of deposits and degree of truncation in this area. Additionally, Intervention 9 was positioned to expose the foundations on one of the upright steel pillars supporting the structure above the car park in order to record its method of construction. These trenches were marked out and cut as above. The low level of the car park roof required the use of a bobcat tracked mini-digger equipped



with a toothless ditching bucket to excavate the trenches. The car park remained in use during the evaluation and consequently all the trenches had to be made secure and spoil heaps cordoned off. Spotlights were used to supplement overhead lighting during the excavation and recording of these trenches. Interventions 6-10 measured 2m x 2m.

Interventions 11-14 were 1m x 1m hand dug excavations. Interventions 11-13 were located along the east-west access road from Fishergate to the car park. During working hours this access had to be kept clear. Consequently, the excavation of these three trenches was undertaken at night under spot lights. Intervention 14 was located in an unused reception room inside the Mecca Bingo Hall building. The concrete floor was cut and then broken out before the trench was excavated by hand.

3.0 RESULTS

A brief summary of the results is presented by intervention. It should be noted that this is only a preliminary statement of the results and a detailed assessment of the pottery is yet to be carried out. Subsequently any dates given here are provisional.

Intervention 1



Plate 1: Intervention 1, section through F4 and F13

Subsoil was exposed at a depth of (12.45m AOD) 0.2m below the present ground surface immediately under a layer of concrete. At this level several features were defined and excavated. The latest features comprise two shallow scoops or pits (F38 and F39) which were probably post-medieval in date. F38 and F39 cut through two clearly medieval features. The first of these was the construction cut (F1) for an east-west aligned wall, still standing as part of the present site boundary which is considered to be the precinct wall of St. Andrews priory. The second feature appears to be a substantial sub-rectangular pit (F4) some 2.0m x 1.5m, cut to a depth of 2.1m with steeply sloping near

vertical sides and a flat base. F4 contained a thin spread of limestone mortar in its base sealing a layer of tread. This was covered by an extensive backfill of mixed silty clay. F4 would appear to be structural in origin containing little in the way of domestic rubbish or organically derived material and may be a robbed out post or pillar setting. Pottery recovered from F4 appears to indicate a medieval date. F4 was cut through a second pit. This feature (F13) was sub-circular in plan, 1.8m in diameter and cut to a depth of 1.6m. Material recovered from F13 implies a 10th century date or earlier. The system of backfilling suggest that it may be a rubbish pit, but a sub-circular socket cut into the base of the feature may indicate a different function. The eastern half of F13 was excavated leaving the remainder *in situ*.

Intervention 2

Subsoil was exposed at a depth of 1.05m (11.5m AOD) below the present ground surface. The upper 0.9m of the trench was characterised by a series of modern and post-medieval levelling layers and dumps. Below this was a shallow ditch (F14), 0.5m deep aligned east-west with a slightly variable profile. This feature was cut by a substantial post hole (F12) along its northern edge. Although no pottery was recovered from F14 the nature of its backfill and its form imply that it may be medieval in date.

Intervention 3

Boulder clay subsoil was exposed at only (12.81m AOD) 0.2m below the present ground surface. Intervention 3 was characterised by a series of modern features including a large sewer pipe (F10) and regular mortar filled scoop (F11).

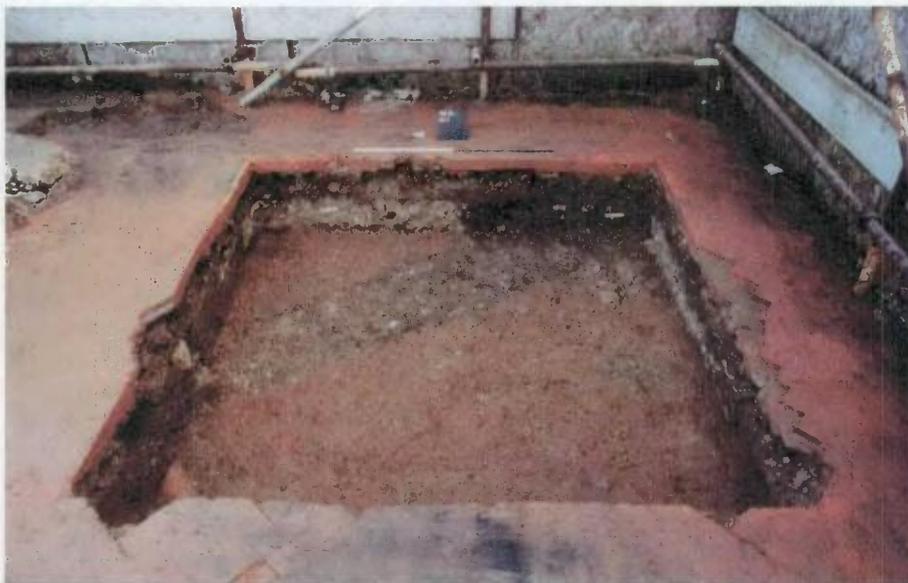


Plate 2: Intervention 3 looking east



Intervention 4

Subsoil was exposed at a depth of 0.6 m (12.05m AOD) from the present ground surface. This trench was capped with a 0.5m thick layer of reinforced concrete (1033) overlying a plastic membrane and layer of crushed slag which sat directly on the subsoil below.

Intervention 5

Initially, F4 in Intervention 1 was thought to be the terminus for an east-west aligned ditch. Intervention 5 was an additional trench positioned to test this assumption. On excavation it soon became apparent that this was not the case. Boulder clay subsoil was exposed at (13.25m AOD) 0.25m below the present ground level at the southern end of Intervention 5 adjacent to Blue Bridge Lane. The northern half of this trench contained a brick lined cellar which had truncated everything except a narrow strip of subsoil against the western edge of the excavation. Intervention 5 was characterised by a series of modern drains and defunct service pipes. A single piece of medieval pottery was recovered from a thin layer of material at the base of the modern overburden. It is not clear whether this represents the remains of a shallow buried soil, truncated feature or is a redeposited soil.

Intervention 6

This trench was the first intervention to be excavated during the second phase of the evaluation. The western half the trench was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.3m (9.8m AOD) below the car park surface. The resulting section showed a sequence of car park surface and hardcore preparation overlying a series of modern dumps and levelling layers. This material was a mixture of slag, rubble and running sand. Further excavation of Intervention 6 was abandoned as the soils became too unstable to continue safely.

Intervention 7

This intervention was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.5m (9.70m AOD) below the present car park surface. The excavation exposed a series of modern levelling layers and dumps below the hardcore preparation and concrete surface of the car park. Modern material was still visible in the base of the trench at this level.

Intervention 8

Intervention 8 was excavated to 1.45m (10.55m AOD) below the present level of the car park surface. Modern material was still visible in the base of the trench at this level.

Intervention 9

Intervention 9 was positioned to expose the foundations for one of the upright steel pillars which



support the structure over the car park. The steel pillar sits on a square concrete platform 1.6m across and 0.7m thick. The platform appears to be cast *in situ* within a 3m square cut excavated to a depth of (9.37m AOD) 2.2m from the present car park surface. The base of the pillar is encased in 3 courses of breeze block. This construction appears to be consistent with the other pillars in the car park. The archaeological deposits within Intervention 9 comprise 1.6m of modern levelling and destruction overlying a deposit of cobbles held within a matrix of mixed yellow brown clay. These cobbles could be the remains of a surface or destruction episode. A plastic soft boulder clay subsoil was recorded at 9.5m AOD, some 2m below the present car park surface.

Intervention 10

Intervention 10 was excavated to a depth of 1.4m (10.05m AOD) from the present car park surface. This trench was significantly different from any of the previous interventions within the car park area. Instead of being dominated by modern levelling and destruction there was a discrete and intact sequence of earlier deposits. Underneath the present car park surface was a brick floor (F26). This was constructed over a thin layer of burnt destruction debris (C1105) which in turn sealed a thin layer of clay silt (C1106) containing frequent inclusions of tile and brick fragments. C1106 sat on top of a black silt deposit some 50mm thick (C1108). This layer appears to be the remains of a buried soil and can be traced through Interventions 11,12,13 and possibly into Intervention 2. A similar layer is recorded in the YAT evaluation trenches F and G. As such it may be an important deposit in tying together material from the different areas of the site. C1008 sealed a thick pack of moist slightly crumbly dark brown grey silt containing rare brick and tile fleck inclusions (C1009). This soil was 0.8m thick and came down on to a layer of slightly mixed brown sandy clay (C1089). Further hand excavation of this material exposed a layer of roughly sorted, rounded cobbles set into a yellow clay matrix (C1090). Several fragments of Roman pottery were recovered from the deposit sealing this possible surface which lies at a depth of 9.8m AOD.

Intervention 11

The excavation of Intervention 11 did not expose subsoil. Instead, a sequence of deposits similar to that recorded in Intervention 10 was observed. Underneath the modern concrete was a 0.5m thick levelling layer (C1095) containing fragments of brick and glass. This deposit sat on top of a layer of black silt (1096) similar to (1108) in Intervention 10. Buried soil C1096 sealed a pack of brown grey crumbly silt (C1097) which in turn sealed a layer of rounded cobbles (C1099). C1099 was situated at a level of 10.35 AOD. It is not certain at this time whether these cobbles are the equivalent of those exposed in Intervention 10. In fact, auguring revealed that the cobbles of C1099 sit on top of a further 0.2m of brown grey silt before there is a significant change in soil matrix. Underneath this material the augur revealed a deposit of mixed grey brown clay similar to C 1136 recorded in Intervention 12.

Intervention 12

The excavation of Intervention 12 revealed a similar sequence of deposits to that recorded in



Intervention 11. Underlying the concrete of the present access road was a substantially thinner levelling deposit which overlay the black buried soil (C1134). This buried soil was 0.2m thick and sealed a 0.45m thick pack of dark brown grey crumbly silt (C1135). The interface between C1135 and C1138 below was marked by a thin layer of gravel and pebbles which may be the equivalent of C1099 in Intervention 11. C1138 comprised a 0.2m thick deposit of dark grey silt overlying a mottled slightly variable layer of dark brown sandy clay (C1136). During excavation of C1136 several sherds of unabridged Roman pottery were recovered. The upper surface of C1136 lies at 10.80m AOD, some 1.1m below the present road level. Auguring revealed that C1136 continued for a further 0.16m into the bottom of the trench and was 0.4m thick in total. This deposit overlay a 0.2m deep layer of variable gritty clay which sealed the natural boulder clay below. The boulder clay was detected at approximately 10.10m AOD, 1.75m from the present road level.

Intervention 13

Boulder clay subsoil was exposed in the base of Intervention 13 at a level of 11.29m AOD, approximately 1.0m from the present road surface. Immediately below the reinforced concrete road surface was C1156, a 0.15m thick deposit of black silt, the equivalent of the buried soil recorded in Interventions 10, 11 and 12. This deposit sealed a 0.4m thick pack of dark brown grey silt (C1153). Two archaeological features were defined at the base of this soil. F41 comprised of a shallow scoop-like cut 0.4m deep, which continued off beyond the western and southern limit of excavation. A single piece of medieval pottery was recovered from its backfill (C1154). F41 was cut through a shallow scoop (F42) backfilled with a mixed variable silty clay deposit (C1157).

Intervention 14

Natural subsoil was exposed at 0.4m below the floor surface within the reception room (at a level of 12.1m AOD). A single service trench was excavated and recorded within the trench.

4.0 DISCUSSION

Several general observations can be made based on a provisional review of the results of the field evaluation:

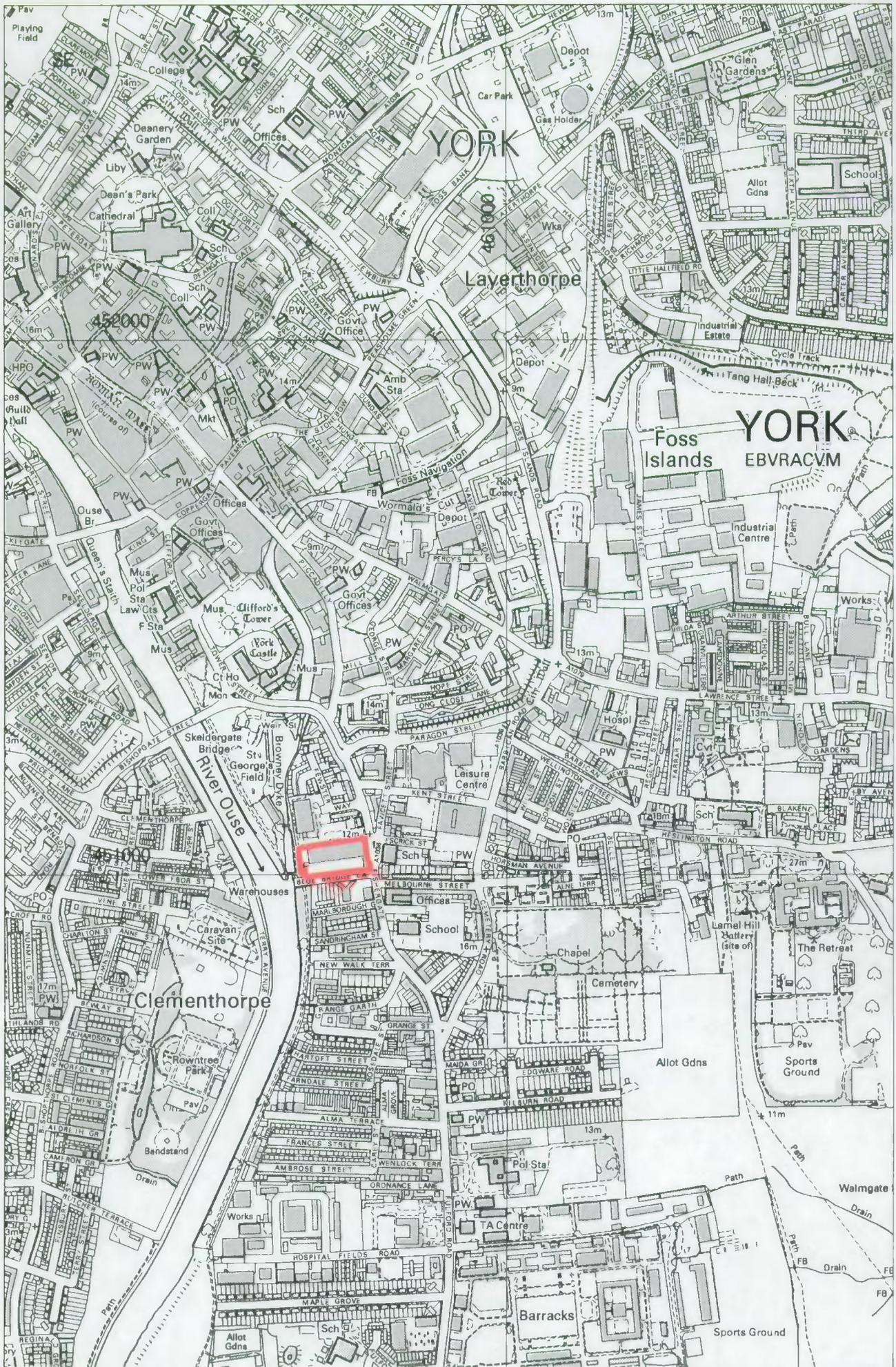
1. The natural topography slopes from south-east to north-west away from Blue Bridge Lane towards the River Foss. The depth of subsoil recorded on Interventions 1,3,4,5 and 14 is on average less than 0.3m from the present ground surface (Fig.3). Furthermore there is evidence that the south-eastern corner of the site has undergone a degree of truncation within the last two hundred years. Any archaeological features which are substantial enough to survive in this area (Fig.3 highlighted) would be encountered immediately below the modern concrete and overburden which, in some places, is as shallow as 0.2m. The absence of any pre-modern archaeological features in Interventions 3, 4 and 5 may be more a reflection of this truncation



than a real distribution. This notion is supported in the quality and quantity of archaeological deposits exposed elsewhere at deeper levels across the site.

2. At some point within the car park between Interventions 9 and 10 there is a significant change in the nature of deposits. This boundary has been projected and is suggested in Fig.4. The highlighted area shows a zone where known archaeological deposits have been encountered within 1.0m of the modern ground level (in most cases this is as shallow as 0.5m or less). Within the remainder of the car park the ground is characterised by modern levelling, the material for which probably originates from the disuse of the glassworks early last century. This may have implications for development impact on surviving archaeological material. Whether this boundary is a result of a steep natural slope, terracing, levelling or a combination of these factors is not yet known. It should not be assumed, however, that significant archaeological deposits are not present throughout the remainder of the car park area, it may be that they are covered with a significant blanket of overburden.
3. The results from Intervention 9 show that the construction of the car park has caused a high degree of disturbance. Each of the 56 steel pillars is set within a cut of not less than 3m x 3m excavated to a depth in excess of 1.5m. Considering their tight spacing this has caused a considerable level of disturbance within this area.
4. The evaluation has made contact with a variety of archaeological deposits from a number of periods. A Roman presence was recorded in the form of layers encountered in the base of Interventions 10 and 12. Intervention 1 contained a possible early medieval pit as well as a 14th century trench and wall foundation. The pack of grey soil encountered in Interventions 2,10,11,12 and 13 would appear to be an intact late medieval/post-Dissolution deposit covered by a grass line which marks the post-medieval ground level. This material seals a number of possible features and surfaces previewed in the trenches. The archaeology encountered in Intervention 1 is significant in both its scale and date and further investigation would provide important information regarding the layout and function of Priory features in this area of the precinct.





Blue Bridge Lane site location (red)

Scale 1:10000



Figure 1



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Blue Bridge Lane - location of Interventions 1 to 14 (red) and YAT Trenches D to G (yellow)

Scale 1:750



Figure 2





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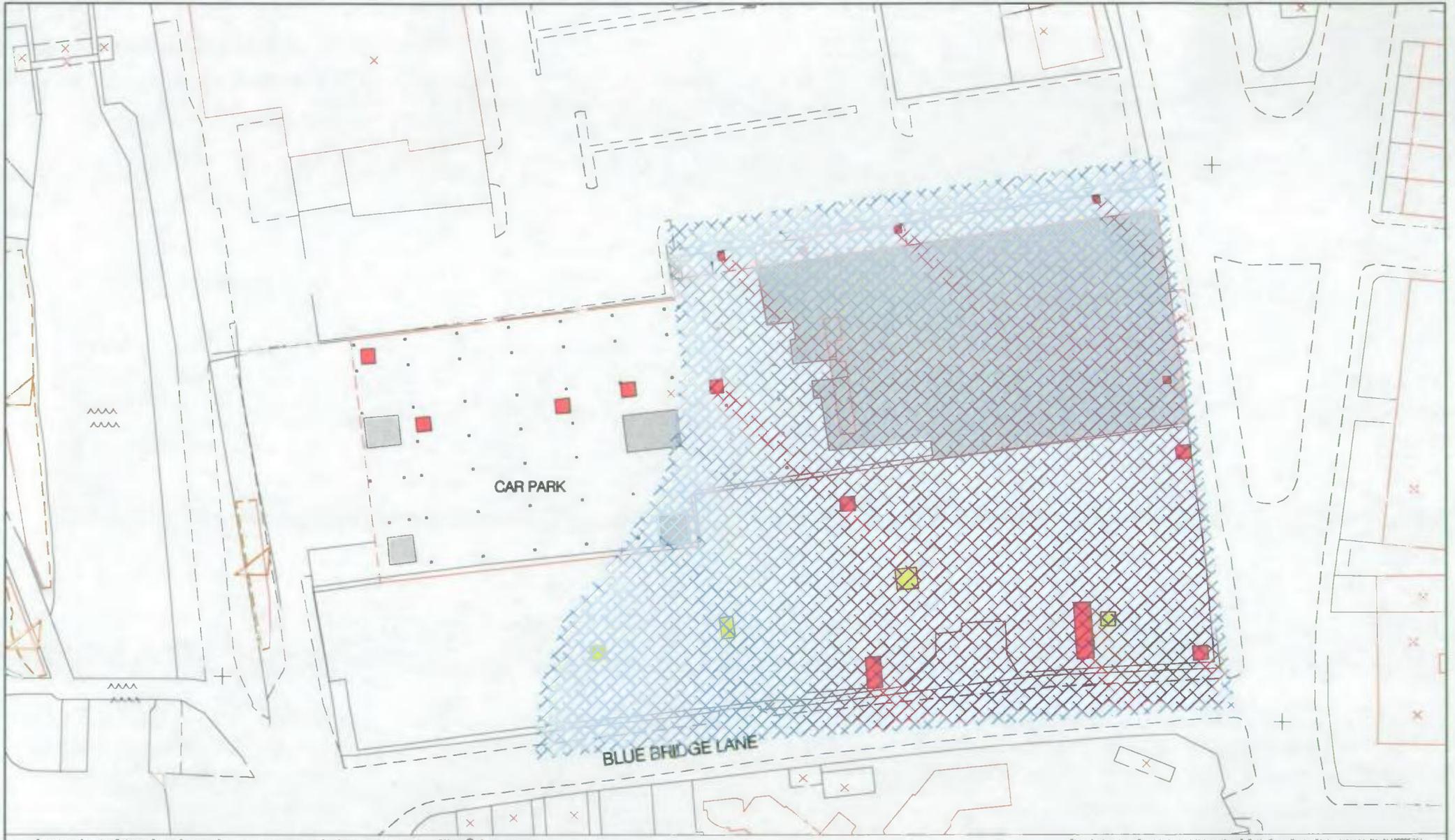


Projected area where subsoil is less than 0.3m from present ground level (blue)

Scale 1:750



Figure 3



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Projected area where intact archaeological deposits lie within 1.0m of present ground level or less (blue)

Scale 1:750



Figure 4



FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

HISTORIC BUILDINGS SECTION

BLUE BRIDGE LANE YORK

EVALUATION OF HISTORIC WALL FABRIC

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document reports on a survey undertaken by the Historic Buildings Section of Field Archaeology Specialists on the standing fabric of a wall located in Blue Bridge Lane, York. The purpose of the investigation was to create a preliminary record of the surviving stonework of the wall and test the assertion that the fabric was of medieval origin.

1.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The main archaeological issue concerns the identification of the section of walling as part of the precinct wall of the Gilbertine priory of St. Andrews. Nineteenth century maps clearly denote a wall in this location as part of the 'Priory Wall' including those of the Ordnance Survey from 1852 and 1891. Furthermore they also indicate a much longer stretch of walling than that which survives today. However, as already noted elsewhere, the service range of Fishergate House appears to have encroached on the current line of Blue Bridge Lane perhaps occupying as much as half its current width. Therefore the possibility that the stretch of wall currently under examination might have formed part of the service complex cannot be ignored.

2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

The fabric was surveyed using a Leica TCRM 1105 reflectorless EDM. The survey data was used to provide control for a mosaic of photographs taken with a Mamiya 645 Pro medium format camera. The photographs were subsequently computer rectified into a CAD package to provide a digital stone by stone drawing of the surviving fabric of the wall (Fig.1). This survey data has not yet been enhanced.

After survey a section of modern brickwork was removed from the wall-head to clarify the method of construction of the structure. Mortar samples were taken from the fabric thus revealed.

3.0 SURVEY RESULTS

Removal of an area of capping brickwork from the wall-head revealed that the facing stonework was within a soft lime mortar matrix. This contrasts with much of the pointing on the exterior face of the wall which is of a hard cement mortar. Behind the facing stonework elements of a rubble wall-core were noted, set within the same type of mortar as the facing work.



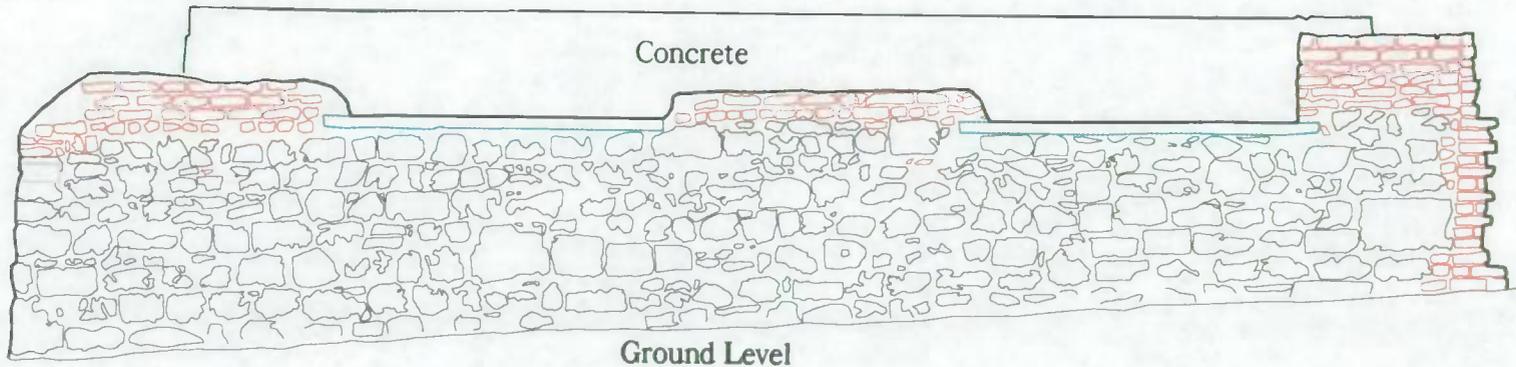
4.0 CONCLUSION

The evidence revealed by the removal of the brickwork from the top of the wall was the most conclusive evidence provided for the dating of the structure. It is clear that the wall had been of massed-wall construction prior to the removal of its rear (north) face. Both the type of construction and the bonding agent used strongly indicates that the wall must have been built prior to *c.* 1700. This fact taken with the evidence from nineteenth-century maps would suggest that the wall must be a surviving element of the precinct wall of St. Andrews Priory. However, the presence of reused medieval architectural fragments within the wall facing would indicate that the structure was built in the later life of the Priory.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Before further disturbance to the wall fabric is contemplated the existing survey record should be enhanced in detail. It is clear that the total removal of the rear (north) modern fabric of brick and breeze blocks would result in the disintegration of the remaining wall-core and possibly the wall face. This should therefore not be contemplated until there is a detailed archaeological record of the structure.





South elevation of section of wall, north side of Blue Bridge Lane, York

Scale 1:50

Figure 1

FISHERGATE

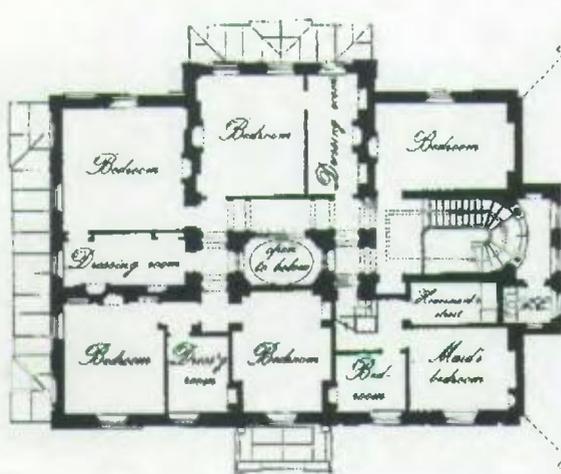
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FISHERGATE

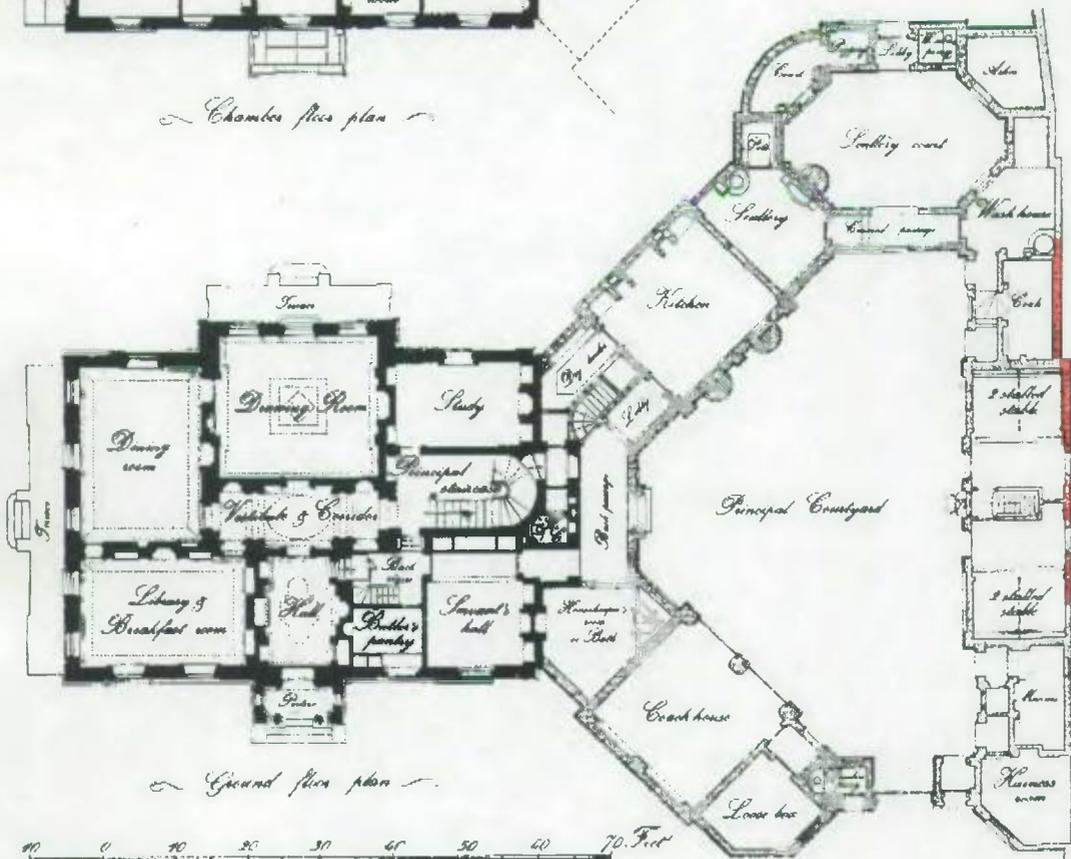
Fishergate House, York

*Re-drawn from original plans
dated 1837 & 1840*

*J.B. & W.M. ATKINSON
Architects, York.*



Chamber floor plan



Ground floor plan

Fig. 66.

so called party wall??



FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

BLUE BRIDGE LANE

HISTORIC WALL FRAGMENT?

The facing of the lower part of the wall elevation that faces onto Blue Bridge Lane consists of a mixture of reused material. Much of this is almost certainly medieval in origin and includes several architectural fragments. However, this fabric also includes 19th century stock brick and tile of uncertain date. The west end has been finished with well squared blocks suggesting the corner of a building or the former position of an opening through the wall. The east end has been finished in stock brick which has been subsequently extended with brick-work of modern date. The upper part of this elevation is almost wholly of 19th century stock brick, with two concrete window lintels set towards either end of the elevation. The lintels suggest that the windows were c.1.5 m in width. The interior facing appears to be largely of 19th century stock brick, although the upper part has been relined/blocked with modern breeze blocks.

The overall thickness of the wall is not consistent with massed wall construction, a feature to be expected if the fabric was of medieval date. This perhaps could be reconciled if it was argued that the it was only one face of a medieval wall that survived; the other face and wall core having been removed at a later date.

It should be noted that this wall appears to be in the same location as the outer (north) wall of the former stable to Fishergate House (see attached plan). Particular attention should be drawn to the fact that this wall contained two windows of similar widths to those that are implied in the remaining fabric. The date of construction of the service wings attached to the core of Fishergate House has not been established but was certainly after 1840.

The weight of evidence would suggest that the fragment of wall that remains on Blue Bridge Lane must be a surviving element of part of the service ranges of Fishergate House. However, it would perhaps be expedient to remove some of the more obviously modern fabric from the wall top to establish with more certainty that the wall does not contain an historic structure, or retain a medieval wall face.

Dr. Jonathan Clark
1 November 2000