

484

ABBOT'S MEWS HOTEL, YORK.

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.
OSA REPORT No: OSA03EV02.

APRIL 2003.



OSA

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Report Summary.

REPORT NO: OSA03EV02.

SITE NAME: Abbots Mews Hotel
York.

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: SE 5988 5230.

ON BEHALF OF: London Ebor Developments Ltd

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TIMING: Fieldwork
10th to 14th March 2003.
Post excavation & report preparation
17th to ** March 2003.

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PERIODS REPRESENTED: Roman, Medieval, Post-medieval.

Table of Contents.

1.0 Abstract	3
2.0 Site Location, Geology, Topography and Land Use	5
3.0 Archaeological Background	6
4.0 Methodology	7
5.0 Results	8
5.1 Trench 1	8
5.2 Trench 2	12
6.0 Discussion & Conclusions	14
7.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts	16
8.0 Appendix 2 ~ Archive Index	17
9.0 Appendix 3 ~ Pottery Assessment Report	18
10.0 Appendix 4 ~ Ceramic Building Material Assessment Report	28
11.0 Appendix 5 ~ Clay Pipe Assessment Report	30
12.0 Appendix 6 ~ Osteological Remains Assessment Report	31
13.0 Appendix 7 ~ Metal Finds Assessment Report	34
14.0 Appendix 8 ~ Flint Assessment Report	35
15.0 Appendix 9 ~ The Plates	36

List of Figures & Plates.

Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 5988 5230)	4
Figure 2. Detailed site location and trench location plan. (Scale 1:1000)	5
Figure 3. Post excavation plan of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20)	10
Figure 4. South-east facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20)	11
Figure 5. South-west facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20)	11
Figure 6. North-east facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20)	12
Figure 7. East facing section of Trench 2. (Scale 1:20)	13
Figure 8. North-west facing section of Trench 2. (Scale 1:20)	13
Plate 1. Trench 1, looking south-east. (Scale of 1m)	36
Plate 2. Trench 1, looking south-west, showing detail of central section. (Scale 1m)	36
Plate 3. Trench 2, looking south-east. (Scale of 1m)	37

1.0 Abstract.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of London Ebor Developments Ltd, within the grounds of the Abbots Mews Hotel off Marygate Lane, York, from the 10th to 14th March 2003. This work was undertaken in the hotel car park, in advance of potential redevelopment. An archaeological evaluation was necessary in order to ascertain the impact of any such development on underlying archaeological deposits and features. Two evaluation trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.50m below the existing ground level.

The evaluation has revealed a number of Roman and medieval cut features, some of which were cut into the natural subsoil, from less than 0.70m below the modern ground surface. Any decision regarding the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological remains lies with the City of York Council. However, it is the opinion of the author that the remains are not considered to be of sufficient importance to preclude development within the site, although some form of further archaeological fieldwork, during demolition and development, will almost certainly be required.

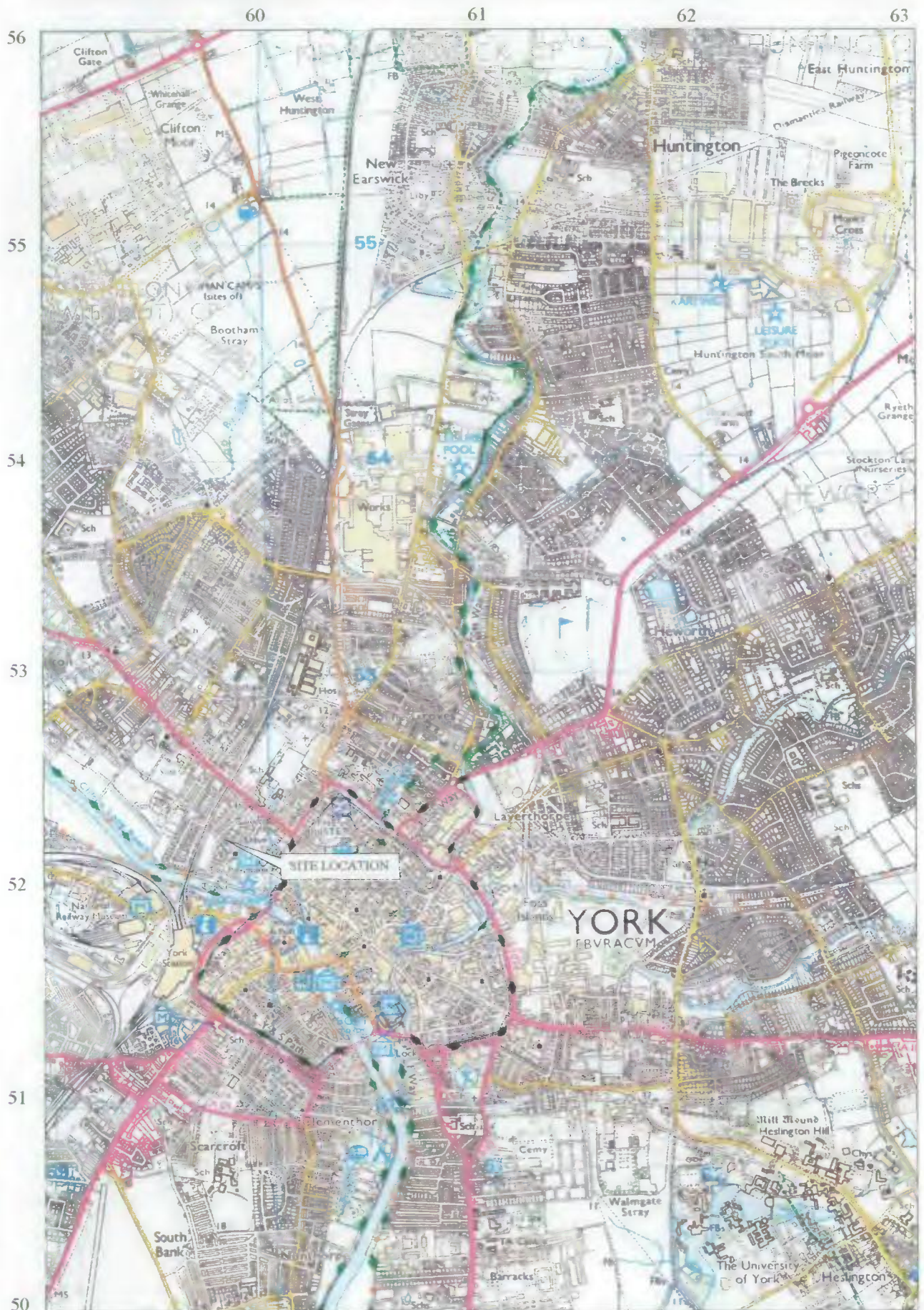


Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 5988 5230).

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2.0 Site Location, Geology, Topography and Land Use.

The site considered by this report lies to the northeast of Marygate Car Park, to the west of the Roman fortress and medieval walled area of the City of York. From the available information on the Geological Survey of England and Wales map (No. 63) the site is situated upon drift geology comprising Warp and Lacustrine Clay, which overlies solid geology of Bunter and Keuper Sandstone. The site consists of a working hotel, the Abbots Mews Hotel, with associated hard and soft landscaping. Due to the health and safety issues relating to carrying out works in a functioning hotel the evaluation was limited to the area of a car park covering the western part of the development site. The site lies at National Grid Reference SE 5988 5230 and the surface of the car park is at around 12.00m AOD, with a gentle slope down from northeast to southwest.

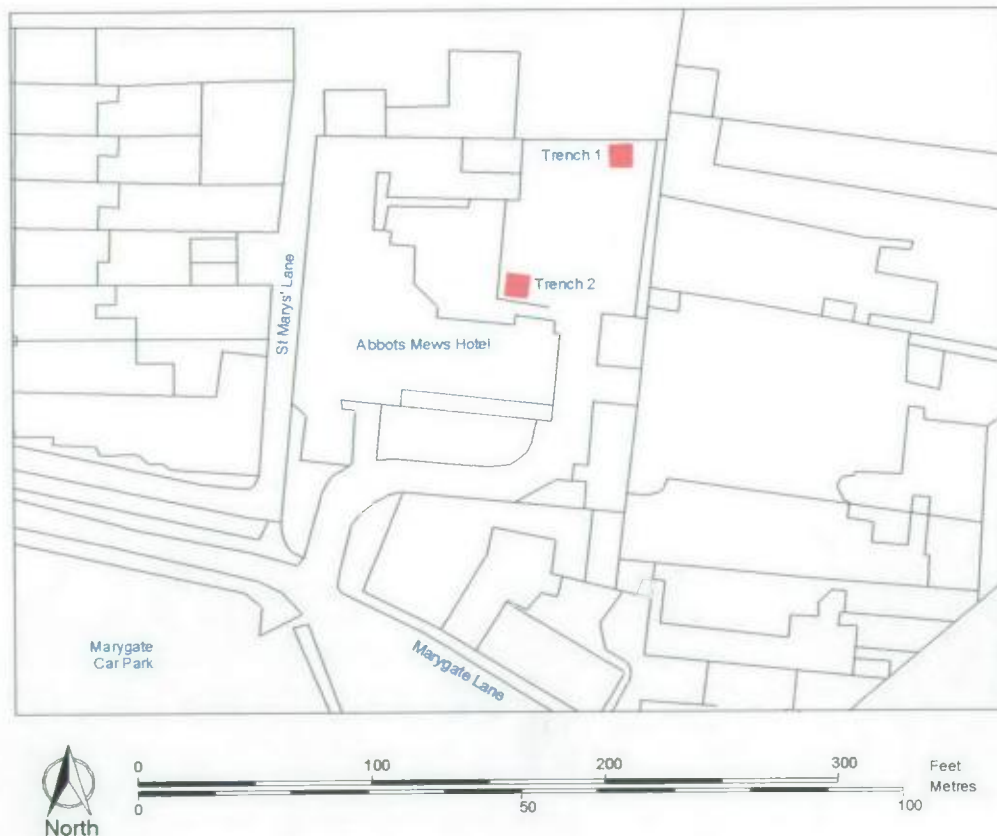


Figure 2. Detailed site location and trench location plan. (Scale 1:1000).

3.0 Archaeological Background.

The site lies in an area that has produced pre-Roman, Roman, Anglo-Scandinavian and medieval deposits.

Evidence for a series of Roman cemeteries has come to light from the 17th century onwards. These finds indicate extensive exploitation of the areas on both sides of Bootham in the Roman period. In the post-Roman period, this settlement and burial activity ceases and the land is given over to low-impact agricultural activity. This means that the Roman deposits tend to be well preserved beneath a variable depth of medieval and later plough and garden soils.

An archaeological evaluation at the rear of 26-28 Marygate encountered extensive deposits of the Roman period. A large linear feature was located, but remained unexcavated and may have been succeeded by a structure subsequently destroyed by fire. Both belong to the 3rd century or earlier. In the mid 3rd century, a deposit containing a substantial amount of refuse was dumped to level the ground surface. This material may have derived from a nearby building, apparently of some substance, and activities associated with it, or may represent 'municipal' dumping of detritus from other areas of Eboracum. Subsequently the area was apparently divided by hedgerows and exploited for cultivation.

In the 4th century inhumations, probably forming part of a small and possibly familial burial ground, were interred on the site. It is uncertain whether the absence of later deposits represents a real termination of activity, since there was clear evidence of truncation above the latest recognisable stratified deposits.

During the medieval period the site would have lain to the rear of properties fronting Marygate to the southeast and is likely to have been open ground. This is illustrated by John Speed's map of 1611, and the area of the site continued to be open ground into the mid 19th century, although by this date formal gardens have been set out (see the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1852). By the time of the 1891 Ordnance Survey gardens are still visible, as is the polygonal folly, which stands alongside the southeast boundary of the site to this day.

4.0 Methodology.

The evaluation comprised the archaeological excavation and recording of two trenches, situated within the northeast, car park area of the development site (Figure 2, Trench locations). Each of the trenches measured approximately 3m x 3m at the surface and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m, as suggested by the City of York Council Scheme of Investigation and following discussions with the City of York Council Principal Archaeologist.

The overburden was removed by a JCB excavator fitted with a toothless bucket down to the level of the first visible archaeological horizon. The exposed surfaces were then cleaned by hand in order to detect any archaeological features revealed through textural or colour changes in the deposits. Any deposits of potentially pre-modern date were then investigated by partial hand excavation.

Standard *On-Site Archaeology* techniques were followed throughout the evaluation. This involved the completion of a written description for each deposit, structure or cut encountered, along with plans and/or sections drawn to scale. Heights above Ordnance Datum (AOD) were calculated by taking levels from a Temporary Benchmark (TBM) which had been tied in with an existing Ordnance Survey benchmark, located on a boundary wall to the north of Marygate Car Park (9.89m AOD). A photographic record of the deposits and features was also maintained. Following completion of recording the trenches were backfilled with the excavated spoil.

5.0 Results.

5.1 Trench 1. (Figures 3 to 6)

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was the firm clay natural (1020). Although substantially truncated locally by pits the untruncated surface was found at a maximum height of 11.55m AOD in the south corner of the trench. The surface of the natural sloped down from the southeast side of the trench to the northwest side, being located at 11.24m AOD in the west corner.

The earliest archaeological feature [1015] was found against the northeast side of the trench. This had been truncated by four later pits but appeared to have originally been a large (up to 1.60m diameter), shallow (maximum 0.40m deep), sub-circular pit the base of which included a number of irregular undulations. This feature contained a single fill (1009) of friable brown sandy silt, containing occasional pebbles, flecks of charcoal, fragments of undiagnostic CBM and pottery dated to the 3rd century. (This feature is visible on Plate 1, prior to excavation).

On its southwest side this earliest feature had been cut by another, irregular, sub-circular pit [1016], with numerous undulations in the sides and base, although this second feature was rather deeper, (0.80m deep). The majority of this feature was filled with friable, greyish brown, sandy clay silt (1008), containing occasional pebbles, lenses of sand, flecks of CBM and charcoal together with pottery of 3rd century date. The uppermost part of the feature was filled with friable reddish brown clay silt, mottled with reddish yellow clay (1006). This fill contained occasional large fragments of limestone (up to 300mm across), pebbles, cobbles, charcoal bone, abraded CBM of uncertain form and pottery of late 3rd century date. Although not recorded during the excavation the interface between the two fills is fairly steep at its top edge, which may indicate that the secondary fill is actually in a later cut. (See Figure 6 and Plate 2). The relative dating of the two fills, with the main fill being 3rd century and the final fill being late 3rd century, is inconclusive in resolving this.

The earliest pit fill (1009) had been cut at its southeast end by two further pits, (Plate 1). Against the southeast edge of excavation was a sub-oval pit [1004], with steep sides, which incorporated a slight step, and flat base. At the level of the step were three small stakeholes. The primary fill (1003), a friable greyish brown clay silt, contained occasional pebbles, flecks of charcoal, bone and pottery dated to the late 11th to early 13th century. This fill had been sealed by loose to friable, dark reddish brown, clay silt (1001), which filled the remainder of the pit and contained occasional flecks of charcoal, CBM, bone and 12th century pottery. In the extreme east corner of the trench the upper pit fill (1001) had been cut by a further pit [1013]. Only a small part of this pit lay within the trench and it was not excavated, the visible edge was steep, down to a concave base. The primary fill (1012) was a friable, dark grey, clay silt, containing occasional flecks of charcoal and animal bone, although as it was not excavated no dating evidence was recovered. The primary fill was sealed by firm, reddish yellow clay (1002), which was clearly redeposited natural material and appears to have been deliberately laid down as a sealing or capping fill.

Pit fill (1006) had been cut by later pits. Against the southwest edge of the trench this was a circular, steep sides, flat based pit [1014], which included on its northeast side a step. The single fill (1007) of friable dark reddish brown clay silt contained occasional pebbles, flecks of charcoal, CBM, bone and pottery of 12th century date.

Within the northern part of the trench fill (1006) had been cut by two more intercutting pits. The earliest of these [1019] was not fully excavated, being a minimum of 1m deep, and continuing below the 1.50m maximum depth of the trench. Only one small stretch of the very steep edge of this feature survived to its full original height, but it is assumed to have originally been a pit. This truncated pit was filled with loose, greyish brown, sandy clay silt (1018) with occasional pebbles, animal bone, charcoal, and late 12th to early 13th century pottery. The majority of this pit had been truncated by another large pit [1017], which was at least 2.10m long and 1.20m wide, continuing beyond both the northeast and northwest limits of this trench. This again had very steep sides, together with a flat base, at the same level as the base of the trench. The fill (1005) of loose to friable, dark reddish brown, clay silt, contained moderately frequent cobbles, large fragments of limestone, tile and animal bone, occasional flecks charcoal and mortar, together with a substantial assemblage of pottery with a likely deposition date of early 13th century. (Plate 2 shows a section through pits [1016], [1017] and [1019]).

The sequence of intercutting features and the natural were sealed by a substantial (up to 0.80m thick in the west corner of the trench) layer of friable, reddish brown, clay silt garden soil (1011). Although no finds were assigned to this context number the majority of those collected during the machine excavation of the trench (and allocated context 1000) are likely to have been derived from this deposit. The trench was finally sealed by a layer of loose, light grey hardcore containing brick and concrete rubble (1010). This was generally 0.15m thick although local intrusions, containing this recent material were as much as 0.50m deep. The surface of this deposit was found at a maximum height of 12.21m AOD. This deposit had been laid down very recently following the rebuilding of the car park boundary wall.

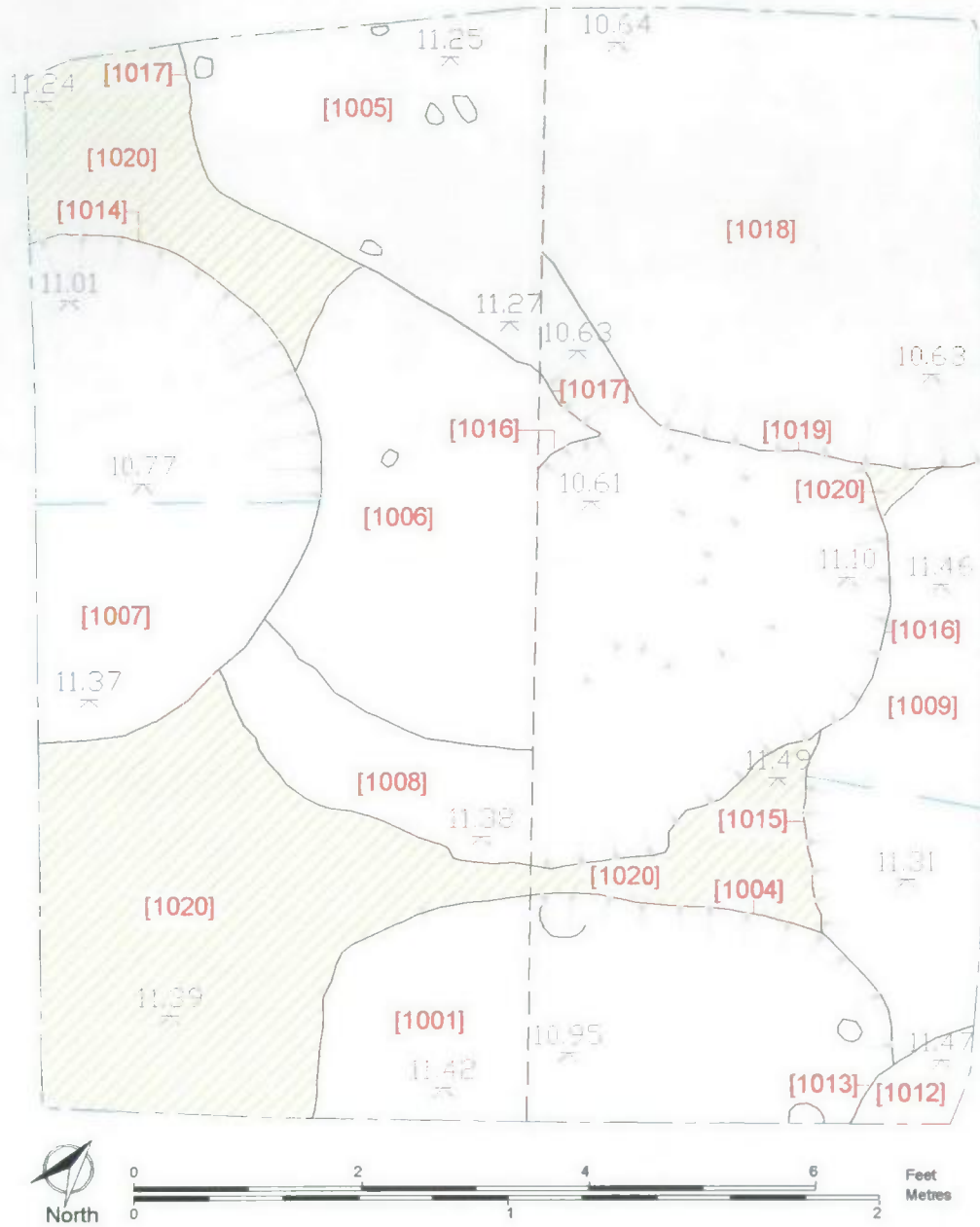


Figure 3. Post excavation plan of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20).

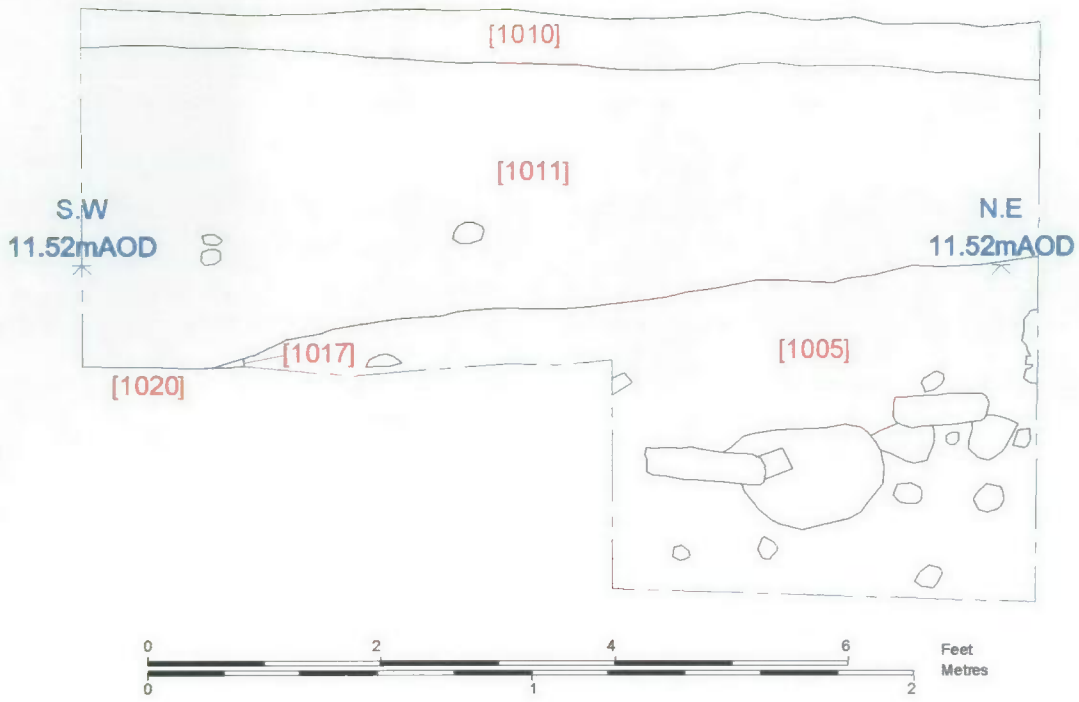


Figure 4. South-east facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20).

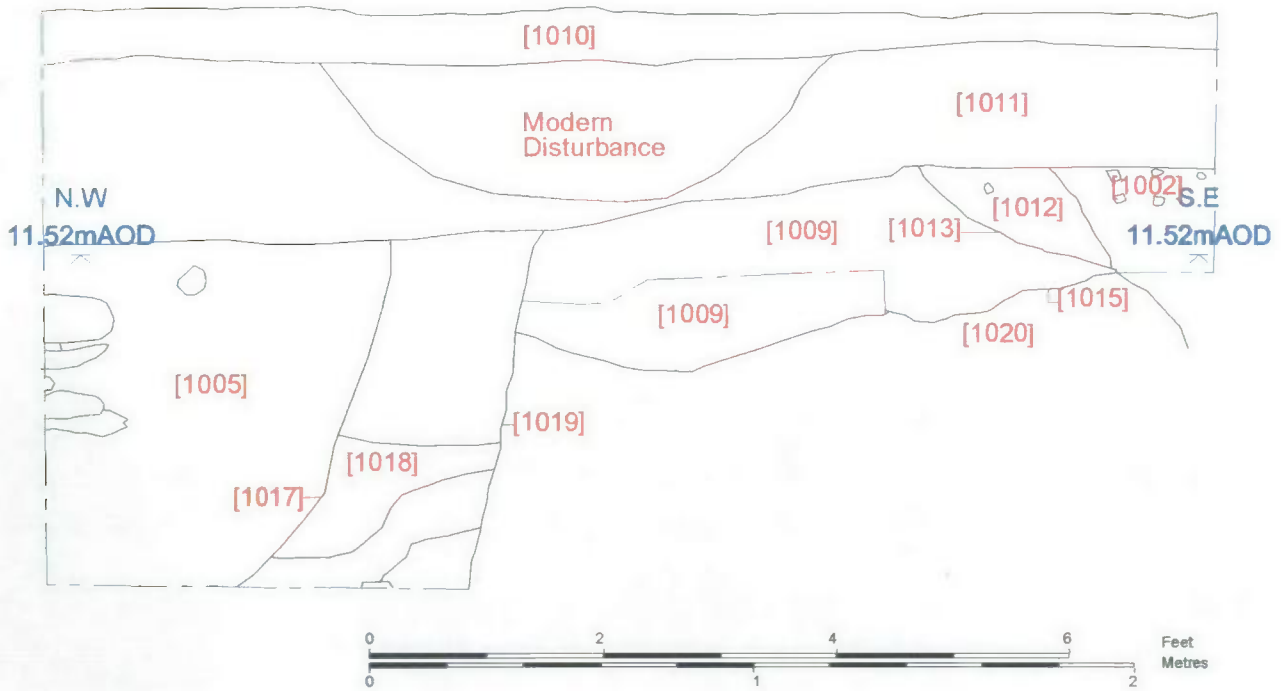


Figure 5. South-west facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20).

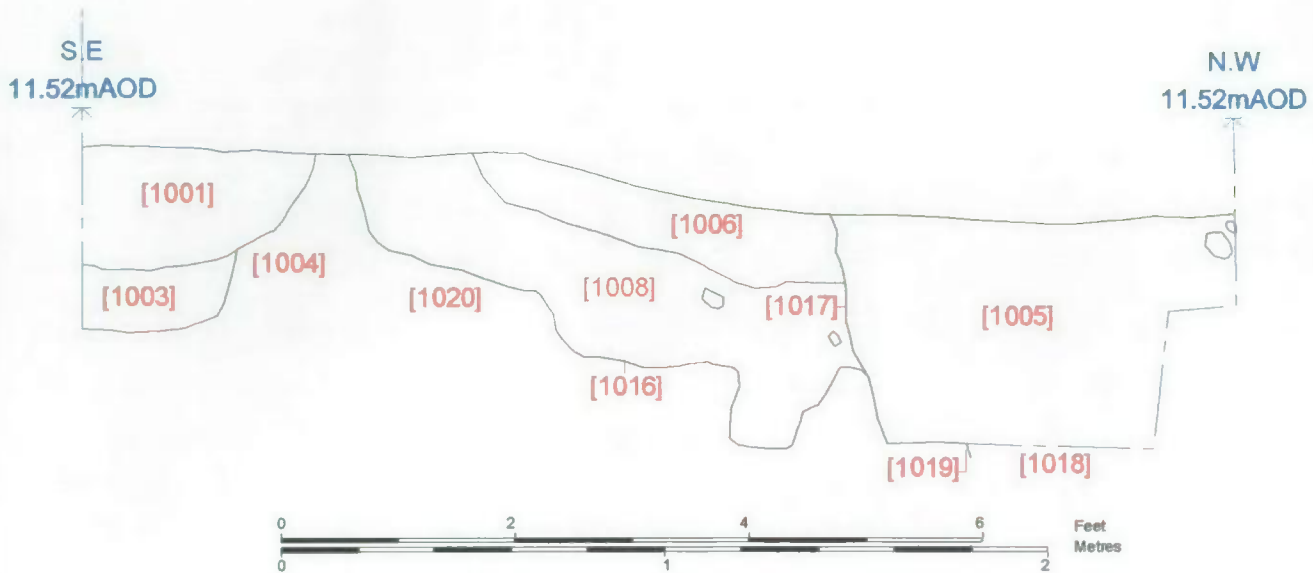


Figure 6. North-east facing section of Trench 1. (Scale 1:20).

5.2 Trench 2.

Natural deposits were not encountered in this trench within the maximum excavated depth of 1.50m at 10.23m AOD. The earliest recorded deposit was a homogenous dark reddish brown, clay silt (2006), which continued beyond the base of the trench and was found at a maximum height of 11.00m AOD. This layer is likely to be a general agricultural horizon and contained pottery of early modern date (mid 18th century), (see Plate 3). It was cut by two intrusive features.

In the southeast side of the trench a steep sided cut [2008] was recorded, which was probably a pit (Plate 3). This contained a mixed fill of tile, mortar and sand (2005), from which late 14th century pottery was recovered. As this feature cuts an early modern deposit this pottery must be residual. In the north corner of the trench was a shallower, flat based feature [2007], which may also have been a pit, or possibly a ditch, although it extended beyond both the northeast and northwest limits of excavation making its interpretation unclear. This feature contained a single fill of dark greyish brown, clay silt (2003), and produced 16th century pottery.

The two features were sealed by a trench-wide layer of dark grey brown clay silt (2002) containing clay pipe and pottery indicating an early modern date. This layer was between 0.60m and 0.90m thick and is likely to have formed an agricultural or horticultural soil. Lenses of brown clay silt (2004) occurred throughout this substantial layer. Finds collected during the mechanical excavation of this trench (and allocated context number 2010) may have come from any of the above deposits.

Deposit (2002) was covered by a layer of crushed limestone hardcore (2001), which contained large fragments of mortared brick wall, together with broken bricks. This has almost certainly been derived from the in-situ demolition of a previous garden wall during the 1980's, which has then been used as a foundation layer for the modern tarmac surface (2000). This surface was at a maximum height of 11.90m AOD.

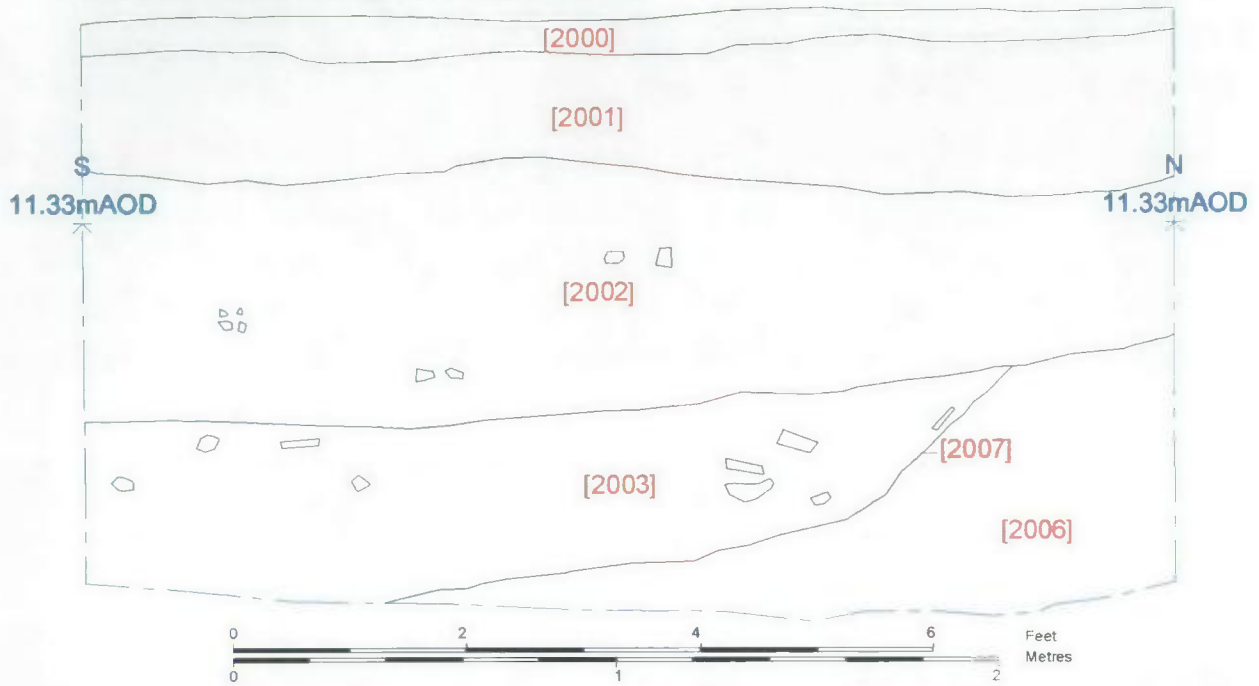


Figure 7. East facing section of Trench 2. (Scale 1:20).



Figure 8. North-west facing section of Trench 2. (Scale 1:20).

6.0 Discussion & Conclusions.

The two trenches encountered archaeological remains of differing character. In the eastern most trench the natural was discovered at its highest point, in the south corner, to be within 650mm of the modern ground surface. This was seen to slope down to the northwest, within the trench, at a gradient of approximately 1 in 10. The natural was not reached within the maximum excavated depth of 1.50m in Trench 2. However, it is not clear if this is due to the continuation of the slope at the same gentle gradient across the area between the trenches, or if there is a more significant drop in the level of the natural topography.

Within Trench 1 the two earliest excavated features were of Roman date, containing a broad date range of pottery, the latest of which was of 3rd century date. The irregular nature of the two features also distinguishes them from the later, medieval features examined on the site. Much of the pottery is abraded and presumably represents domestic refuse disposal. There is no suggestion that the Roman assemblage represents disturbed funerary deposits as might have been expected within this area of York. It is also notable that no clearly human remains were found within the bone assemblage.

The relative intensity of medieval activity recorded in the two trenches would appear to reflect a genuine difference in land use during this period. Trench 1, containing the frequent, intercut pits is typical of medieval urban and suburban tenements. The assemblage of animal bone is indicative of domestic refuse with no suggestion that the material is derived from any industrial activity. The dating from these pits suggests a relatively short period of activity, which may be limited to the 12th century, and at its longest possibly stretches from the late 11th through to the mid 13th century. Trench 2, on the other hand, contained only occasional cut features, within a generally homogenous horticultural or agricultural soil. The earliest recorded deposit within this trench was of early modern date and even the residual pottery collected was later than the pits found in Trench 1. If contemporary, medieval deposit do exist within the area of Trench 2 then they would appear to be at a deeper level, and been sealed by the later, investigated layers. On the basis of the medieval archaeology encountered it is suggested that the site lies at the very rear of tenements fronting Marygate approximately 50m to the southeast. The rear boundary of these tenements may fall between the two trenches.

The proposed redevelopment of the site will involve the demolition of a number of the buildings forming the current hotel (with selective retention of other buildings) and the construction of a series of residential units, with associated gardens and car parking areas. The remains encountered during the evaluation, whilst informative with regards to extra-mural settlement during the Roman and medieval periods, are not considered to be of sufficient importance to preclude redevelopment, if appropriate mitigatory measures are undertaken.

The area in which Trench 1 was situated is intended to be redeveloped as a garden and the archaeological remains encountered in this part of the site will therefore be preserved *in-situ*. The new-build residential blocks are due to be constructed using raft foundations, which, at the present time, are proposed to be 500mm thick. This would effectively lift the construction

above the level of the archaeological remains and enable the majority to be preserved *in-situ* underneath the new blocks. Discussions have been conducted with John Oxley, Principal Archaeologist for City of York Council, and it is considered appropriate that a watching brief should be undertaken during the ground reduction phase of construction of these raft foundations. New service trenches are also likely to be required, although attempts will be made to re-use existing services, and groundworks associated with these works are also likely to be subject to a watching brief.

Due to the current use of the site as a functioning hotel certain health and safety constraints limited the positioning of evaluation trenches. The only area which could safely be evaluated was the car park in the eastern part of the proposed development site. It was therefore not possible to evaluate the western part of the site, currently occupied by standing buildings. However, if Trench 2 is representative of the potential archaeology on the western part of the site this is unlikely to be substantially threatened by the proposed redevelopment. Demolition of the extant buildings over this western area is likely to include the removal of existing foundations. A watching brief should be carried out during below ground demolition works, which would provide an alternative to the excavation of additional evaluation trenches in these parts of the site.

7.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts.

Trench 1.

Context	Description (and interpretation)	Extent	Thickness
1000	Number allocated to unstratified finds collected during machine excavation	NA	NA
1001	Friable/loose dark reddish brown clay silt (pit fill)	1.50m x 0.60m	0.55m
1002	Firm reddish yellow clay (pit fill)	0.55m x 0.30m	0.40m
1003	Friable greyish brown clay silt	0.95m x 0.45m	0.20m
1004	Semi-oval cut, with steep, partially stepped sides, including three stakeholes at the level of the step, and a flat base (pit containing 1001 and 1003)	1.55m x 0.60m	0.75m
1005	Loose/friable dark reddish brown clay silt (pit fill)	2m x 1.10m	0.90m +
1006	Friable reddish brown mottled with reddish yellow clay silt and clay (pit fill?)	1.2m diameter	0.15m
1007	Friable dark reddish brown clay silt (pit fill)	1.35m diameter	0.65m
1008	Friable greyish brown sandy clay silt (pit fill)	1.80m x 1.30m	0.80m
1009	Friable brown sandy silt (pit fill)	1.60m x 0.45m	0.18m
1010	Loose light grey hardcore (modern surface)	trench	0.15m (although 0.50m in places)
1011	Friable reddish brown clay silt (garden soil)	trench	0.80m
1012	Friable dark greyish brown clay silt (pit fill)	0.75m x 0.40m	0.25m
1013	? circular cut with steep sides and a concave base (pit containing 1002 and 1012)	0.75m x 0.55m	0.45m
1014	Semi circular cut with steep concave sides and a flat base (pit containing 1007)	1.35m diameter	0.60m
1015	Irregular cut, truncated by four later intrusions (pit? containing 1009)	1.60m x 0.50m	0.40m
1016	Subcircular cut, with very irregular sides and base (pit containing 1008 and 1006?)	1.80m diameter	0.80m
1017	Steep sided, possibly flat bottomed cut, shape uncertain (pit? containing 1005)	2.10m x 1.20m	0.90m
1018	Loose greyish brown sandy clay silt (pit fill)	1.20m x 1.20m	0.40m +
1019	Truncated cut, with steep side, base not reached (pit containing 1018)	1.20m x 1.20m	1m
1020	Firm reddish yellow clay (natural)	trench	NA

Trench 2.

Context	Description (and interpretation)	Extent	Thickness
2000	Tarmac (car park surface)	trench	0.10m
2001	Crushed limestone hardcore containing large fragments of mortared brickwork (demolition deposit and make-up layer)	trench	0.50m
2002	Dark greyish brown clay silty sand (garden soil)	trench	0.60m-0.90m
2003	Dark greyish brown clay silt (pit fill ?)	2.40m x 0.65m	0.50m
2004	Brown clay silt (pit fill ?)	Max. 2.40m x 0.65m	0.10m
2005	Mixed CBM, mortar, sand (pit fill)	1.3m in section	0.60m +
2006	Dark reddish brown clay silt (garden soil / levelling?)	trench	0.55m +
2008	Broad shallow cut, with flat base (pit ? containing 2003 and 2004)	2.40m x 0.65m	0.50m
2009	Steep sided cut, visible in section (it containing 2005)	1.3m in section	0.60m +
2010	Number allocated to unstratified finds collected during machine excavation	NA	NA

8.0 Appendix 2 ~ Archive Index.

8.1 Drawing Register.

Dwg No	Description	Scale	Date	Initials
1	Tr 2, SW facing section	1:20	110303	CW
2	Tr 2, SE facing section	1:20	110303	CW
3	Tr 2, NW facing section	1:20	120303	AD
4	Tr 1, SE Facing section	1:20	120303	AD
5	Tr 1, SW Facing section	1:20	120303	AD
6	Tr 1, NE Facing section	1:20	120303	GB
7	Tr 1, NW Facing section	1:20	130303	GB
8	Tr 1, NW Facing section through centre of trench	1:20	130303	GB
9	Tr 1, final plan	1:20	130303	GB

8.2 Photographic Register.

Frame	Description	Scale	Date	Initials
Film # Digital 120303				
1	Tr 2, SE facing section	1 x 1m	120303	AD
2	Tr 2, NE facing section	1 x 1m	120303	AD
3	Tr 2, NW facing section	1 x 1m	120303	AD
4	Tr 2, SW facing section	1 x 1m	120303	AD
5	Tr 2, detail 2005 and 2008	1 x 1m	120303	AD
6-12	Tr 1, post ex	1 x 1m	130303	GB
13	Tr 1, detail 1014 and 1016	1 x 1m	130303	GB
14	Tr 1, detail 1016, 1017 and 1019	1 x 1m	130303	GB
15	Tr 1, detail 1017 and 1019			GB

9.0 Appendix 3 ~ Pottery Assessment Report.

Alan Vince and Barbara Precious.

9.1 Summary.

Pottery ranging in date from the Roman period to the 19th century was recovered from an evaluation at Abbots Mews Hotel, York (Site code OSA03 EV02). The Roman pottery indicates some activity from the first century but the majority of the finds are of 3rd and 4th-century date. Most of these are abraded, and some very abraded. There is little evidence, therefore, for the nature of the activity on the site in the Roman period but it was probably a mixture of agriculture and rubbish disposal.

The later pottery sequence starts in the 10th or 11th centuries and the few definitely pre-conquest sherds present are much fresher than those from the Roman period, suggesting that from this period onwards the site was occupied by tenements. The majority of the pottery is of later 12th and early 13th century date. It includes jug sherds with unusual deposits on the inside. These have been interpreted previously as being from the use of these jugs to collect urine, possibly simply so that the user need not face inclement weather but possibly also because urine was used in the treatment of leather.

The few finds of later 13th-century and later date indicate occupation throughout the medieval and later periods. The collection is too small, however, for us to tell whether this occupation was continuous nor whether the range of pottery found indicates any special activity or just domestic occupation.

9.2 Description.

9.2.1 Roman Pottery.

Sixty-two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered, most of which were small and abraded (Table 1). They were identified and recorded by B Precious. The material spans the Romano-British period. There are sherds of 1st-century samian ware, 2nd/3rd-century coarsewares, 3rd-century colour-coated and coarsewares and 4th-century calcite-gritted wares.

All the classes of Roman pottery were represented. Imported pottery consisted of samian ware of Central Gaulish, Eastern Gaulish and Southern Gaulish origin and of two sherds of amphora, one being a Dressel 20 amphora, the most common type found in Britain, and the other a sherd of Gauloise 4 amphora, from southern Gaul. Ten sherds of local origin were present, grey burnished wares. The majority of sherds are of regional imports, from other parts of *Britannia*. These include wares made north of the Humber, at Crambeck (parchment wares, mortaria and greywares, 6 sherds) and in the vale of Pickering (calcite-gritted wares, 6 sherds), as well as Dorset Black Burnished ware (2 sherds), Dales shelly ware from Lincolnshire (2 sherds), Nene Valley colour-coated wares (6 sherds), and wheelthrown Black Burnished wares (BB2, 3 sherds). Five sherds of unknown but probably British origin were found and 12 sherds of York manufacture (Eboracum ware).

Table 1.

Broad source	Narrow c. name	Total
Imported	Amphorae	2
	CGS	2
	EGS	2
	SGS	4
Imported Total		10
Local	Grey B.	10
Local Total		10
Regional industries	BB1	2
	BB2	3
	C. gritted	6
	Crambeck	3
	Dales	2
	Mortaria	1
	NVCC	6
	Parchment	2
Regional industries Total		25
Unknown British?	Grey	2
	Misc. oxid	1
	'White'	2
Unknown British? Total		5
York	Ebor	10
	Grey	2
York Total		12
Grand Total		62

This range of wares is indicative of a Romanised occupation with access to far-flung markets. The relative proportions of the various classes is typical of assemblages from York.

Only a small proportion of the sherds could be identified to form level (Table 2). The range of vessel types represented is also typical of Romanised assemblages.

Table 2.

Broad Class	Form Code	Sherds
Unidentified		22
Unknown	CLSD	9
Amphora	AP25	1
Amphora	AP27	1
Beakers	K	5
Bowls	BT	2
Dishes	D	2
Dishes	DF	1
Jars	J	3
Jars	J/K	1
Jars	JC	6
Jars	JC4	1
Jars	JH2	1
Jars	JH3	1
Lids	L	2
Mortaria	M	1
Samian	37	1

9.2.2 Medieval and later Pottery.

One hundred and thirty sherds of medieval or later pottery was recovered from the evaluation. These could be assigned to eight different *termini post quem*. However, since some types had a long period of use this is not a perfect guide to the actual date of the pottery or the chronology of activity on the site (Table 1).

Table 3.

Cname	10.2	11.1	11.2	12.2	13.2	14.2	16	18.2	Grand Total
TORK?	1								1
TORK	2								2
STAM		1							1
YG			49						49
BEVO				1					1
STAXT				1					1
MTIL				2					2
YSPL				8					8
RED SANDY				11					11
YORK				36					36
BRANDBY					2				2
DUTR						1			1
WALM						1			1
HUM						8			8
BL							1		1
CSTN							2		2
SWSG?								1	1
TPW								1	1
LPM								3	3
Grand Total	3	1	49	59	2	10	3	5	132

9.2.3 10th to 11th centuries.

Three sherds of pottery which probably date from before the Norman conquest were recovered. Two of these are Torksey ware, produced in the Trent valley and traded to York from the late 9th century to the middle of the 11th century. The importation of Torksey ware seems to have received a boost in the middle of the 10th century, probably as a result of the collapse of the local York Anglo-Scandinavian ware industry, and seems to have itself finished suddenly about the time of the conquest. A sherd of an unglazed Stamford ware jar was also present. Such vessels also have a long life but became more common during the 11th century. All three sherds are of moderate size with no evidence for abrasion. They are thus likely to have been used and discarded on site, although it is possible that they were used elsewhere and came onto the site with refuse.

9.2.4 11th to 12th centuries.

Forty nine sherds of York Gritty ware (YG) were recovered. This ware was produced from the late 11th century, throughout the 12th century and into the 13th century and at present there is no known difference in fabric or form which can distinguish vessels made in the later 11th century from those made a century and a half later. It is likely, in fact, that the majority of

these 49 sherds are of 13th century date, since they occur in context 1005 which produced a large assemblage of pottery of that date.

9.2.5 *Later 12th to mid 13th century.*

Fifty-nine sherds of pottery and two fragments of ceramic building material (presumably flat roof tiles) are of types which first came into use in York in the middle of the 12th century and were then in use until the later 13th century. The earliest of these are splash-glazed vessels with fabrics similar (or identical) to those of YG. These sherds include four fresh sherds from the same vessel, a rod-handled jug from context 1000. They show that occupation was certainly underway on the site by the mid-late 12th century.

The majority of the sherds came from context 1005, for which a deposition date in the early 13th century is likely. The remainder came from various contexts but in no case were more than two sherds of this type present and there is no indication of which part of the period the sherds belong to. An interesting feature of the pottery from this group was the presence of several jug sherds with a light brown deposit on the interior. Such a deposit could be a 'kettle fur' but there is no evidence for sooting on the outside of the jug. Salts can also be deposited on the inside of a vessel if it is used to store water, but only if the water has a high mineral content and the liquid is left to stand for a long period of time. In some cases, it has been suggested that these deposits are the result of the use of the vessel to contain urine. Urinals were used for several purposes in the medieval period. Firstly, uroscopy (studying the colour of urine) was a method of medical diagnosis. Secondly, the vessels could be used in a similar way to chamber pots, for those needing to relieve themselves at night (assuming that they had an external latrine). Thirdly, urine was used in tanning, to break down the subcutaneous fat and hairs. It is important, therefore, for any soil samples from this site to be investigated to see if they contain any evidence for tanning or other unusual activity. The sherds came from two contexts, 1005 and 1018.

9.2.6 *Late 13th century to 18th century.*

Two sherds of Brandsby-type ware were found, both from Trench 2. This ware was first produced in the later 13th century, superseding York Glazed ware and continued to be produced into the late medieval period. Three other wares of late medieval date were present: Humber ware, Low Countries Red Earthenware and Walmgate ware.

Cistercian ware, a black-glazed fineware, was also found. This ware was used in the later 15th and 16th centuries, and overlaps in use with some of the late medieval wares (such as Humber ware and Low Countries Red earthenware). There are so few sherds present that it is not possible to refine the dating further.

A single sherd of a black-glazed ware is of 16th to 18th century date.

9.2.7 *Early modern.*

Mid 18th century and later pottery consists of a slag-covered sherd of mid late 18th-century white salt-glazed stoneware, possibly the result of being burnt in a coal fire or furnace, the base of a transfer printed whiteware tureen and sherds from three flower pots.

9.3 *Stratigraphic Assessment.*

Table 2 gives the earliest possible deposition date for the 14 contents from which pottery was recovered. It is noteworthy that three deposits can be dated to the Roman period (or later) and that all three are 3rd century. Thus, earlier Roman pottery may have come from disturbed deposits of 1st/2nd century date on the site or may have been brought to the site later. Similarly, 4th-century deposits may have been present but are now disturbed. Fourth-century sherds occur in contexts 1001, 1007 and 2010.

Table 4.

Context	Trench	Description
1000	1	LMED plus one EMOD
1001	1	12 TH C
1003	1	L11/E13
1005	1	E13th C
1006	1	Late 3 rd century
1007	1	12 TH C
1008	1	3 rd Century
1009	1	3 rd Century
1018	1	L12th C/E13th C
2002	2	EMOD
2003	2	16 TH C
2005	2	L14th C
2006	2	EMOD
2010	2	16THC

9.4 *Further work.*

Two sherds of Romano-British pottery are of types which require illustration (contexts 2006 and 2010).

Appendix One. Roman Pottery.

context	cname	form	dec	nov	refid	alter	description	join	nosh	weight
1000	B2	JC	LA				BS		1	2
1000	B2	JC					BS		1	5
1000	B3	BT?	BHL			ABR	BS		1	27
1000	C1A	K				ABR	BS		1	6
1000	G1	J					BS		1	15
1000	G1	J					BASE 100% STRING		1	74
1000	K2?						BS		1	3
1000	ZDATE						CP3			
1000	ZZZ						UNSTRAT			
1001	C1A	CLSD					BS DRIP MARKS INT		1	6
1001	E2						BS		1	9
1001	G2	JBL				ABR	BS THICK		1	8
1001	P0					ABR	BS MICACEOUS		1	2
1001	P2	BFL	PB			ABR	RIM UPPER WALL		1	9
1001	ZDATE						CP4B			
1003	E1	CLSD					BS		1	4
1003	P0	CLSD					BS			
1003	ZDATE						CP2-3+			
1005	AP25	AP25				VABR	BS LFAB		1	57
1005	B14					VABR	BS		1	2
1005	B16	BT				ABR	RIM SHORT NECK		1	24
1005	B16	BT					BS		1	6
1005	C3	K					BS		1	2
1005	CBM?					VABR	FLAKE		1	13
1005	E1	L					RIM		1	2
1005	E8	CLSD					BS		1	2
1005	S1					VABR	FLAKE		1	1
1005	S1?					ABR	FLAKE; PROB 1005		1	1
1005	S4	37					BS BASAL GOOD FREE DESIGN		1	38
1005	ZDATE						CP3B			
1005	ZZZ						MIX:1C SAM			
1006	B1	JC4	BHL				RIM SHLDR		1	16
1006	B12	J/K					BS		1	1
1006	B3	JC	LO?			ABR	BS		1	6
1006	CBM?					ABR	FRAG		1	4
1006	S3	BD				VABR	FLAKE		1	1
1006	ZDATE						CP3B			
1007	B16	BT?				ABR	BS		1	15
1007	B3	JC	LA				BS THIN WALL		1	1
1007	B3	JC	LML				BS		1	7
1007	CBM?					ABR BURNT	FRAG		1	4
1007	E1					VABR	BS		1	3
1007	E8	CLSD					BS		1	11
1007	H1	CLSD					BS		1	4
1007	K1	J				ABR	BS		1	4
1007	K1	JH2					RIM		1	11
1007	K1	JH3					RIM		1	11
1007	M1	M				ABR	BS		1	6
1007	ZDATE						CP4B			

context	cname	form	dec	nov	refid	alter	description	join	nosh	weight
1008	AP27	AP27				VABR	BS		1	2
1008	B11?	CLSD					BS		1	12
1008	B14	BD					BASE INT SCORED CIRCLE		1	14
1008	C3	K	BA?			VABR	BS		1	1
1008	E1					VABR	BSS		2	9
1008	H1	JD					RIM		1	2
1008	K2?						BS		1	3
1008	O0						BS GREY CORE		1	8
1008	S1	18				VABR	RIM FLAKE		1	1
1008	S1					VABR	FLAKE		1	1
1008	S3	D					BS TRIMED COUNTER <*>		1	3
1008	ZDATE						CP3			
1008	ZZZ						MIX; 1C SAM			
1009	B3	BT?					RIM FRAG		1	12
1009	E1	CLSD					BS W FE		1	3
1009	E1					VABR	FLAKE		1	1
1009	ZDATE						CP3			
1018	C2	K					BS LFAB		1	2
1018	ZDATE						CP3B+			
2002	C3	K					BS LFAB		1	7
2002	G0	CLSD				ABR	BS BURNT ?MPOT		1	4
2002	ZDATE						CP3B+			
2006	B1?	JC				SOOT	BS		1	11
2006	B2	D					BASE CHAMFER		1	40
2006	K1	L			D1		RIM		1	12
2006	ZDATE						CP3B+			
2010	B11?	DF			D2		RIM LWR WALL FAB CF CRAMBECK		1	200
2010	ZDATE						CP4-4B			
2010	ZZZ						FAB GRY NOT WHITE; COARSER			

Appendix Two. Post-Roman pottery.

Context	Trench	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	Part Use	Condition
1000	1	BEVO	MODERATE CALC + QUARTZ SAND	JAR	1	1	22		BS	FRESH
1000	1	HUM		JAR	1	1	29		B	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1000	1	HUM		JUG	2	1	132	CONICAL FORM; WHITE SLIPPED EXT	B	FRESH
1000	1	TPW		TUREEN	1	1	39		B	
1000	1	WALM		JAR	1	1	56	INT BROWN GLAZE; EXT KT	B	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1000	1	YG		BOWL	1	1	15		BS	FRESH
1000	1	YG		JAR	3	3	69		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1000	1	YG	MORE LIKE DURC	JAR	1	1	0		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1000	1	YG		JAR	1	1	22		B	SOOTED EXT; DEPO INT
1000	1	YORK		JAR	1	1	19		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1000	1	YSPL		JUG	4	1	271	ROD HANDLE	R	FRESH
1000	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	LMED plus one EMOD	BS	
1001	1	TORK		JAR	1	1	23		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1001	1	YG		JAR	2	2	58		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1001	1	YSPL		PTCH	1	1	7		BS	FRESH
1001	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	12TH C	BS	
1003	1	YG		JAR	1	1	8		BS	SOOTED EXT FRESH
1003	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	L11/E13	BS	
1005	1	MTIL		FLAT	1	1	8		BS	ABR
1005	1	RED SANDY		JUG	10	10	79		BS	
1005	1	STAM		JAR	1	1	5		BS	
1005	1	STAXT	ROUNDED CHALK, BEVERLEY AREA?	JAR	1	1	53		R	
1005	1	TORK		JAR	1	1	15		BS	SOOTED EXT; KETTLE FUR INT
1005	1	TORK?		JAR	1	1	4		BS	SOOTED EXT; DEPO INT
1005	1	YG		JAR	11	11	78		BS	
1005	1	YG		JAR	1	1	12	SQUARED RIM	R	
1005	1	YG		JAR	1	1	29	FLAT-TOPPED RIM; GLOB BODY	R	
1005	1	YG		JAR	1	1	11		B	SOOTED EXT; DEPO INT
1005	1	YG		JAR	1	1	13		B	SOOTED EXT
1005	1	YG		JAR	16	16	171		BS	SOOTED EXT
1005	1	YORK		BOWL	1	1	97	CUGL INT AND EXT	B	SOOTED INT
1005	1	YORK		JAR	4	4	43		BS	SOOTED EXT
1005	1	YORK		JAR	1	1	127		B	SOOTED EXT; KETTLE

Context	Trench	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	Part	Use	Condition
										FUR INT	
1005	1	YORK		JAR	1	1	98	CUGL SPOTS EXT	B	SOOTED EXT	
1005	1	YORK		JAR	7	7	88		BS		
1005	1	YORK		JUG	14	14	154	CUGL EXT	BS		
1005	1	YORK		JUG	1	1	7	CUGL EXT.VERT APPLIED THUMBED STRIP	BS		
1005	1	YORK		JUG	1	1	96	CUGL EXT	BS	INT DEPO	
1005	1	YSPL		JUG	1	1	6	WAVY COMBING;CU? GL	BS		
1006	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	ROMAN	BS		
1007	1	YG	CF DURC	JAR	2	1	8		BS		
1007	1	YG		JAR	3	3	11		BS	SOOTED EXT	
1007	1	YG		JAR	1	1	17		B	SOOTED EXTFRESH	
1007	1	YORK		JAR	1	1	7		BS	SOOTED EXTFRESH	
1007	1	YSPL		JUG	2	2	28		BS		FRESH
1007	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	12TH C	BS		
1008	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	ROMAN	BS		
1009	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	ROMAN	BS		
1018	1	YG		JAR	1	1	3		BS		
1018	1	YORK		JUG	1	1	20		R	INT DEPO	FRESH
1018	1	ZDATE			0	0	0	L12TH/E13TH C	BS		
2002	2	BRANDS BY		JUG	1	1	15		BS		FRESH
2002	2	HUM		BOWL/DISH	1	1	10	INT BROWN GL	B		
2002	2	HUM		JAR	1	1	1	INT GLAZE	BS		
2002	2	HUM		JUG/JAR	1	1	12	THUMBED HORIZ STRIP	BS		FRESH
2002	2	LPM		FLP	3	3	26		BS		
2002	2	RED SANDY	M RQ SOME MATT SURFACED	JAR/JUG	1	1	9		BS		
2002	2	YORK		JAR	1	1	15	WASTER?	BS		GLAZE OVER EDGES
2002	2	ZDATE			0	0	0	EMOD	BS		
2003	2	BL		JAR	1	1	25	THICK BLACK GLAZE DRIBBLES INT	BS		
2003	2	BRANDS BY	BLACK INT MARGINS	JUG	1	1	0	CUGL EXT	BS		
2003	2	CSTN	ANGULAR FINE- GRAINED WHITE SST FRAG >3.0MM	CUP	1	1	3		R		
2003	2	DUTR		CAUL	1	1	19		H		
2003	2	MTIL		FLAT?	1	1	2		BS		
2003	2	ZDATE			0	0	0	16TH C	BS		
2005	2	HUM		JUG/JAR	1	1	3		BS		
2005	2	YG		JAR	1	1	12		R		
2005	2	YORK		JUG	1	1	6	CUGL INT AND EXT	BS		ABR
2005	2	ZDATE			0	0	0	L14TH +	BS		

Context	Trench	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	Part Use	Condition
2006	2	HUM		JUG/JAR	1	1	14	THICK BROWN GL:APPLIED THUMBED HORIZ STRIP	BS	
2006	2	SWSG?		TANK	1	1	19		R	COVERED IN SLAG
2006	2	YG	CF DURC	JAR	1	1	8		BS	
2006	2	YORK		JUG	1	1	54	APPLIED BRIDGE SPOUT;CUGL	S	
2006	2	ZDATE			0	0	0	EMOD	BS	
2010	2	CSTN	NO VISIBLE INCLUSIONS	CUP	1	1	6		BS	FRESH
2010	2	ZDATE			0	0	0	16THC	BS	

10.0 Appendix 4 ~ Ceramic Building Material Assessment Report.

G. Bruce, OSA.

The investigation produced an assemblage of ceramic building material, totalling 26 fragments, contained within a single plastic tub. This has been quantified by fragment count, per context with each fragment being examined to ascertain its form and identify any unusual characteristics. The quantification employs a simple classification of fragment size: small (< 50mm), medium (50mm – 150mm) and large (> 150mm).

The small size of the assemblage and its fairly homogenous character means that it is of little use for refining the dating of the stratigraphic sequence, which has principally been derived from pottery.

The most frequently represented material is plain flat roof tile (16 fragments = 63%), which may have originally been either nib or peg attached although no attachment methods are present. These could be of either medieval or post-medieval date. A single fragment of possible ridge tile was also present although its identification is uncertain due to the degree of abrasion and relatively small size of the piece.

A small quantity of Roman (or possibly Roman) material was recovered (5 fragments) although identification of a number of these is uncertain due to the small size of the fragments. The majority of this was roof tile, in the form of small fragments of tegulae, plus a single possible imbrex fragment. All of this small Roman assemblage was collected from later contexts (some of which also contained residual Roman pottery).

Almost half the assemblage (11 fragments out of a total of 26) is in the form of small fragments, the identification of which are much harder, whilst only 1 large fragment was recovered. Assemblages containing a high proportion of small fragments tend to be indicative of material, which has been retrieved from reworked deposits and secondary dumping, rather than from primary demolition, collapse or structural sequences. With the exception of the 18 fragments collected from pit fill (1005) no context generated more than 3 pieces of CBM and in a number of instances contexts contained only a single fragment. Much of this assemblage could therefore be considered to represent "background" material, typical of Roman to medieval urban and suburban sites.

No further work is required on this assemblage at this stage. However, it should be retained within the site archive to allow the potential comparison with material retrieved from other recently excavated sites, and any future investigations within the immediate vicinity.

Context	Fragment No. (by size)	Description/Comment
1001	1 (m)	Abraded, possibly Roman tegula or box flue fragment, 24mm thick
1002	1 (m)	Hand made brick fragment 38mm thick
1005	1 (s)	unidentifiable
	1 (s)	Probably a fragment of tegula, with a fairly shallow flange profile (< 20mm high)
	5 (s)	Fragments of flat roof tile
	1 (m)	Abraded, possibly Roman brick, tegula or box flue fragment, 30mm thick
	1 (m)	Abraded, but possibly a fragment of Roman imbrex
	8 (m)	Fragments of flat roof tile
	1 (l)	Fragment of flat roof tile (original width survives as 197mm)
	1006	1 (m)
	1 (m)	Possible ridge tile fragment (very abraded)
1007	1 (s)	Probably a fragment of tegula, with a fairly shallow flange profile (< 15mm high)
	1 (s)	Probably a brick fragment (with only one external face evident)
	1 (s)	Fragment of flat roof tile
1009	1 (s)	Probably a brick fragment although no original external faces survive.

Table 5. Catalogue of C.B.M.

11.0 Appendix 5 ~ Clay Pipe Assessment Report.

G. Bruce, OSA.

The investigation produced two fragments of clay tobacco pipe, both from context (2002). One of these fragments is a near complete bowl, with shallow rouletting below the rim on the rear side only. The bowl shape is of a type produced in the late 17th to early 18th century. The other fragment is a short length of stem, with a fairly wide diameter bore and may be earlier than the bowl.

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12.0 Appendix 6 ~ Osteological Remains Assessment Report.

T. Kausmally, O.S.A.

12.1 *Summary.*

A number of zoo-archaeological remains were recovered from a total of nine contexts during an evaluation at Abbots Mews Hotel. The bones were derived from a series of pits with context (1005) containing the highest quantity of bones, mainly from domesticated mammals (Cow, horse, pig sheep/goat, dog and cat) but also fish and bird. Three contexts (1005), (1006) and (1009) revealed remains, which had been exposed to high temperatures some also exhibited cut marks. The assemblage is most likely to have derived from domestic refuse. There were no human remains among the identified elements.

Keywords: Abbots Mews, York, Zoo archaeological remains.

12.2 *Methodology.*

The assessment of the Abbot Mews Hotel animal assemblage has been carried out to generate an overall idea of the nature and quality of the assemblage. Each context has been roughly quantified by species. The results are as shown in Table 6. General observations on quality were carried out as well as notes on taphonomy, human modifications and fusion these have not been recorded at present but simply summarised in the following text.

12.3 *Results.*

A total of nine contexts contained osteological data. The zoological remains were well represented and in an excellent state of preservation during all periods present. The majority of the remains derived from domesticated animals such as cow, sheep/goat, and pig. Horse, fish and smaller birds and mammals such as dog and cat were present in smaller quantities. It should be noted that the representation of smaller mammals, birds and fish is most likely a reflection of the recovery method (i.e. hand collection). Many of the remains were from younger mammals and a limited number of the bones contained cut- and chop- marks. Some also showed clear signs of exposure to high temperatures. Most of these were charred black, which suggest that the bones were cooked fleshed or exposed to heat for a limited period of time (Lyman 1994).

12.4 *Conclusion.*

The assessment of the bones at Abbot Mews revealed a collection of mainly kitchen refuse, deriving from mainly domesticated animals such as cow, sheep/goat and pig. Fish, bird, cat, dog and horse was also present but in limited numbers. The largest assemblage (1005) also contained the largest variety of species. No human remains were observed during this assessment.

12.5 *Archive.*

The osteological assemblage and all papers and electronic records pertaining the work described here are currently stored by On-Site-Archaeology, York.

12.6 *Bibliography.*

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Context	Species	Element	Portion	Side	Fusion
1001	Bos	Calcaneus	Prox.	Right	Fused
1001	Bos	Molar	Comp.	?	Permanent
1001	Large mammal	Skull fragm.	?	?	?
1003	Medium Mammal	Rib	Prox.	Right	Fused
1003	Sus	Humerus	Dist.	Right	Fused
1003	Sus	lower incisor	Comp.	Left	Permanent
1005	?	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1005	Bird	Femur	Comp.	Right	-
1005	Bird	Humerus	Prox.	Left	-
1005	Bird	Humerus	Comp.	Right	-
1005	Bird	Ulna	Comp.	Right	-
1005	Bird	Ulna	Comp.	Right	-
1005	Bos	Molar	Comp.	?	Permanent
1005	Bos	Phalange	Comp.	Left	Fused
1005	Bos/Equus	Scapula	Body	?	?
1005	Bos/Equus	Thoracic	Body	Central	Partly fused
1005	Bos/Equus	Thoracic	Body	Central	Unfused
1005	Bos/Equus	Thoracic	Body	Central	Unfused
1005	Bos/Equus	Tibia	Prox.	Right	Fused
1005	Dog	Femur	Prox.	Right	Fused
1005	Equus	Astragulus	Comp.	Left	Fused
1005	fish	?	?	?	?
1005	fish	?	?	?	?
1005	Large mammal	Longbone x10	Mixed	?	?
1005	Large mammal	Rib	Shaft	?	?
1005	Large mammal	Rib	Shaft	?	?
1005	Large mammal	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1005	Large mammal	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1005	Medium Mammal	Rib x12	Mixed	?	?
1005	Ovis/Capra	Atlas	Comp.	Central	Fused

1005	Ovis/Capra	Femur	Prox.	?	?
1005	Ovis/Capra	Humerus	Dist.	Left	Fused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Humerus	Prox.	Left	Unfused
1005	Ovis/Capra	mandible	Body	?	?
1005	Ovis/Capra	Metacarpale	Dist.	?	Fused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Metacarpale	Dist.	?	Unfused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Metacarpale	Prox.	Left	Fused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Scapula	Body	?	?
1005	Ovis/Capra	Thoracic	Body	Central	Partly fused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Thoracic	Body	Central	Unfused
1005	Ovis/Capra	Tibia	Dist.	Right	Fused
1005	Sus	Metatarsal	Comp.	Right	Unfused
1005	Sus	Metatarsal	Comp.	Right	Unfused
1006	?	flat bone	?	?	?
1006	?	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1006	?	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1006	?	Shaft Splinter	Shaft	?	?
1006	Bos	Premolar	Comp.	Right	Permanent
1006	Bos/Equus	Atlas	Fragm.	Central	Fused
1006	Bos/Equus	Thoracic	Body	Central	Unfused
1006	Large mammal	Rib	Shaft	?	?
1006	Ovis/Capra	Longbone	Shaft	?	?
1006	Ovis/Capra	Thoracic	Comp.	Central	Unfused
1007	Bos	Molar	Comp.	Left	Permanent
1007	Bos/Equus	Radius	Prox.	?	Fused
1007	Cervus	Dist phalange	Comp.	Left	Fused
1007	Equus ?	Mandibular Hinge	Prox.	Right	Fused
1007	Felis	Mandible	Dist.	Right	
1007	Medium Mammal	Calcaneus	Dist.	Right	Fused
1007	Medium Mammal	Shaft Splinter x22	Fragm.	?	?
1007	Ovis/Capra	Radius	Prox.	Right	Fused
1007	Ovis/Capra	Rib	Shaft	?	?
1007	Ovis/Capra	Thoracic	Comp.	Central	Unfused
1008	Bos	Mand. Premolar	Comp.	?	?
1008	Bos/Equus	Rib	Shaft	?	?
1008	Medium Mammal	Shaft Splinter x2	Fragm.	?	?
1008	Ovis/Capra	Rib x2	Shaft	?	?
1009	Medium Mammal	Shaft Splinter	Fragm.	?	?
2002	Medium Mammal	Skull fragm.	Fragm.	?	?
2005	?	Shaft Splinter x5	Shaft	?	?
2005	Bird	Coracoid	Prox.	Right	Fused
2005	Bird	Longbone	Shaft	?	?
2005	Bos	Metatarsal	Prox.	Right	Fused
2005	Bos	Radius	Prox.	Right	Fused
2005	Bos/Equus	Ulna	Prox.	Right	Unfused
2005	Ovis/Capra	Rib	Prox.	Right	Fused
2005	Ovis/Capra	Rib	Prox.	Left	Fused
2005	Ovis/Capra	Rib	Shaft	?	?
2005	Ovis/Capra	Vertebra	Body	Central	Unfused

Table 6. List of Species present

13.0 Appendix 7 ~ Metal Finds Assessment Report.

Alan Vince.

13.1 Summary.

Two metal finds were recovered from the archaeological evaluation at Abbots Mews Hotel, York. Both came from context 2003 and both probably date to the later medieval period. The finds were submitted to the Lincoln Conservation Laboratory (Lincolnshire County Council) for assessment and it was determined that they required packaging using archive-approved materials but that both were stable and required no further conservation treatment.

13.2 Description.

13.2.1 Lead Alloy.

A strip of window came. This strip was manufactured by hand and therefore probably predates the introduction of the milling machine, which was used to produce window comes from the 17th century until the introduction of larger window panes and the use of putty in the late 17th century.

13.2.2 Copper Alloy.

A cast copper alloy buckle. Such buckles were mass-produced using clay moulds during the later medieval period (i.e. the late 14th to 15th century).

13.3 Assessment.

The pottery from context 2003 suggests a 16th century deposition date whereas these finds are perhaps slightly earlier. They indicate the possible presence on the site of a building with glass windows, which in the late medieval period or even the first half of the 16th century would probably have been of relatively high status.

14.0 Appendix 8 ~ Flint Assessment Report.

Antony Dickson.

14.1 Introduction.

Two worked flints were submitted for analysis from the archaeological evaluations at Abbots Mews Hotel (OSA03EV03). The artefacts are described with reference to the dorsal face frontward and the distal end at the top. One artefact was a thumbnail scraper made on chalk flint that can be typologically dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. The second artefact was the proximal end of a broken blade made on flint from a till or river gravel provenance.

14.2 Description.

Context No	Type	Material	Type	Colour	Length	Width	Breadth	Weight
1008	Scraper	flint	Wolds	brownish grey	33.1 mm	21.3 mm	10.6 mm	8 gram
1008	Blade	flint	Till	brownish white				2 gram

The scraper was made on brownish grey flint with a thick cortex extending down the left lateral edge. The colour of the flint indicates that the raw material had a provenance from a chalk geological context most likely the Yorkshire Wolds. The artefact has abrupt retouch, forming a scale flaking pattern, on the distal end and a short, ridged support extending towards the striking platform. The objective end exhibits wear from use. The piece is a small scale-flaked scraper with characteristics that diagnostically date it to the late Neolithic/early Bronze age. Furthermore the scraper could have been used in any number of tasks associated with working hides, wood and bone.

The other artefact was the proximal end of a broken blade made on brownish white flint which probably originated from till or river gravel deposits. The platform is very narrow and exhibits preparation prior to striking. The narrowness of the platform added to the fact that the bulb of percussion is flat indicates a soft hammer technology used to detach the blade from its parent core. Although, the blade is broken the remnants of several flake scars on the dorsal face can be identified whose orientation are opposed to one another implying that the blade was removed from an opposed platform core. This type of stone working technology is usually associated with the early Neolithic.

14.3 Conclusions.

The two artefacts appear to represent two different technological methods of working stone and probably date to two different phases of the late prehistoric period therefore it is highly likely that they are residual. This and the small size of the assemblage mean that further analysis would be unproductive. The scraper could be drawn for recording purposes, however its presence is of very little interpretive value to the site overall.

15.0 Appendix 9 ~ The Plates.



Plate 1. Trench 1, looking south-east. (Scale of 1m).



Plate 2. Trench 1, looking south-west, showing detail of central section. (Scale 1m).



Plate 3. Trench 2, looking south-east. (Scale of 1m).

