



Figure A. Bottom: parallel for vessel from context 802
(<http://www.pfkauctions.co.uk/Catalogues/as290605/lot0318.jpg>)

11.2.8 Stone.

Two fragments of stone were submitted. Both are probably Permian limestones and neither show any signs of working or use. They are probably Magnesian Limestone brought to the site as building stone.

11.3 Assessment.

11.3.1 Trench 2.

Table 7.

Context	Nosh	TPQ
202	3	late 12th+
204	1	Late 18th+
210	1	late 12th+
217	6	Late 17th+
219	3	Late 12th+
221	4	Late 16th+
222	1	Late 16th+
224	2	Late 15th+
226	1	Mid 11th+
US	1	late 12th+

11.3.2 Trench 4.

A single fragment of probable medieval flat roof tile was recovered from context 406.

11.3.3 Trench 5.

Pottery of late 19th-century or later date was recovered from contexts 502 and 503.

11.3.4 Trench 7.

Pottery of late 19th-century or later date was recovered from context 701.

11.3.5 Trench 8.

Context 800 produced a fragment of 20th-century glassware. Context 802 produced sherds of late 19th-century or later pottery and context 803 produced a sherd of transfer-printed ware plate, of late 18th-century or later date.

11.3.6 Trench 9.

Context 902 produced a coin minted in 1943.

11.3.7 Trench 10.

Table 8.

Context	Nosh	TPQ
1001	27	Late 14th+
1005	10	Late 12th+
1007	6	Late 14th+
1009	9	Late 13th+

11.3.8 Trench 11.

A sherd of later 12th-century or later date was recovered from context 1101.

11.3.9 Trench 12.

Table 9.

Context	Nosh	TPQ
1206	12	Late 12th+
1210	2	Late 13th+

11.3.10 Trench 13.

A sherd of later 12th-century or later date was recovered from context 1301.

11.3.11 Trench 14.

Two sherds of later 14th-century or later pottery and a fragment of mid 18th-century or later glassware were recovered from context 1401.

11.3.12 Trench 16.

Two contexts in Trench 16 produced finds, 1607 and 1617. Both are the backfills of a robber trench. The upper fill, 1617, contains the more closely-datable types, which indicate a mid 17th-century date. The lower fill, 1607, on its own can only be dated to the later 16th-century or later, but the types present were probably all still current in the mid 17th century.

11.4 Chronology.

The nunnery at Syningthwaite was founded in the 1120s and much of the pottery found is likely to date to the first century of occupation of the complex. Because of the lack of change in the YG industry, however, it is impossible to prove that the nunnery was built on previously unoccupied ground.

11.5 Further Work.

The medieval pottery from this site is interesting in that it comes from an area whose pottery sequence is poorly known. It seems to show that the priory was supplied partly through York (YORK, BRAN, TVW, MART, HUM) and partly from the west (YG, NGR) and that the bias between west and east shifted during the medieval period. Chemical analysis of some of the wares could be used to test this model. Three of the vessels from Trench 16 should be illustrated.

11.5.1 Retention.

All of the finds except for the unworked stone should be retained

11.6 Appendix A.

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
202	POTTERY	YG		JAR	1	1	2					
202	POTTERY	YG		JAR	1	1	26					
202	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	2	EXT CUGL;				
204	POTTERY	PEAR		CUP	1	1	1	INDUSTRIAL SLIP EXT				
210	POTTERY	NGR		JUG/JAR	1	1	7	EXT PLAIN GL;OBTUSE BASE ANGLE			SO OTED EXT; BLACK DEP O INT	
217	POTTERY	TWW		JAR	2	1	6					
217	POTTERY	YG		JAR	3	3	32					
217	POTTERY	STSL		POSS	1	1	3	WHITE DOTS ON DKBR SLIP BACKGR OUND EXT				
219	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	24	CUGL;SPARSE THUMBING				
219	POTTERY	YG		JAR	2	1	8				BLACK DEP O INT; SPALLE D EXT	
221	POTTERY	GRE		PANC	1	1	11	CUGL?				
221	POTTERY	GRE	SILTY MICA CEO US RED WARE	BOWL	1	1	18	CUGL INT			SO OTED EXT	
221	POTTERY	GRE	SILTY MICA CEO	BOWL	2	1	22	INT GL				

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
	Y		US RED WARE									
222	POTTERY	FREC		DJ	1	1	9					
224	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	1	CUGL				
224	POTTERY	MART	WHITE EARTHEN WARE	FLASK	1	1	18	FLATTENED GLOBE SHAPE				
226	CBM	MTIL	A FINE SAND	BRICK	1	1	191				COAL-TEMPERED MORTAR	
226	CBM	MTIL	A FINE SAND	BRICK	1	1	96				PLAIN MORTAR	
226	POTTERY	YG		JAR	1	1	2					
406	CBM	MTIL	CALC BOD Y; FINE SAND	-	1	1	1					
502	POTTERY	NCBW		BOWL	1	1	7	INDUSTRIAL SLIP				
502	POTTERY	LPML OC		FLP	1	1	3					
502	POTTERY	LHUM		JAR	1	1	32					
503	POTTERY	BL		JAR	1	1	13					
503	POTTERY	NCBW		BOWL	1	1	3	INDUSTRIAL SLIP				
503	POTTERY	CREA		-	1	1	1					
701	POTTERY	NOTS		BOT	2	1	34					

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
701	POTTERY	WHITE		PLATE	1	1	34					
701	POTTERY	TPW		PLATE	1	1	77					
800	PMGL	PMGL	CLEAR	BOT	1	1	42	MOULDED BOTTLE IN SHAPE OF THATCHED COTTAGE				
802	POTTERY	TPW		BOWL	2	1	109	LARGE VESSEL; JARDINIERE?				
802	POTTERY	TPW		OVAL DISH	1	1	23	MARKED "STONE CHINA ROYAL [...] TRIPE"				
803	CTP	PIPECLAY		PIPE	1	1	4	19TH-C DEC; SPU RRED				
803	POTTERY	BL		JAR	2	1	18					
803	POTTERY	TPW		PLATE	1	1	2					
902	COPP	COPP		COIN	1	1	7	GRVI 1/2 PENNY 1943			SLIGHT WEAR	
902	POTTERY	ENG		JAR	2	2	15	MARMALADE JAR				
1001	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	11					
1001	STONE	STONE	PERMIAN LST?	GEO	1	1	23					
1001	POTTERY	YG		JAR	2	2	8					
1001	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	3	PLAIN GL				
1001	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	1	1	61	SQUARE D RIM; ROD HANDLE; THUMB IMPRESSIONS TO EITHER SIDE; GR				

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
								OOVES DOWN HANDLE; CUGL				
1001	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	3	3	49	PLAIN GL				
1001	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	1	1	33	SQUAT JUG;THU MBED BASE				
1001	POTTERY	HUM		JUG	5	5	146					
1001	POTTERY	YG		JAR	3	3	15					
1001	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	1	1	11					
1001	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	13					
1001	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	3	2	88					
1001	POTTERY	HUM		JUG	4	4	220					
1005	POTTERY	YG		JAR	1	1	2					
1005	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	9	6	170					
1007	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	4	4	115					
1007	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	1	1	3	STAMPED BOSS - WHEATE AR;CUGL				
1007	POTTERY	HUM		DJ	1	1	11	UNGLAZE D OXID				
1009	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	2	1	3					
1009	POTTERY	NGR		JAR/J UG	4	4	11					
1009	POTTERY	NGR		JAR	2	2	7				SO OTED	

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
	Y										EXT	
1009	POTTERY	YG		JAR	1	1	13					
1101	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	1	1	11	PLAIN EXT GL				
1206	STONE	STONE	PERMIAN LST?	GEO	1	1	1269	UNWORKED BLOCK				
1206	LEAD	LEAD		WASTE	2	1	131				MELTED	
1206	IRON	IRON		NAIL	1	1	41	RECT DOMED HEAD				
1206	POTTERY	YG		JAR	3	3	12					
1206	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	1	EXT CUGL;INC ISED LATTICE				
1206	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	5	EX CUGL;AP PLIED THUMB ED STRIPS/F LOWER				
1206	POTTERY	YG		JAR	7	6	43					
1210	POTTERY	YG		JUG	1	1	13	LOOKS LIKE AN UNGLAZE D JUG NECK				
1210	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	1	1	47	BALUSTE R BASE WITH BROAD THUMBIN G AND GLOSSY CUGL RUNNEL CF SCAR				
1301	POTTERY	YORK		JUG	1	1	70	CUGL;RO D HANDLE				
1401	CBM	MTIL	A FINE SAND	FLOOR	1	1	151	WHITE SLIPPED			WO RN	
1401	CBM	MTIL	A FINE SAND	FLOOR	1	1	236				WO RN; PLAI N MO RTA R	
1401	PMGL	PMGL	DKGR	TALL	1	1	223	M18/E19T HC				WEATH ERED

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
1607	COMMENT	ZDATE			0	0	0	L16TH+				
1607	POTTERY	BERTH		JAR	4	1	74	INT PLAIN GL;EXT BROWN GL				
1607	POTTERY	BERTH		PANC	1	1	23	BEADED RIM;INT BROWN GL				
1607	POTTERY	RYEDALE		CHAF	5	1	253	ORNATE LOOP HANDLE; PIERCED BASE AND TRACE OF TRIPOD FOOT? INT CUGL		DR		
1607	CBM	MTIL	A SA Q <0.2 MM;M ATT SURF ACED AND BROWN COATED	FLOOR	1	1	45	PAINTED WHITE SLIP AND PLAIN GL;BEVELLED KT SIDE;SAND, GLAZED BASE				
1617	COMMENT	ZDATE			0	0	0	M17TH				
1617	POTTERY	TGW		BOWL	4	1	54	FLANGED BOWL WITH LEAD BACK; LTBR AND LTBL PAINTED INT		DR		
1617	POTTERY	MY		BOWL	7	1	177	INT AND EXT LTBR SLIP WITH WHITE SLTR AROUND FLANGED RIM		DR		
1617	POTTERY	STRE		BOWL	1	1	18	MARBLD WHITE/BROWN (SELF-COLOURED) SLIPS;KT EXT BASE				
1617	POTTERY	BERTH	SILTY BODY	BOWL	1	1	53	LOOP HANDLE;INT AND EXT				

Context	class	cname	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Description	TSNO	Action	Use	Condition
								PLAIN OXIDIZED GL				
1617	POTTERY	LHUM		JAR	1	1	26					
1617	POTTERY	RYED ALE		BOWL	1	1	8	INT CUGL				
1617	POTTERY	RYED ALE		BOWL	1	1	10	INT PLAIN REDUCED GL			SO OTED EXT	
1617	POTTERY	RYED ALE		JAR/J UG	1	1	141	FOOTRIN G BASE;EX T PLAIN SPLASH GL				
US	COPP	COPP		COIN	1	1	9	ERVII;PE NNY;1903			MO DER ATE WE AR	
US	POTTERY	NGR		JUG	1	1	6					

12.0 Appendix 4 ~ Biological Remains Assessment Report.

Deborah Jaques, John Carrott and Stewart Gardner.

12.1 Summary.

A single sediment samples and a very small quantity of hand-collected vertebrate remains recovered from deposits encountered during excavations at Syningthwaite Priory Farm, Bilton, North Yorkshire, were submitted for an evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential.

Ancient biological remains recovered from the processed subsample were restricted to traces of unidentified charcoal, charred hazel nut shell and bone, and of no interpretative value. The charred hazel nut shell would provide sufficient suitable material for radiocarbon dating of the deposit to be attempted, if required.

A very small assemblage of mainly well preserved vertebrate remains was recovered from three of the excavated trenches. Most of the material came from a single pit fill and included a small number of red deer antler fragments. These showed evidence of knife and chop marks and hint at antler working in the vicinity.

No further study of the biological remains from this site is warranted.

KEYWORDS: SYNINGTHWAITE PRIORY FARM; BILTON; NORTH YORKSHIRE; EVALUATION; MEDIEVAL; POST-MEDIEVAL; MODERN; PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS; VERTEBRATE REMAINS; ANTLER WORKING

12.2 Introduction.

An archaeological evaluation excavation was carried out by On-Site Archaeology (OSA) at Syningthwaite Priory Farm, Bilton, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 46156 48710), between the 8th and the 24th of March 2006.

A single sediment sample ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) and a very small quantity of hand-collected bone were recovered and submitted to Palaeoecology Research Services Limited (PRS), County Durham, for an evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential.

The single sediment sample submitted for evaluation was recovered from the primary fill of a pit revealed in Trench 12 (of 16 excavated). Although no dating evidence was recovered from this fill the overlying deposit contained some 12th century pottery. The vertebrate remains were recovered from pit and posthole fills (from Trenches 2, 10 and 12) ranging in date from mid 11th century through to late 15th century.

12.3 Methods.

12.3.1 Sediment sample.

The sediment sample was inspected and its lithology recorded, using a standard *pro forma*. A subsample was taken and processed, broadly following the techniques of Kenward *et al.* (1980), for the recovery of plant and invertebrate macrofossils. The subsample was disaggregated in water for 24 hours or more before processing and its volume recorded in a waterlogged state.

Plant and invertebrate remains (and the general nature of the washovers) were recorded briefly by 'scanning', identifiable taxa and other components being listed on paper. Notes on the quantity and quality of preservation were made for each fraction.

The residue was primarily mineral in nature and was dried, weighed and its components recorded in brief.

12.3.2 Hand-collected vertebrate remains.

For the vertebrate remains, subjective records were made of the state of preservation, colour of the fragments and appearance of broken surfaces ('angularity'). Additional information, such as fragment size, dog gnawing, burning, butchery and fresh breaks, was noted where applicable.

Fragments were recorded to species or species group using the PRS modern comparative reference collection. Fragments that could not be identified to species were described as the 'unidentified' fraction. Within this fraction, fragments were grouped into a number of categories: large mammal (assumed to be cattle, horse or large cervid) and medium-sized mammal (assumed to be caprovid, pig or small cervid).

12.4 Results.

12.4.1 Sediment sample.

Archaeological information, provided by the excavator, is given in square brackets. A brief summary of the processing method and an estimate of the remaining volume of unprocessed sediment follows (in round brackets) after the sample number.

Context 1213 [primary fill of deep, sub-rectangular Pit 1214, truncating the northwest end of Ditch 1212; undated but the overlying backfill, Context 1206, contained 12th century pottery]

Sample 1/T (3 kg/3 litres sieved to 300 microns with washover; approximately 4 litres of unprocessed sediment remain).

Just moist, mid grey-brown to mid to dark grey-brown, crumbly to unconsolidated (working somewhat plastic), slightly sandy, clay silt (to silty clay in places), with stones (2 to 60 mm) and rotted mortar present.

The tiny washover (~4 ml) was mostly of fine sand grains, with some unidentified charcoal (to 3 mm) and traces of modern rootlets.

The small residue (dry weight 0.64 kg) was of sand and stones (to 32 mm), with a trace of unidentified charcoal and charred hazel (*Corylus avellana* L.) nut shell (to 14 mm; 1 g). Six small bones were also present which included single fragments of small mammal, amphibian and fish.

12.4.2 Hand-collected vertebrate remains.

A very small assemblage of vertebrate remains, amounting to just nineteen fragments, was recovered from three of the excavated trenches (2, 10 and 12). Most of the bones (14) were recovered from a pit fill (Context 1206) of late 12th century date. The three other deposits which produced bone (Contexts 224, 226 and 1007) were of medieval date (from mid 11th century to late 15th century). Preservation of most of the material was good, the exception being the single shaft fragment from Context 1007 (Trench 10) which was of rather battered appearance. Fresh breakage damage was noted throughout but did not affect many bones, whilst chop and knife marks were common on the antler fragments from Context 1206.

Few of the remains could be identified to species, but a goat phalanx and four red deer antler fragments were recorded from Context 1206. Two of the fragments may represent the same antler branch, but were damaged by fresh breakage. These fragments were of the main beam, with some of the tines deliberately removed. One small rectangular (approximately 60 x 10 mm) fragment was definitely waste from antler working. Additionally, this deposit produced a large mammal shaft fragment, part of which had been roughly shaped into a blunt point. Other bones recovered from this site were identified as large and medium-sized mammal bones which included shaft, rib and vertebra fragments. None of the bones were measurable. Further details of the material, by context, can be found in Table 1.

12.5 Discussion and statement of potential.

Ancient biological remains recovered from the subsample from Context 1213 were restricted to traces of unidentified charcoal, charred hazel nut shell and a few small fragments of bone, and of no interpretative value. The charred hazel nut shell would provide sufficient suitable material for radiocarbon dating of the deposit (if required) to be attempted via Accelerator Mass Spectrometry, however.

Although, sixteen trenches were excavated, very few vertebrate remains were recovered. Preservation was mostly good, so it seems likely that any bone from butchery waste and domestic refuse must have been dumped elsewhere. The small quantities recovered provided little information of interpretative value, however, the material from Context 1206 (Trench 12) suggested that antler and possibly bone working was being undertaken in the vicinity.

On the evidence of the remains reported here the deposits show very little potential for bioarchaeological investigation. Furthermore, any future interventions at this site are unlikely to encounter deposits with interpretatively valuable assemblages of biological remains;

though it would perhaps be prudent to allow for the possibility of a small number of contexts with greater concentrations of charred plant remains or bone.

12.6 Recommendations.

No further study of the biological remains reported here is warranted.

12.7 Retention and disposal.

Unless required for purposes other than the study of biological remains, the remaining unprocessed sediment from Context 1213 may be discarded.

All of the hand-collected vertebrate material should be retained for the present.

12.8 Archive.

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

12.9 Acknowledgements.

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12.10 References.

- Dobney, K., Hall, A. R., Kenward, H. K. and Milles, A. (1992). A working classification of sample types for environmental archaeology. *Circaea, the Journal of the Association for Environmental Archaeology* 9 (for 1991), 24-6.
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Table 1. Hand-collected vertebrate remains recovered from excavations at Syningthwaite Priory Farm, Bilton, North Yorkshire, by context. Key: No. frags = total number of fragments.

Context	Context type/date	No. frags	Preservation	Notes
224	fill of posthole /late 15 th century	2	Well preserved, fawn colour.	<i>Large mammal</i> : 1 x axis, unfused and porous (sub-adult) and chopped longitudinally; 1 x large mammal rib fragment (chopped).
226	fill of posthole or small pit/mid 11 th century +	2	Fair to good preservation, fawn colour.	<i>Large mammal</i> : 1 x pelvis fragment. <i>Medium-sized mammal</i> : 1 x shaft fragment.
1007	fill of pit/late 14 th century	1	Fair preservation, rather battered appearance, fresh breakage damage.	<i>Large mammal</i> : 1 x femur shaft fragment – could be young cow or cervid. Surface of bone rather battered in appearance.
1206	fill of pit/late 12 th century	14	Well preserved, fawn colour, fresh breakage damage.	<i>Red deer</i> : four fragments of antler, including tine and beam fragments (these may be the same antler as there is some fresh breakage), also two bits, one of which definitely represents antler working waste. Both knife and chop marks observed. <i>Goat</i> : first phalanx. <i>Large mammal</i> : 4 x scapula, rib and radius fragments. 1 x worked shaft fragment – blunt point. <i>Medium-sized mammal</i> : 4 x shaft, rib and vertebra fragments.

13.0 Appendix 5 ~ The Plates.



Plate 1. Trench 1 looking south. (Scale of 1m).



Plate 2. Trench 2 upon completion, looking south. (Scale of 1m & 0.5m).



Plate 3. Trench 2 north facing section through ditch [211], looking south. (Scale of 1m).



Plate 4. Trench 2, (202) prior to excavation looking southeast. (Scale of 1m).



Plate 5. Trench 2, foundation (217) prior to excavation looking south. (Scale of 1m).



Plate 6. Trench 3 looking west. (Scale of 1m).