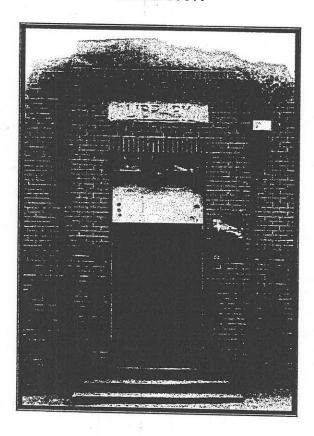
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Harrogate Borough Council
Department of Development Services

FORMER LIBRARY, SKELLGARTHS, RIPON.

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION. OSA REPORT No: OSA07EV05.

JUNE 2007.



OSA

ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY LTD

25A Milton Street • York • North Yorkshire • YO10 3EP telephone • 01904 411673 • fax • 01904 414522 • mobile • 07767 385766 e-mail • mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk © On-Site Archaeology, 2007.

Report Summary.

REPORT NO: OSA07EV05.

SITE NAME: Former Library site, Skellgarths, Ripon.

COUNTY: North Yorkshire.

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: SE 31272 71104

PLANNING APPLICATION No: Ref. 6.31.441.B.FUL 06/04096/FUL

ON BEHALF OF: Euro Audit UK

12/14 Westgate

Tadcaster LS24 9AB

TEXT: Duncan Stirk.

GRAPHICS: Marie-Claire Ferguson.

FIELDWORK: Duncan Stirk

James Stanley

TIMING: Fieldwork

12th-16th March 2007.

Post excavation & report preparation

March - June 2007.

ENQUIRIES TO: Nick Pearson

On Site Archaeology 25A Milton Street

York

YO10 3EP

tel (01904) 411673

fax (01904) 414522

mobile (07767) 385766

e-mail mail@onsitearchaeology.co.uk

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1.0 Abstract.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by On-Site Archaeology on land at the former library site along Skellgarths, Ripon, North Yorkshire. This work was required by the Senior Archaeologist of North Yorkshire County Council in order to assess the archaeological impact of the proposed construction of residential apartments. (Planning application Ref. 6.31.441.B.FUL 06/04096/FUL) The archaeological Evaluation consisted of five days on site from the 12th to 16th March, 2007, and a single day for hand backfilling on 21st March, 2007.

Archaeological cut features and deposits dating from the medieval period were sealed by make-up deposits and a sequence of 19th and 20th century structures. A moderate assemblage of finds dating from the medieval to modern periods was collected.



Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE31272 71104).

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2.0 Archaeological Background.

The site is located in the historic town of Ripon on the River Skell on the edge of the Vale of York. Ripon in the medieval period was an important ecclesiastical centre, and the town grew as a result. Its origins however date to at least the 7th century, when the Anglo-Saxon monastery was founded there by Alfrith in 657 AD. The name Ripon appears as Hripis or Hrypis by 715 AD and by the more recognizable Ripun by 1089 AD in the Domesday Book. This appears to be a 'folk name' referring to the Anglo-Saxon tribal group in the region. The early medieval focus of the town is likely to have been towards the eastern side of the cathedral, with a re-organization of the town in the late 12th and 13th century around a new market to the west. The development site is likely to be located in a part of the town reorganized during this period.

Archaeological work to the northwest of the site along High Skellgate revealed a sequence of archaeological features dating from the 11th to 15th century, with indications of smithing, butchery and pelt processing in the vicinity. Excavations at Bedern bank, to the east of the site, in 1985, revealed waterlogged deposits covering the 12th to 15th centuries. Similar deposits were also found adjacent to the development site on Skellgarths to the east. To the west of the development site along Water Skellgate, archaeological work in 2003 and 2004 revealed surviving archaeological deposits from the 13th century onwards. (The above information is drawn from the Written Scheme of Information for Archaeological Trial Trenching, prepared by the North Yorkshire County Council, Heritage Unit).

3.0 Site Location, Topography and Land Use.

The area of proposed development is within the town of Ripon, North Yorkshire, within the Borough of Harrogate, North Yorkshire. Ripon is situated on the River Skell about one mile west of its confluence with the River Ure which runs to the north of the town. It lies on the edge of the lowlands of the Vale of York with the Magnesium limestone uplands to the west.

The site is located at NGR SE 31272 71104 in the historic core of Ripon, on a plot of land fronting Skellgarths to the northeast. The site is bounded by residential properties to the northwest, southeast, and southwest. Also to the southwest is a private lane. The site is currently occupied by the disused library and associated outbuildings, on a plot of land measuring approximately 16m by 10m. The evaluation trench was located to the rear of the library, to the southwest, in the position of a flowerbed.

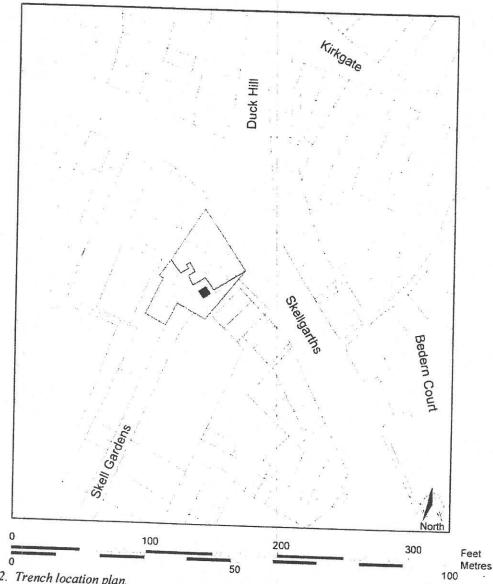


Figure 2. Trench location plan.

4.0 Methodology.

The evaluation trench was positioned to the rear (SW) of the existing library building in space probably formerly occupied by a flowerbed. The trench placement was within the footprint of the proposed development. Space restrictions, which included the need for space for spoil, necessitated a slightly smaller trench at 2 by 2m than that proposed in the brief. Once the surface was cleared of residual rose bushes and other vegetation the trench was excavated by hand to the first significant archaeological horizon. All surfaces within the trench were then cleaned by hand in order to investigate any possible archaeological features revealed through textural or colour changes in the deposits. Archaeological features were then hand excavated using stratigraphic principles to further define them and to obtain dating evidence. When the trench attained a depth of 1.2 metres a small sondage was dug in the centre of the trench to determine if the natural geology was at a level reached safely, or whether for safety reasons the trench needed to be extended or shored. In consultation with the Senior Archaeologist of North Yorkshire County Council it was decided that further excavation was not required.

Standard *On-Site Archaeology* techniques were followed throughout the evaluation. This involved the completion of a context record for each deposit or cut encountered (see Appendix 1), along with plans and/or sections drawn to scale. All pre-modern finds that were observed were collected from deposits and features. Heights of archaeological features and deposits were related to a temporary benchmark that was tied in to Ordnance Survey levels. (A BM on the east side of the obelisk monument in the market square with a value of 39.70m AOD). A full photographic record of the deposits and features was also maintained.

5.0 Results.

5.1 Trench 1.

The earliest deposit encountered during the evaluation was an orangey brown sandy gravel deposit (130) that was recorded at a depth of 1.50m below ground level (BGL) or 25.12m AOD. This deposit was very clean and may represent the geological natural on the site, although seen within the small confines of the sondage this is not certain. Deposit (130) was cut by a feature [129] which had moderate concave sides and a sloping base. Only one side of feature [129] was seen within the confines of the small sondage, on a north-south alignment, and potentially 0.17m deep. Feature [129] held a light to mid grey brown sand clay silt fill (128) that was 0.10m deep. This fill contained several fragments of medieval pottery, the latest of which dated to the late 13th to 125th century. Sealing this, and also possibly a fill within feature [129], was an orangey brown sandy gravel deposit/fill (127) that was 0.07m thick. Pottery of late 14th to 16th century date was recovered from this fill, together with earlier, medieval sherds.

Over (127) was a dark grey sandy silt deposit (126) that was seen only within the confines of the sondage measuring 0.85m by 0.45m and 0.15m thick. This contained sherds of pottery ranging in date from the 12th to 14th century. Sealing this, and present across the majority of the trench was a mixed orangey grey and greenish grey gritty silty sand deposit (125). It is possible that what has been lumped together as a single deposit (125) was in fact a number of cut feature fills. It proved impossible to define edges of potential features, and so a small sondage was excavated in the centre of deposit (125). A moderate assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered from this deposit, the latest of which dated to the late 14th to 16th century. The exception to this was a cut feature [132], which was visible in the northwest corner of the trench. Feature [132] measured over 0.82m by over 0.40m, and was left unexcavated for safety reasons. Feature [132] held a dark grey brown sandy silt and cobble fill (131).

Across the trench was a greenish brown grey sandy silt and cobble deposit (124) that was 0.15m thick. This deposit contained an assemblage of medieval pottery, together with several post-medieval sherds that are likely to date the deposit to the late 15th to mid 16th century. Like deposit (125), (124) may be a number of cut feature fills that were impossible to distinguish within the confines of the trench. Alternatively, this may be a single event of dumping to raise the ground level. Over this was a similar greenish grey sandy silt and cobble deposit (121) that was 0.20m thick. This again contained a mixture of pottery, dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods, probably before the middle of the 16th century.

Deposit (121) was cut by two cuts [120] holding a worked limestone block foundation and cobble and mortar wall (118). The cuts that were lumped together as [120] measured 0.89 by 0.46m by 0.18m deep and over 0.60m by 0.55m by 0.15m deep. The foundation and wall (118) were seen over a length of 1.60m on a southwest to northeast alignment, and were 0.42m thick and 0.50m deep. Held within the construction cut [120] was a dark grey brown sand silt fill (119), which contained finds of late 18th century date.

Over deposit (121) along the southern portion of the trench, but with an unclear relationship with foundation [120] was a dark grey brown sand silt deposit (115), that was 0.18m thick, and again contained finds dating it to the late 18th century. Also over deposit (121), was a complex structure (111) made up of dark red un-frogged bricks and light creamy brown sandy mortar forming a number of rectangular compartments. This was recorded over an area measuring 1.60m by 1.35m and was 0.38m deep. Structure (111) was also bonded to wall (118) although it appeared to be a later phase of structure. Over (115), and appearing to butt up against walls (111) and (118) on the southern side, was a mid to dark grey brown silty sand deposit (114) that was 0.25m thick. A similar deposit was recorded to the north of walls (111) and (118). Deposit (122) was a dark grey brown sand silt, which was 0.25m thick, containing finds of late 18th century date. Over this, and probably an integral part of brick structure (111) was a cobble surface set in a grey sandy silt matrix (112), that was 0.13m thick.

In the southeast corner of the trench deposit (114) was cut by a pit [117] with steep straight sides and a concave base, measuring 0.6m by 0.6m and 0.54m deep. This was filled by a brownish grey sandy silt fill (116), the only find from which was a single herd of residual, late medieval pottery. Pit [117] was sealed by a mixed mid grey sand silt and dark grey silt sand deposit (113) that abutted structure (111) to the south and was 0.15m thick. This deposit appears to be an organic levelling layer, and contained an assemblage of finds dating from the medieval period to the late 18th century.

To the north of structure (111) and completely infilling it was a light cream brown crushed sand mortar and mid grey silt sand deposit (109), that was 0.23m deep. Artefacts recovered from this context were dated to the mid 19th century.

Deposit (113) was cut by a foundation trench [108] holding a dark pink brick and cream brown sandy mortar wall on a stone slab foundation (106). Cut [108] was aligned southwest to northeast, and measured over 2.2m in length by 0.38m wide and was 0.24m deep. Wall and foundation (106) was similarly aligned and comprised no more than two courses of bricks over the stone slab foundation. Foundation trench [108] held a mixed orangey brown gravely sand and mid grey silt sand fill (107), that was 0.15m thick and dated to the mid 19th century or later.

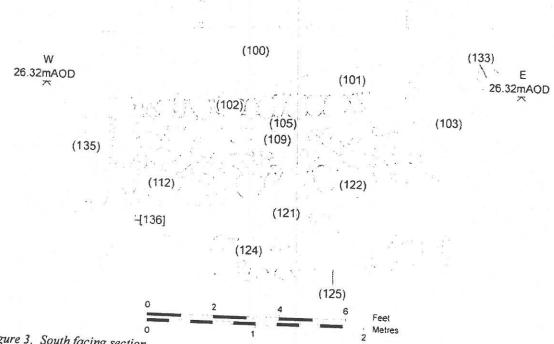
Sealing deposit (109) to the north of wall (106) was an orangey brown gravely sand deposit (105) that was 0.15m thick, again containing mid 19th century finds. A similar deposit to the south of wall (106) was yellowish brown gravely sand (110), that is likely to be part of the same event. Bedded into deposit (105) to the north of wall (106) was a 0.10m thick cobble surface in a mid to dark grey sandy silt matrix (102). Some of these cobbles are over the line of the stone foundation to wall (106) where no brick wall was present. This may indicate the presence of a threshold at this point.

Appearing to cut the cobble surface (102) were two similar foundations (135) and (133). These were seen only in the trench edges in the northwest and northeast corners. Wall (135) was a rough built brick and stone foundation bonded with light cream brown sand mortar capped with stone slab. It was held within a cut with vertical straight sides and a flat base

[136], measuring over 0.35m by over 0.30m by 0.70m deep, and was southwest to northeast aligned. Foundation (133) was a similar rough brick and stone with light cream brown sand mortar construction set within a hypothetical cut [134]. A segment measuring 0.60m long and 0.46m deep was seen within the trench, and was aligned northwest to southeast.

Also cutting surface (102) and probably cutting foundation trench [136] was a pit or large post-pit [104] that had steep irregular sides and a concave base. This was 0.76m by 0.60m in size and 0.72m deep. It held a mid to dark brown grey silty sand, mortar and cobbles fill (103), once again containing artefacts dated to the mid 19th century or later.

Pit [104] was sealed by a deposit of light grey brown silty sand and crushed light brown mortar, that was 0.18m thick at most and lensed out to the west. The trench was sealed by 0.15m to 0.34m of very dark grey organic sand silt garden soil (100). This was cut by a southeast to northwest aligned cable trench [138], containing a yellow plastic gas pipe and very dark grey sandy silt fill (137).



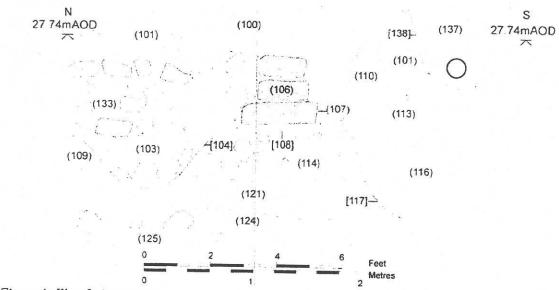


Figure 4. West facing section.

6.0 Discussion and Conclusions.

The small size of the archaeological trench precludes any detailed understanding of human activity on the site. Having said that, a few general conclusions can be drawn about this activity. Deposit (130) is probably the natural geology, although there may be an element of doubt with this interpretation because such a small area was seen. This deposit was seen at a depth of 1.50m, at 25.12m AOD. This was cut by a feature of late medieval date, which in turn was overlain by a sequence of deposits and cut features, also of medieval date. This sequence was topped by deposit (121), which was at least 0.78m deep at 27.35m AOD. Whilst the earliest archaeology, stratigraphically dates to the late medieval period, much of the pottery collected during the evaluation dates to earlier centuries. In light of the results from adjacent sites, the presence in assemblage of 12th or 13th century material is unsurprising. It should be noted that unlike the sites to the east, no waterlogged deposits were encountered within the trench.

Over the medieval remains was a complex sequence of early modern structures. Some of these probably relate to the presence at the front of the site of the Jockey and Horses public house at the front of the site. This establishment is reputed to have had an attached brewery at one time. (Pers. Comm. Local resident Mr Mackay)

A later phase of building represented by wall (106) is almost certainly an end terrace on the row of houses to the southeast, which was demolished prior to the construction of the library in the 1930's. The public house and the end terrace are visible on Ordnance Survey plans dated 1909 and 1929. The cobble surface (102) is likely to be part of a yard surface to the rear of the public house, dating from a time when beer was no longer brewed on site, but delivered from the brewery down the private lane leading from the south-west. (Pers. Comm. Local resident Mr. Mackay)

The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated that in the portion of the site to the rear of the library, archaeological deposits of medieval date lie at some depth below the modern ground surface. The top of a homogenous make-up deposit (121), dating to the early post-medieval period, is at 0.78m below the ground level. This increases to approximately 1 metre if measured from the surface of the paved area between the trench and the library. The foundations of the proposed development can therefore attain a significant depth without impacting upon the medieval deposits in the area of the trench. In light of the dramatic slope along Duck Hill to the north of the site, it is probably unwise to extrapolate this to all portions of the site. Indeed, archaeological work to the east along Skellgarths revealed surviving archaeological deposits at 1.3m depth at the street front varying to 0.6m at the rear. Almost the reverse was true at a site along Water Skellgate to the west, with deposits at 0.6m at the front and 1.36m at the rear. (The above information is drawn from the Written Scheme of Information for Archaeological Trial Trenching, prepared by the North Yorkshire County Council, Heritage Unit).

Suitable archaeological mitigation for the proposed development may be achieved by comparison of the foundations for the proposed development with the deposit depths outlined

in this report. Also important for an understanding of deposit survival on the site is the impact and depth of the library building, but this was not possible within the scope of this evaluation.

7.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts.

Context	Description	Extent	Depth
100	Very dark grey organic sand silt. Garden soil/flower bed deposit.	Trench	0.15-0.34m
101	Light grey brown silty sand and crushed light brown mortar. Make-up deposit.	>2m x >1.6m	0.18m max
102	Small and medium cobbles in mid to dark grey sandy silt matrix. Possible yard surface.	>2m x >1.45m	0.10m
103	Mid to dark brown grey silty sand, mortar and cobbles. Fill of pit or post-hole [104]	0.75m x 0.60m	0.72m
104	Steep irregular sides and concave base. Cut of pit or post-hole.	0.75m x 0.60m	0.72m
105	Orangey brown gravely sand. Bedding deposit for cobble surface (102)	Trench	0.15m
106	Dark pink un-frogged brick and creamy brown sandy mortar wall over stone foundation slabs. Wall of demolished terrace house.	>2.2m x 0.24m	0.24m
107	Mixed orangey brown gravely sand and mid grey silt sand. Fill of foundation trench [108]	>2.2m x 0.14m	0.15m
108	Moderate concave sides and flat base. Cut for SW-NE aligned foundation trench.	>2.2m x 0.38m	0.24m
109	Light cream brown crushed sandy mortar and mid grey silt sand. Demolition rubble levelling layer.	>1.45m x 1m	0.23m
110	Yellowish brown gravely sand. Levelling deposit perhaps the same as (105)	>1.2m x >0.78m	
111	Dark red un-frogged brick and very light cream brown sand mortar. Possible soak-away structure.	1.60m x 1.35m	0.38m max
112	Small and medium rounded cobbles in grey sandy silt matrix. Cobble base in structure (111)	1.6m x 0.95m	0.13m
113	Mixed mid grey sand silt and dark grey silt sand. Levelling deposit.	>2m x >1.14m	0.15m
114	Mid to dark grey brown silty sand. Dump deposit/make-up.	>2m x >c. 1m	0.15m
15	Dark grey brown sand silt. Dump deposit/make-up.	>2m x >1.4m x	0.23m
116	Mid to dark grey brown sandy silt. Fill of pit [117]	>0.6m x >0.60m	The State of the State of
	Steep straight sides and concave base. Cut of probable rubbish pit.	>0.60m x >0.60m	
	Large rounded cobbles and light cream brown sandy mortar over squared off limestone block foundation.	>1.60m x 0.42m	
119	Dark grey brown sandy silt. Fill in foundation cut [120]	>1.2m x 0.58m	0.15m
120	Moderate concave sides and flat base. Cuts for foundation (118)	>1.2m x 0.58m	0.15m
	Greenish grey sandy silt and moderate small medium and large cobbles. Make-up deposit?	Trench	0.20m
122	Dark grey brown sand silt. Dump deposit/make-up. Possibly same as (114)	>2.0m x 0.40m	0.25m
	Greenish brown grey sandy silt with frequent cobbles. Dumped deposit or lumped features.	Trench	0.15m
25	Variable orangey grey and greenish grey gritty silt sand. Lumped deposits	Trench	0.15m
26	Dark grey sandy silt. Deposit seen in sondage.	>0.85m x >0.45m	
27	Orangey brown sandy gravel. Possible fill of feature [129] or deposit sealing it.	>0.85m x >0.45m	\$
28	Light to mid grey brown sand clay silt. Fill of feature [129]	>0.85m x >0.20m	
	Moderate concave sides and sloping base. Cut of feature in sondage.	>0.85m x >0.20m	
30	Orangey brown sandy gravel. Possible geological natural deposit.	1	
31	Dark grey brown sandy silt and cobbles. Fill of un-excavated pit [132]	>0.85m x >0.45m >0.82m x >0.40m	
32	Rectangular in plan. Cut of un-excavated feature.	f	
	Rough brick and stone with light cream brown sand mortar wall.	>0.82m x >0.40m	
34	Vertical straight sides and unseen base. Construction cut for wall (133)	>0.60m x ?	>0.46m
11	Brick and stone bonded with light cream brown sand mortar capped with stone slab.		>0.46m
	/ertical straight sides and flat base. Cut for foundation (135)	>0.35m x >0.20m	
	/ery dark grey sandy silt fill and yellow plastic gas pipe. Fill of service trench [138]	>0.35m x >0.30m	
38	Moderate concave sides and flat base. Out of service trench [138]	>2.60m x 0.34m	en transport and a temperature of the same
	Moderate concave sides and flat base. Cut of modern service trench.	>2.60m x 0.34m	0.36m

8.0 Appendix 2 ~ Archive Index.

8.1 Drawing Register.

Dwg No	Description	Scale	Date	Initials
1	Pre-ex plan, cobbles (102) wall (106) service trench [138]	1:20	12-03-07	D.S.
2	Plan-Cobbles (102) pit fill (103)	1:20	12-03-07	D.S.
3	Plan-Pit [104]	1:20	12-03-07	D.S.
4	Plan-Wall (106) in cut [108]	1:20	13-03-07	J.S.
5	Plan-Mortar deposit (109)	1:20	13-03-07	D.S.
6	Plan-Levelling deposit (110)	1:20	13-03-07	J.S.
7	Plan-Structure (111) cobbles (112) deposit (113)	1:20	14-03-07	D.S.
8	Plan-Pit [117]	1:20	15-03-07	J.S.
9	Plan-Wall (118) in cut [120]	1:20	15-03-07	D.S.
10	North facing trench section	1:10	16-03-07	J.S
11	South facing trench section	1:10	16-03-07	D.S.
12	Plan-base of trench	1:20	16-03-07	D.S.
13	East facing trench section	1:10	16-03-07	D.S.
14	West facing trench section	1:10	16-03-07	J.S.

8.2 Photographic Register.

8.2	Photographic Register.				
Frame	Description	View	Scale	Date	Initials
B&W ai	nd Colour Transparency				initials
1	ID shot	N/A	N/A	12-03-07	G.J.B.
2-4	Pre-excavation shots	E	1m	12-03-07	G.J.B.
5-7	Pit [104]	Ē	0.5m, 1m	12-03-07	D.S.
8-10	Wall and foundation (106)	NE	0.5m, 1m	13-03-07	J.S.
11-13	Structure (111) cobble surface (112)	E	0.5m	13-03-07	
14-16	Structure (111) cobble surface (112)	SE	0.5m	13-03-07	D.S.
17-19	Pit [117]	SE	0.5m	14/03/07	D.S.
20-23	Wall (118)	SW	0.5m, 1m		J.S.
24-26	Deposit? (124)	E	1m	15-03-07 15-03-07	D.S.
27-29	South facing trench section	N	2 x 1m	 -	J.S.
30-32	West facing trench section	E	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
B&W an	d Colour Transparency	<u> </u>	127 1111	16-03-07	D.S.
1	ID shot	N/A	N/A	16.00.07	
2-4	Sondage and feature [129]	S	0.5m	16-03-07	D.S.
5-7	East facing trench section	W		16-03-07	D.S.
8-10	North facing trench section	S	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
B&W and	Colour Transparency	<u> </u>	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
1-10	Pre-excavation shots	Var.	T 4-		
11-13	Pit [104]	E E	1m	12-03-07	G.J.B.
14	Wall and foundation (106)	NE	0.5m, 1m	12-03-07	D.S.
15	Wall and foundation (106)	S	0.5m, 1m	13-03-07	J.S.
16-18	Structure (111) cobble surface (112)	E	1m	13-03-07	J.S.
19-21	Structure (111) cobble surface (112)	(0.5m	13-03-07	D.S.
22-24	Structure (111) cobble surface (112)	SE	0.5m	13-03-07	D.S.
25	Pit [117]	NW	0.5m	13-03-07	D.S.
26-27	Library front	SE	0.5m	14/03/07	J.S.
28-30	Wall (118)	W	-	14-03-07	D.S.
31-33	Deposit? (124)	SW	0.5m, 1m	15-03-07	D.S.
34-36	South facing trench section	E	1m	15-03-07	J.S.
7-39	West facing trench section	N	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
0-42	Sondage and feature [129]	Ε	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
3-45	East facing trench section	S	0.5m	16-03-07	D.S.
6-48	North facing trench section	W	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.
	toning action section	S	2 x 1m	16-03-07	D.S.

9.0 Appendix 3 ~ Finds Assessment Report.

Alan Vince and Kate Steane.

9.1 Summary.

A moderate collection of pottery, ceramic building material and other finds was recovered from an archaeological evaluation carried out on the site of the former library, Skellgarths, Ripon, by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd*.

The collection comes from a stratigraphic sequence which ranges in date from the later medieval period to the 19th century but it is possible that some of the finds are slightly earlier, since some of the pottery appears to be of later 12th to 13th century date.

9.2 Description.

The finds were identified and recorded by count, the number of vessels/objects represented, and weight in grams. From this data the average fragment weight (ASW) was calculated (Table 1). The record also includes evidence for use, post-burial condition and details of decoration or typology (App A).

	200				
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	α	n	IP.	1	

class	Sum of Nosh	Sum of NoV	Sum of Weight	Average of ASW
СВМ	41	41	1,717	46
CONCRETE	1	1	20	20
IRON	4	4	69	17
LEAD	2	2	14	7
PIPECLAY	6	6	30	6
POTTERY	187	179	3,098	18
STONE	1	1	3	3
Grand Total	242	234	4,951	21

9.2.1 Ceramic Building Material.

Forty-one fragments of ceramic building material were recovered. Four of these were too small to identify and the rest were tentatively divided into medieval and post-medieval/early modern.

The medieval finds consist of 27 fragments of flat roof tile and a fragment of floor tile. The fabric of these tiles was not examined in detail but ten have salt-surfacing on one or more surfaces. This indicates that the clay they were produced from was briny. This could either imply the use of Permian clay, since Permian deposits can be rich in evaporites, or that these fragments were produced from an estuarine clay. This would imply a source in the Humber wetlands. The closest such tilery known to Ripon was at Cawood, about 36 miles southeast of Ripon. Cawood is known to have supplied York but a local source cannot be discounted without analysis of the tiles.

The floor tile has glaze on both the upper and lower surfaces and has no sign of decoration. Glazed floor tiles in the medieval period were limited to ecclesiastical and seigneurial sites

except in the most prosperous towns where they were used in houses of the urban elite. A study of medieval floor tiles in the north of England has been carried out and includes a large database of chemical analyses. It would therefore be possible to compare the fabric of this tile with that of other medieval floor tiles in Northern England (Hughes 2005).

9.2.2 Concrete.

A single fragment of concrete with one flat face was recovered.

9.2.3 Iron.

Four iron objects were recorded. They consist of two nails, a pintle and an unidentified object. The latter comes from a deposit of probably early post-medieval date and should be xrayed and a conservation assessment carried out. The pintle comes from an early modern

9.2.4 Lead.

Two fragments of lead or lead alloy were recovered. One of these is a fragment of window came, probably made by hand (as opposed to using a mill, which was introduced in the postmedieval period), and the other is probably the wrapper from a wine bottle and of very recent date.

9.2.5 Clay Tobacco Pipe.

Six fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. These consist of four plain stem fragments, which from their bore diameters may include 17th/18th-century pieces; a glazed stem (a 19th-century feature) and a fragment of bowl and stem from a unmarked heeled pipe of early 18th-century date. All come from early modern deposits.

9.2.6 Pottery.

Medieval.

Eighty nine fragments of medieval pottery were recovered. These are of five types:

- Humberware (HUM)
- Brandsby-type *(BRAN)
- Unknown, probably local (MEDLOC)
- Winksley-type ware (WINK)
- Northern Gritty Ware (NGR)

Winksley-type ware was produced in the villages of Winksley and Grantley, 5-6 miles to the west of Ripon, exploiting a seam of white-firing clay exposed by the River Laver. Pottery from Lumley Farm, Grantley, is of later 12th to 13th-century character whilst that from Winksley itself is of 13th-century type (Bellamy and Le Patourel 1970). Analysis of samples

of both groups indicates the use of several fabrics which are distinguishable in thin section and through chemical analysis (Vince 2004a; Vince 2004b). It would be possible to compare the vessels from Skellgarths with those from these two kiln sites.

Thirteen sherds of Northern Gritty ware were identified. This ware was produced from clays with a low iron content (but not white-firing) and tempered with a coarse sand including sandstone fragments visible at x20 magnification. Excavations at Ingmanthorpe Manor, near Winksley, suggest that this ware was in use from the later 12th to the 14th century and analysis of the fabric suggests one or more sources using mudstones of Upper Millstone Grit age which outcrop to the south of Harrogate (Vince 2005).

Sixteen sherds of Brandsby-type ware were present. This ware was produced from the late 13th to the 15th centuries in a number of villages on the west side of the Hambleton Hills, about 25 miles east of Ripon.

Thirty-three sherds of Humberware were recorded. This ware was produced from the late 14th to the early 16th centuries at a number of sites in the Humber wetlands and the Humber estuary (Hayfield 1992). The closest known source to Ripon is York, c.28 miles to the southeast of Ripon. One sherd comes from a small bottle with a baluster base. This form is probably of later 14th to early 15th century date. A single sherd with a purple glaze (overfired iron-rich slip) is probably of early 16th century date.

A single sherd, from a jug or bowl, could not be matched visually with any of the other wares and is coded as MEDLOC.

Post-medieval.

Forty-two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered. These represent no more than 38 vessels and have an average sherd weight of 22 gm (Table 2).

cname	Form	NoSH	NoV	Weight	ASW
BERTH	JAR	2	2	4	2
BL	BOWL	1	1	5	5
The property of the community of the community of	JAR	3	3	10	3
# 1 155M F	PANC	5	5	156	31
CSTN	CUP	4	3	8	2
GRE	BOWL	2	2	30	15
E.	BOWL/JAR	2	2	18	9
	JAR	2	2	9	5
MY	JAR	2	2	17	9
RYEDALE	BOWL	8	7	261	33
	BOWL/JUG	3	3	15	5
	JUG	8	7	355	44
	JUG/BOWL	1	1	4	4
SLIP	PANC	1	1	68	68
STMO	CUP	2	1	5	3
	TANK	1	1	8	8
TGW	BOWL	1	1	9	9
Grand Total	*	42	38	925	22

Nine types were present. The most common is Ryedale ware, produced in the same area of the North Yorkshire Moors as Brandsby-type ware, from the late 15th to the 17th centuries. The sherds represent the typical range of forms (bowls and jugs) found in this ware. The next most common group consists of vessels probably made from Coal Measures red- and white-firing clays. These consist of Blackwares (BL); Cistercian ware (CSTN); Brownware (BERTH); and Midlands Yellow ware (aka Reversed Cistercian ware, MY). There was a wide range of sources for these wares in the later 16th and 17th centuries and the blackware was also produced throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Nevertheless, there are types present which are predominantly later 16th to mid 17th century in date.

Six sherds of glazed red earthenware, plain lead-glazed vessels produced in sandy earthenwares. This type was produced over a wide area and without analysis cannot be sourced.

There are examples of two Staffordshire-type wares, Mottled ware (STMO) and an unsourced slipware (SLIP). These are of later 17th to 18th-centurydate. A single sherd of an internally-decorated tin-glazed ware (TGW) bowl was present. This is also likely to be of later 17th to mid 18th century date.

Early Modern.

Forty-nine sherds of later 18th-century or later date were recovered (Table 3). Most of these are factory products which were produced in several centres throughout midland and northern England. These include Creamware (CREA); Miscellaneous stoneware (ENGS); Pearlware (PEAR); Transfer-printed ware (TPW) and Miscellaneous refined whiteware (WHITE). Three types which have a more discrete source are Nottingham stoneware (NOTS); Derbyshire stoneware (DERBS) which produced mostly blackleading bottles and inkwells at Codnor Park, 92 miles south of Ripon and Sunderland Coarseware (SUND) which was exported alongside refired whitewares from Sunderland, 62 miles north of Ripon. Table 3.

cname	Form	NoSH	NoV	Weight	ASW
CREA	BOWL	2	2	28	14
	PLATE	2	2	12	6
DERBS	BLACKING BOTTLE	1	1	39	39
ENGS	BOT	1 .	1	68	68
	JAR	1	1	12	12
NOTS	JAR	4	4	16	4
PEAR	BOWL	8	8	39	4
100 0 000	JUG	2	2	10	5
	PLATE	4	4	11	3
SUND	PANC	1	1	85	85
TPW	JUG	1	1	4	4
	PLATE	19	18	182	11
	TANK	1	1	3	3
WHITE	BOWL	2	2	6	3
Grand Total		49	48	515	11

These wares include examples of late 18th to early 19th-century date and wares of 19th century or later date. Two of the Pearlware sherds have sponged decoration which is probably of mid 19th century or later date.

9.2.7 Stone.

A single slate pencil was recovered. These pencils were used for writing on slates and were used mostly in schools. Archaeological examples mostly come from late 18th and 19th century deposits.

9.3 Assessment.

9.3.1 Stratigraphy.

The earliest stratified finds come from the fill of F129 (contexts 127 and 128). This produced a small assemblage of pottery, mostly of late medieval date (Brandsby-type and Humberware) but including two Northern Gritty ware sherds and two Winksley-type ware sherds. The latter may be contemporary, indicating perhaps a transitional date in the mid/late 14th century, or may be residual.

This feature was sealed by a layer of silt, 126, and, over that, a sandy layer, 125. Most of the finds from 126 are of Winksley-type ware and Northern Gritty ware but a single fragment of post-medieval pantile was also recovered. This is interpreted as being intrusive. The assemblage from 125 is similar to that from the fill of F129.

Together, these deposits suggest that there was occupation on the site in the later 12th to early 14th centuries but that the earliest stratigraphy is actually of late 14th to 15th-century date, unless F129 actually cuts through layer 126.

Layer 125 was overlain by two successive layers of silt and cobbles, 124 and 121. Both produced mixed assemblages which include early post-medieval pottery. Context 124 produced 7 sherds of Ryedale ware and a group of 21 sherds of medieval and late medieval date and context 121 produced two sherds of Ryedale ware and a sherd of Cistercian ware together with 13 sherds of late medieval date. The difference in composition of the two assemblages confirms that they are successive and not parts of the same ground-raising episode but their date, as given by the latest pottery present is within the same bracket, being at the earliest late 15th century and, given the absence of late 16th-century or later types, neither deposit is likely to be much later than the mid 16th century.

All deposits later than context 121 have produced fragments of late 18th-century or later date although mainly associated with earlier medieval and post-medieval finds. Table 4 lists the latest types in each context in stratigraphic order (115 is the earliest and 103 the latest deposit). Assuming that none of these sherds is intrusive, then context 115 must be of late 18th century date or later; and context 109 (and all later deposits) ought to date to the mid 19th century or later.

7	7	7			
- 1	0	7	la	4	

Context	CREA	DERBS	ENGS	NOTS	PEAR	SUND	TPW	WHITE	Grand Total
115					1	- Liverina	1		2
119	•	State of a	1	1	1		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1	2
122	2				2	and		1	4
113	1	1		2	3	+	2	<u> </u>	8
109	1	1	1	1	6	1	15	1	27
107					1		-	1	2
105		1		1		1	1		1
103			1	-	 -	1	2	1	3

9.4 Interpretation.

There is clearly activity on or near the site in the late 12th to early 14th century period but apparently no deposits of that date. Late medieval activity is represented by a feature (129) and horizontal deposits. Late 15th to mid 16th century activity consists of two successive deposits. Post-medieval activity is represented by pottery of this date from the later stratigraphy, but this is associated with later pottery and other finds. This post-medieval material is concentrated in contexts 122 and 113, both of which contained Staffordshire-type mottled ware vessels, which are of late 17th or 18th century date. These deposits might therefore be of post-medieval date with intrusive later finds, but even so there is evidence for activity in the later 16th to mid 17th centuries which is only represented by what must be residual pot sherds.

9.5 Further Work.

The finds include a moderate-sized collection of medieval pottery from which it is possible to sketch the pattern of pottery supply in later medieval Ripon. The status of the earlier medieval pottery on the site cannot be established without scientific comparison of this pottery with reference material from the North Yorkshire Moors, Winksley and Grantley kilns. It is recommended that three vessels are drawn and that the glazed floor tile and seven sherds of putative Winksley-type ware are analysed.

9.6 Total cost.

Illustrations: 3 @ £20.00 = £60.00 plus VAT

Thin sections and ICPS (Inductively-Coupled Plasma Spectroscopy) analyses: 8 @ £50.00 = £400.00 plus VAT

Report production included in these costs.

A single object should be submitted for x-ray and a conservation assessment. The x-ray and object should then be returned to the authors for re-assessment (re-assessment: 1 hour @ £25.00 plus VAT).

9.7 Retention.

All the finds come from a stratified excavation and should be retained for potential reexamination and future study. It is recognised that without treatment the remaining metal finds will deteriorate but since these are either nails or from late 18th-century or later deposits little of archaeological potential will be lost.

9.8 Bibliography.

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9.9 Appendix A.

Conte xt	class	Acti on	cna me	subfa bric	For m	Descri ption	Part	Nos h	NoV	Weigh t	Condi tion	Use	drawing no
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103	POTTE RY		GRE	17	JAR	-	R	1	1	2			0
103	POTTE RY		TP W		PLA TE	and a second sec	R	1	1	5			0
105	POTTE RY		TP W	And the Control of th	PLA TE		BS	1	1	6			0
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107	POTTE		PEA		во	SPON	BS	1	1	4		1	0

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109	POTTE		BL		PAN		BS	1	1	5		+	0
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109	POTTE RY	and the second second	ENG S		JAR		BS	1	1	12			0
109	POTTE RY	The state of the s	MY		JAR		BS	1	1	3	and the same of th		0
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113	POTTE RY		BL		PAN C		BS	1	1	47		*************	0
113	POTTE RY		BRA N		JUG		BS	1	1	23		fra radiourt or a com	0
113	СВМ		CB M		?	FRAG	BS	1	1	3			0
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	СВМ		MTI	and the same of th	FLA T	Action of Street, or S	BS	2	2	117	SALT SURF ACIN		0
121	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	9	G		0
121	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	96	State of the state		0
121	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	4	4	100	SALT SURF ACIN	•	0
121	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	A resistantina de la constantina del constantina de la constantina del constantina de la constantina del constantina	To describe the second property of the second secon	100	SALT SURF ACIN G ON ALL SURF ACES		0
121	POTTE RY	and the same state of the same	RYE DAL E	and the state of t	BO WL/ JUG	GLAZ ED INT/E XT	BS	1	1	8			0
121	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E	The state of the s	BO WL	The state of the s	R	1	1	49	ABRA		0
122	POTTE RY	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	CRE A		PLA TE	FOOT RING	В	1	1	6			0
122	POTTE RY	-	HU M		JUG /JAR		В	1	1	99		; 1	0
122	POTTE RY	ment all man and a second deposits in the following of the deposits	STM O		TAN K	HORI Z GROO VES BY BASE	В	1	The grant curves character and the mount of many	8	en la constant en	Contract and a company of the state of	0
22	POTTE RY		BER TH		JAR	DI IOC	BS	1	1	3	Street Control		0
22	POTTE RY		BL		PAN C		BS	1	1	12		- 1	0
4.4	POTTE RY		BL	THE RESERVE STREET	BO WL		BS	1	1	5		!	0
22	СВМ		CB M		?	FRAG	BS	1	1	3			0
1	POTTE RY		CRE A		BO WL		BS	1	1	10	* ** ** ** ** *** ** ** ** ** ** ** **		0
	POTTE RY		CST N	Harris some sergendinuterrates sea inter-	CUP	WHIT E BLOB DEC EXT	BS	2	1	4	A section of the sect		0
22	POTTE RY		CST N		CUP	the state of the state of the	BS	1	1	2	4		0
The state of the s	POTTE RY		GRE	1	BO WL/ JAR	GLAZ E INT/E XT	BS	2	2	18	100 mm		0
	POTTE RY		HU M		JUG		BS	1	1	17	100	1	0

Conte ĸt	class	Acti on	cna me	subfa bric	For m	Descri ption	Part	Nos h	NoV	Weigh t	Condi	Use	drawing no
122	IRON		IRO N		PIN TLE	. Section .	BS	1	1	27		* C	0
122	СВМ	TS;I CPS	MTI L		FLO OR	GLAZ ED TOP/B OTTO M	BS	4	1	100		TOP SHO WS SO ME WE ARI NG	0
122	CBM	And and the second second	MTI L		FLA T	And the second of the second o	BS	3	3	108	SALT SURF ACIN G		0
122	POTTE RY		NG R	And the state of t	JAR	THE PARTY OF THE P	BS	1	1	11		SO OTE D EXT	O
122	POTTE RY		PEA R	-	BO WL		BS	1	1	3			0
122	POTTE RY		PEA R	Approximation and management and property between 1885.	BO WL	BLUE INDU ST SLIP EXT	BS	1	1	2		a province of the province of	0
122	СВМ	1	PMT IL		PAN T	1	BS	2	2	43			0
122	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E		JUG	GLAZ E INT/E XT	BS	1	1	31	And the second s	A second	0
122	POTTE RY	entage of the contract of the contract of	RYE DAL E		BO WL		BS	1	1	4		Column to Associate the control of t	0
122	POTTE	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O	TGW		BO L	MAUV E BACK GROU ND; GREY HORI Z BAND SINT		And the Company of th	erice country (much benneum; er "coller venaut i), den 1965 (\$1885), dissertions	9	ABRA; GLAZ E FLAK ED	the state with more requirements of the contract of the contra	0
124	POTTE RY		BRA N		JUG		В	1	1	69			0
124	POTTE RY		NG R		JAR	SPOT OF GLAZ E INT	В	1	1	6		SO OTE D EXT	
124	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E		JUG	STAC KING SCAR ON BASE	В	1	1	86	CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF	The Beautiful Common Co	0
124	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E		JUG	THUM BED BASE	В	2	1	168	C. C	THI CK CRE AM DEF INT	i
124	POTTE RY	TS;I CPS		-	JUG	THUM BED BASE	-	1	1	43			0
124	POTTE RY	TS;I CPS			JUG		В	1	1	46			0

xt	class	Acti	cna me	subfa bric	For m	Descri ption	Part	Nos h	NoV	Weigh	Condi	Use	drawing
124	POTTE RY		BRA N	The state of the s	JUG	HAND LE THUM BING	BS	1 1	1	10	over the second	100 C	no
124	POTTE RY		BRA N		JUG		BS	3	3	36			0
124	POTTE RY	The second secon	BRA N		JUG	WAVY COMB ED DEC	BS	1	1	33	The state of the s	A	0
124	POTTE RY	And the form of the first of th	HU M		JUG /JAR		BS	5	5	93	SLIGH TLY ABRA		Ō
124	POTTE RY	And the Control of th	HU M	**************************************	JUG	GLAZ ED INT/E XT	BS	1	1	9	ABIVA		0
124	POTTE RY	A Company of the Comp	HU M		JUG	WAVY LINE DEC	BS	1	1	9			0
124	IRON	-	IRO N	The second of the second of the second	NAI L		BS	1	1	21		eration, with the	0
124	IRON		IRO N		OBJ ECT		BS	1	1	11			0
124	POTTE RY		ME DLO C	er i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	JUG /BO WL	GLAZ E INT/E XT	BS	1	1	9	en participant de la company d	~ ■	Ō
124	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	8	The state of the s	- (h- ad (h - 1)) (a)	0
124	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	27			0
124	СВМ	† ·	MTI L		FLA T		BS	3	3	247			0
124	POTTE RY	And the second s	NG R	Mallar (NV) the Paint and Care	JUG	HORI Z COMB ED LINES	BS	1	1	6	The set of Congress of Conference of Congress of Congr	The state of the s	Ô
124	CBM		PMT IL		BRI CK		BS	1	1	50			0
124	СВМ	-	PMT IL		BRI CK		BS	1	1	206	ABRA		0
124	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E		BO WL/ JUG	GLAZ ED INT/E XT	BS		1	5	-		0
124	POTTE RY		RYE DAL E		JUG /BO WL	GLAZ E INT/E XT	BS	1	1	4	7 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 -		0
124	POTTE RY	A Contract of the Contract of	RYE DAL E		JUG		BS	1	1	15	GLAZ E FLAKI NG		0
124	POTTE RY	to any water of the state of th	RYE DAL E		JUG	HAND LE SCAR	BS	4	1	38	GLAZ E FLAKI NG		0
124	POTTE RY		WIN K	or the Control of Control	JAR		BS	3	3	31	0.00 \$11.00.00	• 9 17 Marin 101 1	0
125	POTTE RY	DR; TS;I CPS	WIN K		JUG	TWIS TED ROD HAND	Н	2	1	81			2

Conte xt	class	Acti on	cna me	subfa bric	For m	Descri ption	Part	Nos h	NoV	Weigh t	Condi tion	Use	drawing no
						LE 23 DIA				1			
125	POTTE RY	DR	HU M	a to a saw	BAL LAS TER BOT TLE		В	1	1	149			1
125	POTTE RY	No. of the last of	BRA N	The second se	JAR	•	В	1	1	39		SO OTE D EXT	0
125	POTTE RY		BRA N	newig T	JUG		BS	2	2	3			0
125	POTTE RY		BRA N		JAR		BS	2	2	10			0
125	POTTE RY		HU M		JUG /JAR		BS	2	2	11			0
125	POTTE RY		HU M		JUG /JAR		BS	1	1	21			0
125	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	52			0
125	СВМ		MTI		FLA T		BS	1	1	15	ABRA		0
125	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	5	5	109	Start Conference of the Confer	discussion of the same of the	0
125	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T	17 17 2 1	BS	1	1	47	ABRA		0
125	POTTE RY		NG R	ļ	JUG		BS	1	1	5		<u> </u>	0
125	POTTE RY	ļ	NG R		JAR		BS	1	1	2			0
125	POTTE RY	TS;I CPS	WIN K	The state of the s	JAR	And the second control	BS	1	ne a superior a constitue film.	13	· Company	SO OTE D EXT	0
125	POTTE RY		WIN K		JUG	RST DEC	BS	1	1	9			0
125	POTTE RY		WIN K		JUG		BS	1	1	3	4 To 10 To 1		0
126	POTTE RY		NG R		JUG		В	1	1	39	-		0
126	POTTE RY	and the second property and the second secon	WIN K		BO WL	KNIFE TRIM MED EXT	В	Manufaction states and	The state of the s	6	A PRINCIPLE ALLEGO	A production of the second	0
126	СВМ		CB M		?	FRAG	BS	1	1	2	The second second	South Comprosite	0
126	СВМ		MTI L		FLA T		BS	1	1	28			0
126	POTTE		NG R	And a lip-approximate place and to an	JAR	A CONTRACTOR CONTRACTO	BS	2	2	6		SO OTE D EXT	
126	POTTE RY		NG R		JUG		BS	1	1	4	BURN T		0
126	POTTE		NG R		JUG		BS	1	1	7		-	0
126	POTTE RY		NG R		JUG		BS	1	1	2	ABRA		0
126	СВМ		PM7		PAN T		BS		1	30	- A		0
126	POTTE		WIN		JUG /JAR			1	1	4		SO	

Conte xt	class	Acti	cna me	subfa bric	For m	Descri ption	Part	Nos h	NoV	Weigh t	Condi	Use	drawin
126	POTTE		WIN						The state of the s	gles confirmed a large	New York Control of the Control of t	D EXT	
B. 8 4	RY	The second second second	K	And the second of the second o	JUG /JAR	SPOT OF GLAZ E EXT	BS	1	1	24	ABRA		0
126	POTTE RY		WIN K		JAR		BS	4	3	12	And the second s	SO OTE D EXT	0
126	POTTE RY	TS;I CPS	WIN K		JUG	HAND LE SCAR	BS	1	1	19	N. October 1 - Action		0
126	POTTE RY		WIN K	The second second second second second	JUG	ta mara timor a di maja .	BS	2	2	3			0
126	POTTE RY	The state of the s	WIN K	The second second	JUG		R	1	1	3			0
126	POTTE RY	100 100 100	WIN K	erone de la composición dela composición de la composición de la composición de la composición de la composición dela composición dela composición dela composición de la composición dela composición de la composición dela composición de	JUG		R	1	1	7	ABRA	ananya dan biganya	0
127	POTTE RY	** 045/5 2 1 · •	HU M	**************************************	JAR		BS	1	1	3		Parameter State of the Con-	0
127	POTTE RY	ii e	HU M	The state of the s	JAR	erior di anagemente i richinana i depopularia, anche	BS	TO DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	1	1	and posterior to any other than the second	SO OTE D EXT	0
127	POTTE RY		WIN K		JUG	1	BS	2	2	22		EAI	0
128	POTTE RY	- 12 142	BRA N		JUG		BS	2	2	3			0
28	POTTE RY	and the movest parties	NG R		JAR		BS	2	1	33		-	0
28	POTTE RY	To the common types of the complete management o	WIN K?		JUG		BS	1	1	9	ABRA; GLAZ E FLAK ED	The state of the s	0

10.0 Appendix 4 ~ The Plates.

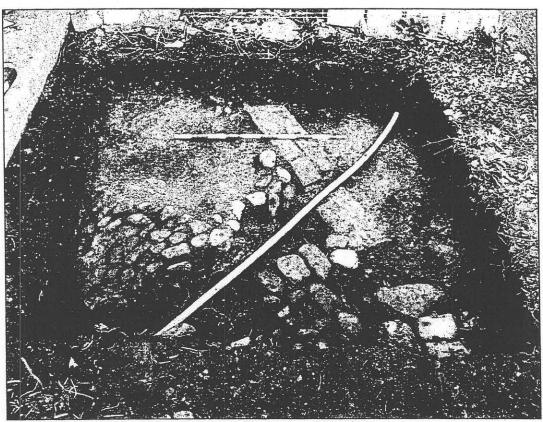


Plate 1. Wall (106) & cobble surface (102), facing east. (Scale of 1m).

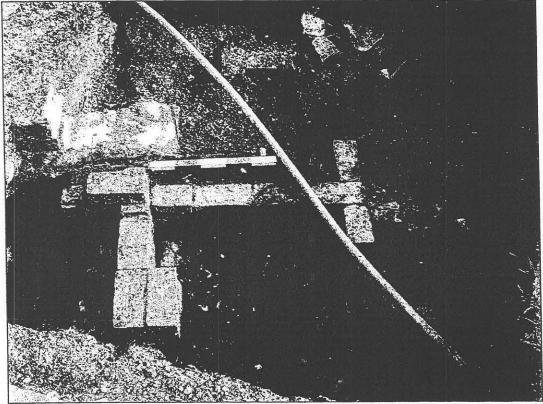


Plate 2. Structure (111) & cobble surface (112), facing southeast. (Scale of 0.5m).



Plate 3. Wall (118) facing southwest. (Scale of 1m & 0.5m).

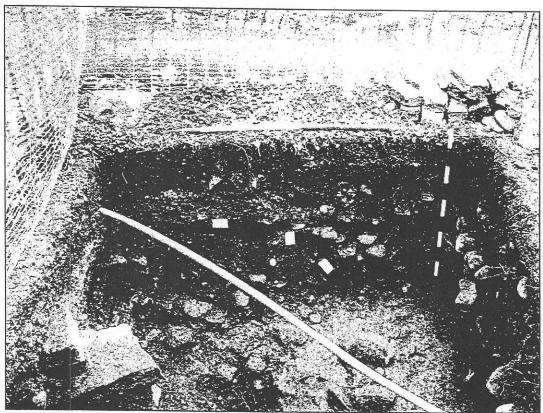
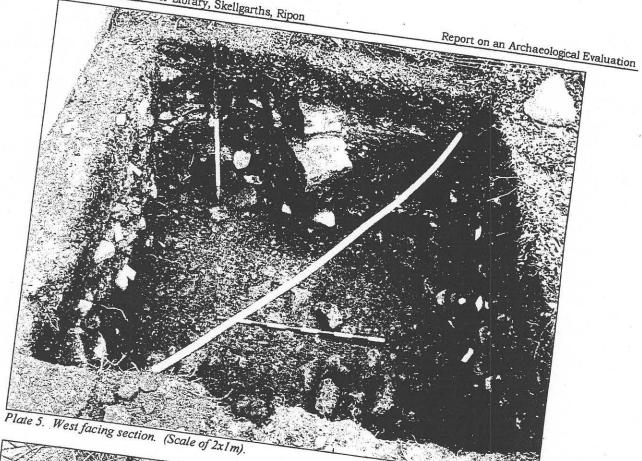


Plate 4. North facing section. (Scale of lm).





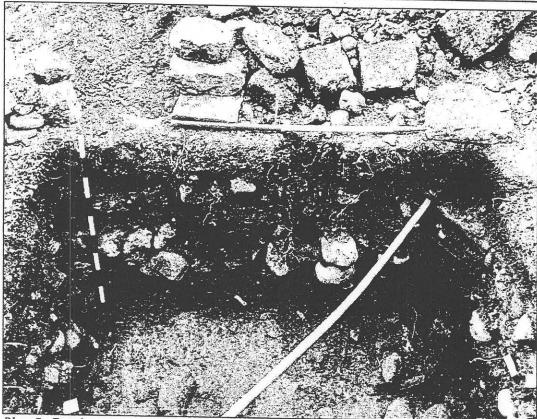


Plate 7. East facing section. (Scale of 2 x Im).

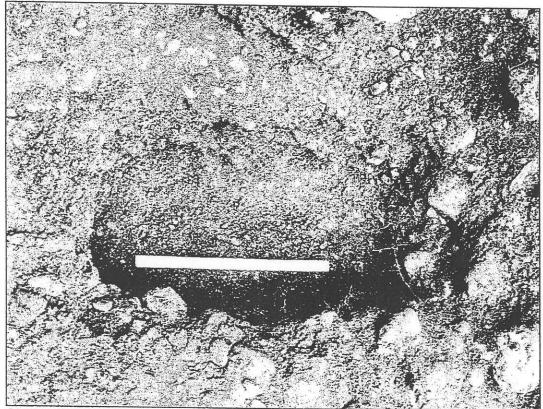


Plate 8. Sondage showing natural (130), cut by [129]. (Scale of 0.5m).