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NYCC HER	
SNY	11982
ENY	4189
CNY	
Parish	8019
Rec'd	7 1998

**SELBY 1996**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT**

**OF WORK IN**

**SELBY, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**FOR**

**YORKSHIRE WATER**

VOLUME ONE

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**AUGUST 1998**

PARISH 8019  
E 4189  
S 11982  
(3 VOLS)

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## SELBY 1996

### INTRODUCTION

This report is a record of archaeological works carried out in Selby, North Yorkshire in 1996 for Yorkshire Water. It is divided into sections covering a watching brief in Church Avenue, Abbey Place and Market Place, and excavation in Abbey Place and Church Avenue, a watching brief in Micklegate and Finkle Street, a watching brief in Abbey Yard and a watching brief in Market Place, the Crescent and New Street.

1.1 As part of an ongoing programme of renewal, Yorkshire Water inserted new water mains in several parts of the historic core of Selby town during the course of 1996 (plan 3).

1.2.1 The first of these was a continuation of the new main laid in 1995, which ran up Church Hill and Church Lane to Church Avenue (plan 4). At this point, a route had to be found around the area of the Cholera Burial Ground to the north of the Abbey Church. A number of trial holes were hand excavated in late 1995 to determine the best route for the new main through Church Avenue and Abbey Place (see Selby 1995 report).

1.2.2 After consultation with North Yorkshire County Heritage Unit, it was agreed that the Cholera Burial Ground should be avoided as far as possible. The pathway in front of the houses on Church Avenue was used, but the existence of other services along its route made small incursions into the burial ground inevitable.

1.2.3 In Abbey Place, human skeletons were reported to have been found when a new gas main was laid along the path to the west of the Cholera Burial ground, and part of one skeleton was located in one of the trial holes excavated in 1995 by Yorkshire Water. It therefore seemed certain that human remains would be encountered in this area, although it was unclear whether these were associated with the Cholera Burial Ground or with earlier burials. It was agreed that the whole of the trench would be hand dug, and that as soon as any human remains were encountered, these would be hand excavated by archaeologists. Any burials would be entirely excavated and lifted, even if this meant extending the trench required for the water main. A licence from the Home Office for the removal of human remains was sought and granted.

1.2.4 The new water main extended westwards through the Market Place to the junction with Finkle Street (plan 11). The section beyond Abbey Place was machine dug under archaeological supervision.

1.3 The second major project was to renew the water main running the length of Micklegate and Finkle Street. This was achieved by the 'bursting' method, where holes were dug onto the main at intervals, and new sections of plastic pipeline were pushed through the existing cast iron pipe. This work was undertaken under archaeological supervision, as was the hand digging of over 50 small trenches across Micklegate and Finkle Street to connect services to the new main (plans 12 and 13).

1.4 The third piece of work was to lay a further new main in Abbey Yard, to the south of the Abbey Church (plan 14). This was open cut by machine under archaeological supervision, and stretched from James

Street to Park Street Several hand-dug trial holes in James Street and Back Park Lane were excavated in association with this part of the work

1 5 The final part of work in Selby was to renew the main from Market Place along The Crescent and New Street to the corner of Ousegate (plan 15) This was done by 'bursting', and also involved a number of small, hand-dug service connection holes, all of which were archaeologically observed and recorded

1 6 The whole operation took place between February 1996 and November 1996, with the majority of the work in the first half of the year

## CHURCH AVENUE, ABBEY PLACE AND MARKET PLACE - WATCHING BRIEF

2 1 The trench (T1) for a new main along Church Avenue and Abbey Place was hand excavated, by staff of Kentons, the contractors for Yorkshire Water, or by archaeologists

2 2 The initial section of trench, stretching westwards from the end of Church Lane (plate 1, plan 4) was between 30cm and 50cm wide, and up to 90cm deep. It ran from north-east of the iron railings at the end of Church Lane, beneath the railings and across to the tarmac footpath on the north side of the Cholera Burial Ground. The trench was positioned at the very edge of the tarmac next to the Burial Ground in order to avoid other services in the footpath, and for 18 metres, in front of 17-21 Church Avenue, it encroached into the Burial Ground because the footpath had no room remaining in it.

2 3 The majority of the east-west section of T1 was fairly uneventful archaeologically. The ground make-up consisted of disturbed brown stony loams, silts and clays beneath the tarmac, containing 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and animal bone fragments with occasional fragments of earlier medieval pottery. There was evidence of former ground surfaces in places, which were all relatively modern and did not predate the Burial Ground or the nineteenth century houses on Church Avenue. Various services were encountered running parallel to and crossing the line of T1, and deviations in the course of T1 were made to accommodate these.

2 4 At the eastern end of T1, north of the railings at the end of Church Lane, a brick lined culvert was encountered running east-west across the trench at a depth of 60cm to 127cm below the surface. This culvert was presumed to contain Church Beck, which is known to have been culverted when the old people's homes were built in Church Lane in the early 1970's. An electricity cable also crossed the line of the trench at a depth of 70cm. The water main was laid above these disturbances, and the trench was then deepened to run beneath the stone foundations of the railings.

2 5 In the central part of Church Avenue, T1 was diverted around existing services to run just within the area of the Cholera Burial Ground. In this area a layer of crushed limestone was encountered at a depth of 54cm to 58cm below the surface. This contained several fragments of disturbed human bone (including skull fragments and jawbone from an adult and part of a juvenile pelvis) as well as animal bone fragments, and probably represents the disturbed edges of the burial area. Further fragmentary human bone from the immediate area came from two adults and three different children. Pottery from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century was also found, indicating a high degree of disturbance.

2 6 The western end of the east-west section of T1 in Church Avenue contained evidence of discarded iron railings which are known to have surrounded the Cholera Burial Ground at one time. A coin of 1899 was also recovered at a depth of c 35cm, proving disturbance in this area after the establishment of the Burial Ground.

2 7 T1 turned south at the western end of Church Avenue, continuing to run near to the edge of the Cholera Burial Ground (plate 2). A gas main and services ran erratically alongside and mainly to the west of T1, crossing to the east in places, at depths between 30 and 50cm. The trench was 70cm deep and 30cm wide on average. The soils encountered

were largely disturbed brown loams, silts and clays containing animal bone fragments and predominantly post-medieval and modern pottery and tile, but with an occasional fragment of human bone in disturbed contexts

2 8 From approximately 5 metres south of the wall of Abbey Vicarage (Nursery) a layer of crushed white limestone was revealed towards the base of the trench at 65cm below the surface. In this layer a dog burial was cut at 11.5 metres south of the Nursery wall (plate 3), and southwards from this point both disarticulated human bone and articulated human skeletons were encountered (plan 5)

2 9 A description of the excavation of the human skeletons is in the next section of this report. They extended from half way down the west side of the Cholera Burial Ground to half way along Abbey Place. T1 was extended in a number of places in order to excavate fully the articulated skeletons, and its depth was kept to a maximum of 70cm to disturb as few as possible. The gas main had previously damaged a high proportion of the burials, and other disturbances had also occurred

2 10 The human skeletal material gradually diminished towards the western end of Abbey Place (plate 4), and none was encountered more than 18 metres from the eastern end of the trench. Beyond the human skeletons in Abbey Place, T1, which continued to be hand-dug by the contractors, was between 22cm and 30cm wide, and an average of 70cm deep. Stone flags rested on a bed of concrete and limestone hardcore to a depth of c 20cm, below which were black and brown sandy silts and loams containing a wide range of finds. These included brick and tile fragments, animal bone, shell, charcoal, slag, iron objects, clay pipes, lead fragments, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century glass and pottery ranging from 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century, with a high degree of mixing. Below c 50cm, cleaner brown sands were revealed. A number of services crossed T1 at various points, and the old water main was revealed running alongside on the south side of T1 between 18 and 23 metres from the eastern end of the trench

2 11 At the western end of Abbey Place the trench was excavated beneath the railings set in concrete, which form the entrance to the Market Place. Below the modern settings of the railings, two courses of dressed limestone blocks, 54cm high and 80cm wide, were revealed following the same line as the railings (plate 5). The total length of these foundations was not revealed, but their size indicates a substantial wall. The trench was cut beneath the foundations

2 12 Subsequently, a number of service connections were made in Abbey Place and Church Avenue. Three in Abbey Place were over the new water main, extending northwards. The soils encountered were the same as those in the main trench, with disturbance from existing services

2 13 The first in Church Avenue, outside No 6, encountered the gas main, old water main, an electric cable, a drain and water service pipes, as well as heavily disturbed human bone which was returned to the fill. A second hole, in the north-west corner of Church Avenue in the footpath, was full of existing service pipes and stop taps in a mixed mortary stony sand. Two more along the northern part of Church Avenue encountered the same soils as in the main trench

2 14 Beyond Abbey Place the trench, now designated T4, crossed an area of paving and then ran along the edge of the access road in front of and parallel to the buildings on the north side of Market Place as far as Finkle Street (plan 11). It continued to be cut approximately 35cm to



40 cm wide, and was gradually deepened to between 100cm and 120cm. From c 6 metres west of Abbey Place it was cut by machine.

2 15 The eastern end of T4 cut through brick paving and limestone hardcore beneath the stone paving on the surface, and into light brown stony loam much disturbed by modern services. Beyond the paving, tarmac directly overlaid a cobbled surface which extended over the whole length of the trench, interrupted by one small area of brick paving outside the Londesbrough Arms Hotel. These cobbles lay over brown and orange silty sands and sandy loams which were disturbed in various places by modern services both crossing and running alongside T4.

2 16 Towards the western end of the Londesborough Arms, layers of dark grey to black organic silty clay was encountered from 57cm below the surface, to the base of the trench at 100cm. These intermittent layers contained wood, animal bone, and pottery ranging from the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. They were separated in places by a stony layer, and came down onto orange-brown sand at around 100cm below the surface. At several points outside the Halifax Building Society large stones were noted in the south-facing section of T4, one of them, at a depth of c 100cm, being dressed and apparently in association with a piece of shaped wood.

2 17 T4 turned south-west at its western end, where the same layers of cobbled surface, orange sand and brown silty clays occurred down to depths of 60cm, with brown to black organic silty clay beneath. Half way along this section of T4, two large dressed limestone blocks lay at a depth of 102cm below the surface, with a substantial timber beam immediately to the south at the same depth, running north-west to south-east. To the west of this feature, the dark silt became more organic, and a layer of crushed limestone occurred between the organic layer and the silts and clays above.

2 18 T4 ended at a valve immediately to the north-west of the paved central area of Market Place, opposite the end of Finkle Street. Several service connections to properties along Market Place (involving ground disturbance up to c 55cm) were subsequently made without any archaeological discoveries of note.

2 19 A short length of trench (T3) was machine cut from the end of Finkle Street to the same valve junction. The north-western end was dug without archaeological observation, but appeared to contain disturbed orange and brown sands and silty clays similar to those at the western end of T4, though with a layer of brick rather than cobbles beneath the tarmac.

2 20 Below the silty clays and sands was a layer of crushed limestone, similar to that observed in the western end of T4, which stretched for c 5m westwards from the south-east end of T3. Beneath this was more brown silty sand, but from 87cm below the surface to the base of the trench at 107cm was a layer of black organic silt containing wood, animal bone and leather together with pottery ranging from medieval to post-medieval.

## ABBEY PLACE AND CHURCH AVENUE - EXCAVATION OF HUMAN SKELETONS

3 1 The area within which human skeletal material was found has been defined above, stretching from half way down the western side of Church Avenue to half way along Abbey Place (plan 5) It was almost entirely outside the area of the Cholera Burial Ground, although it encroached on it in places

3 2 All the articulated skeletons were aligned east - west Twelve skeletons were lifted, with as many again fully or partially exposed but left in situ In addition a number of disarticulated human bones were recovered, representing at least seven adults and eight children All of the human bones are considered in the attached report on the human skeletal material None of the burials were confined and associated finds were scarce

3 3 1 In Abbey Place, two fairly complete skeletons were revealed, and the skulls of two more (plates 6, 7, plan 7) The first to be excavated, S1, was near to the eastern corner of Abbey Place and lay 70cm to 75cm below the surface of the street It lay beneath disturbed brown and black sandy loams which contained pottery and glass ranging from 12<sup>th</sup> century to 30<sup>th</sup> century, as well as iron objects, clay pipe stems, an 1890 penny and occasional human bone fragments The skeleton itself was disturbed, both from the trial trench excavated by Yorkshire Water in 1995 and by earlier intrusions of unknown date The left side of the body was disturbed but most of the bones were recovered from the immediate area The soil immediately round the skeleton was medium to dark brown clayey, slightly spongy loam, which cut into a paler more friable clayey loam with a high proportion of small angular stones

3 3 2 The two skulls, S2 and S3, lay to the south of the skeleton in a similar soil (plan 7), and were left in situ as the pipe line would not disturb them It seems likely that the first skeleton must have been buried partially over the nearer of the two skeletons represented by these skulls, as the right shoulder is only 2cm from the skull

3 4 The second complete skeleton, S4, was to the west and slightly to the north of the first It was partially beneath the old water main and had been disturbed by it on its left hand side (plate 8, plan 7) It lay in a pale brown friable sandy loam with numerous small stones, beneath modern limestone hardcore As it was a little deeper than the first and slightly off the line of the new main, it was decided to leave it in situ It was fully revealed and photographed, then covered with plastic sheeting and sand

3 5 1 Further west along Abbey Place, human bone was encountered in several places at depths between 65 and 70cm below the surface The bone appeared in brown and black sandy loams between 17cm and 80cm below the surface, in mixed disturbed layers 5 75 metres west of the eastern end of the first skeleton (N1 on plan 7) part of a pelvis, arm bones, parts of leg bones, vertebrae and rib fragments were found

3 5 2 A disarticulated jaw bone (plate 9) was encountered 9 metres west of N1, and a skull at a depth of 70cm which was slightly damaged by the workmen 11 25 metres west of N1 Between 14 and 14 5 metres west of N1, 65 to 70cm below the surface and in an area disturbed by a water service pipe, was a collection of human bone consisting mainly of skull fragments and a tooth These had obviously been disturbed previously, presumably by the water service

3 5 3 To the west of a water stop tap, between 16 5 and 17 5 metres west of N1, were more human bones including two upper arm bones, part of a pelvis and skull fragments, at a depth of 82cm (plate 10) West of this point no more human bones were found although the trench was cut deeper, and it can be assumed that burials only extended this far west

3 6 As the trench turned from Abbey Place northwards into Church Avenue, it was initially dug by the contractors The stone flags and tarmac overlay disturbed dark loam with brick and tile fragments, to a depth of 35cm below the surface Beneath it was pale brown loamy silt with numerous small angular stones, similar to the soil around the skeletons in Abbey Place Both soils contained disturbed human bone as well as animal bone fragments, pottery ranging from 13<sup>th</sup> Century to 18<sup>th</sup> century, clay pipe stems and iron objects The ground was disturbed with both electricity and gas cables and pipes, including a gas main which ran north along Church Avenue The water main trench was cut alongside this main to the east of it (plan 5), and was kept as shallow as possible to minimise the damage to burials

3 7 The first articulated skeleton, S5, encountered along Church Avenue rested on a bed of crushed limestone fragments beneath the pale stony silt, with its skull only 33cm below the surface of the tarmac path (plate 11, plan 6) Most of the skeleton lay approximately 45cm below the surface, with the head, to the west, directly in line with the proposed water main The trench was widened to reveal the rest of the skeleton, which proved to be less than complete The bottom of the legs were missing where they encroached into the area of the Cholera Burial Ground, and the left humerus was displaced having been disturbed by a second burial close to it to the north

3 8 This skeleton, S6, was positioned some 50cm west of S5, at a slightly deeper level (plate 12, plan 6) Its position meant that although the pelvis, legs, feet and lower arms were complete, the upper body above the lowest thoracic vertebrae was missing It was truncated by the gas main trench which ran to the west of the line of the new water main trench and which had apparently run through most of the burials on Church Lane (locals reportedly knew of human remains being found but there was no archaeological recording or proper treatment of the remains) Both S5 and S6 were recorded and removed

3 9 1 Directly beneath S5 and S6 lay a third skeleton, S7 (plate 13, plan 6) The bones were so close that parts of S7 were actually higher than other parts of the first two skeletons, and S7 also needed to be removed in order to achieve the required depth for the water main The skull of S7 was missing, truncated by the gas main, and the legs were disturbed and truncated The left leg was displaced and partially missing, probably owing to the deposition of S6 directly above it, and the feet of both legs were truncated where they entered the area of the Cholera Burial Ground

3 9 2 The crushed limestone on which S5 lay was cut through by S6 and S7, which both lay beneath the base of the limestone The crushed limestone layer was on average 10cm deep and overlay stony pale brown friable silty sand, similar to but stonier than the soil above the limestone The soil immediately around S6 and S7 was indistinguishable from the pale brown stony silty sand above, with no discernible grave cut A number of disarticulated human bones were recovered from the soils around the burials

3 10 A further skull, S25, was revealed at the base of the trench below S5 and S7 (plan 6) This was at a depth of 50cm below the surface and

was covered and left in situ beneath the new water main. Some other disarticulated human bones were revealed within the grassed area of the Cholera Burial Ground. These were left in situ as far as possible consistent with the complete excavation of the articulated skeletons across the path of the new water main.

3 11 1 Northwards the pale brown silty sand continued, overlying the limestone layer. Cut into but not through the limestone was another partial skeleton, S8, 20cm north of the shoulder of S7 and surrounded by the same soil (plate 14, plan 6). All that remained of this burial was the pelvic area, the upper leg bones and the lower arm bones. It lay just below the level of the top of the limestone, at about 30cm from the surface, and was truncated to the west by the gas main. There was no trace of the rest of the legs, and the crushed limestone continued across the whole trench (plate 15).

3 11 2 30cm east of S8, emerging from the side of the trench, was a skull, S13, set in grey-brown sandy silt cut into the limestone at a depth of 41cm below the surface (plate 15). This was left in situ without further excavation, but a possible grave cut for the burial associated with S13 was observed alongside the grave cut of S9. Immediately to the south-west of the skull were the bones of a foot, but these had no apparent relationship with any of the other skeletons (plan 6). They were also cut into the limestone, and were left in situ.

3 12 1 The next excavated skeleton, S9, was 30cm north of S8, with the top of its skull 39cm below the surface of the tarmac path (plate 16, plan 6). It was to the north of a ridge of crushed limestone between it and S8 and S13, and was surrounded by pale grey-brown sandy silt containing 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery. The trench was widened again in order to reveal it fully, but it too was incomplete. Its position in the trench ensured the survival of the lower and upper jaw, though the rest of the skull was lost to the gas main. The left side of the torso was missing, and only the right arm and right side of the pelvis was present. However, several other bones, including a left femur, were close to the burial and probably belonged to it.

3 12 2 The disturbances to the burial were potentially from several sources. S13 and S10 may have disturbed it, but the main disturbance was from a large pit to the east which also cut through another skeleton, S10 (plate 17, plan 6). This disturbance was within the grassed area of the Cholera Burial Ground, and had a diameter of at least 1.3 metres. It contained dark brown loam with jumbled broken human bone and 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery. A partial skull, probably disarticulated, S14, was among the human bone (plate 18). It lay beneath a layer of brown loam which stretched intermittently across the trench above S9 and S10, and contained human bone, nails, pottery from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century, and a penny of George III. The pit was left unexcavated as it lay outside the line of the new water main.

3 13 The skeleton, S10, immediately to the north of S9 was also cut off by both the gas main and the pit (plate 19, plan 6). The skull, shoulders and upper left humerus were truncated by the gas main, and the legs apart from the upper left femur were cut by the pit. Although no separate grave cut was visible, it seems likely that the burial of S10 disturbed the left hand side of S9. Both burials were at the same depth, with their pelvises just over 40cm below the tarmac path. Both were recorded and lifted.

3 14 Beneath and slightly to the north of S10, another burial, S17, was revealed, also disturbed (plate 20, plan 6). The entire skull was

present as it was positioned approximately 30cm further to the east than S10, but only the upper torso and right arm remained of the rest. The left side and possibly the lower part of the body were disturbed by a further burial immediately to the north, S18. S17 was between 43cm and 60 cm below the tarmac surface, in a similar grey-brown sandy silt as the other burials.

3 15 The skeleton S18 which cut S17 was very fragmentary (plate 20, plan 6). Of the articulated bones, only the upper right torso survived, but other bones in close proximity, including parts of the right arm and a fragment of jaw, were probably part of the same skeleton. The majority of the skull was truncated by the gas main, and a gas service trench cut the right side of the body. To the east, the lower part of the skeleton was cut by further disturbance in the area of the Cholera Burial Ground. Beneath the topsoil within the grassed area was a disturbed brown loamy clay containing disarticulated human bone from one adult, two children and one infant, and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery. This extended for approximately one metre northwards from the pit to the east of S9 and S10.

3 16 The gas service which had disturbed S18 ran east from the main, at a depth of 40cm, for 50cm before turning northwards where it crossed further burials before running into the side of the trench where it returned to a narrower width north of the burials. It was laid in a clear trench 45cm wide and 50cm deep. Within this trench was a concentration of human bones including various arm bones, rib fragments and skull and jaw fragments from one individual, as well as a few fragments from a child.

3 17 To the north of the gas service where it first emerged was the skeleton of an infant, S19 (plate 21, plan 6). It lay 45cm to 50cm below the surface and was complete apart from the feet and fibulae which had been cut off by the gas service trench. It was at the base of the pale brown sandy silt which covered much of the area, immediately to the north of a narrow spur of crushed limestone running east - west.

3 18 S19 lay beside another skeleton, S20, which was truncated east and west by gas pipes (plate 21, plan 6). The skull was truncated by the main, and the lower body below the first two lumbar vertebrae by the gas service trench. A femur was recovered from the other side of the service trench but it is not certain that it belongs to this body as it came from the disturbed area north of the pit. The left arm was also missing, disturbed by the burial of S21. The skeleton lay between 30 and 45cm below the surface in the same soil as S19.

3 19 A more complete skeleton, S21, lay to the north of S20, its right arm cutting into the grave cut of S20 (plate 22, plan 6). The skull of S21 was missing in the gas main trench, and the pelvic region and left femur was disturbed by the gas service trench, but the skeleton clearly continued beyond this. The feet were not excavated, as they extended beneath the skull of another skeleton, S22, which was beyond the extent of the water main trench (plate 23). Had this skeleton been excavated, it would have taken work further into the area of the Cholera Burial Ground and the potential of more and more burials. To avoid disturbing more burial than necessary it was decided to leave the feet of S21 behind.

3 20 S22 was exposed as far as its upper torso, and appeared to be a child. The skull was fragmented but in situ, and the rest of the skeleton appeared to be articulated.

3 21 To the north of S21 was another spread of crushed limestone forming a flat surface approximately 90cm by 50cm (plate 24) It was not excavated as it lay to the east of the line of the new water main. Immediately to the north of the lime spread were the lower arm bones and part of an ilium, emerging from the east facing section at a depth of 70 to 75 cm, S24 (plan 5, 8) They were set in a dark brown silty sand and were covered and left in situ. At this point, 90cm north of S21, the trench was returned to its original width of approximately 20cm, as no more graves were visible. Another gas service trench emerged from the west side of the trench and turned to run north, re-entering the west side of the trench after 1 metre.

3 22 1 At the point where the gas service re-entered the section, the pelvis, lumbar vertebrae and lower arms of a skeleton, S16, were revealed (plate 25, plan 5) The upper part of the body had been truncated by the gas main. The bones lay at a depth of 60cm below the surface of the tarmac, and were recorded, then covered and left in situ.

3 22 2 This skeleton was bordered to the north by a layer of crushed limestone 10cm wide, beyond which was the grey-brown silty sand of another grave cut. The skull of this, S15, was exposed at a depth of 70cm, recorded then covered and left in situ (plate 26).

3 22 3 The northernmost skeleton was a skull, S12, some eight metres north of S15 (plate 27, plan 5) It lay in a clear grave cut of spongy grey silty sand surrounded by crushed limestone. The limestone formed a border approximately 30cm wide around the grave cut, and was surrounded by the same stony pale brown sandy silt as elsewhere in the trench. The skull lay at a depth of 70cm from the surface, and as it was unnecessary to lift the skeleton, no more of it was exposed. The skull was covered and left in situ.

3 23 No further human skeletons were found north of this point. The depth of the burials gradually increased from a minimum of 30cm to 70cm to the north. Their absolute height was less variable, as the ground rose slightly to the north, but still overall they were lower to the north than to the south.

3 24 The remains of a number of disarticulated skeletons were found among the articulated bones (see The Human Skeletal Material Joy Langston (enc )) These nearly double the number of bodies recovered from the excavations, indicating fairly intensive use of the area for burial.

## FINKLE STREET AND MICKLEGATE - WATCHING BRIEF

4 1 The works in Finkle Street (plate 28, plan 12) and Micklegate (plates 29, 30, plan 13) consisted of several short machine cut trenches, a number of machine cut holes and a large number of hand-dug holes. Those associated with the laying of the new water main by the 'bursting' method are described first.

4 1 At the southern end of Finkle Street, at the north-west end of T3 was a trench, H1, several times extended, dug to locate the water main. As well as various services it contained, below the tarmac, a layer of broken brick, concrete and stones, a layer of disturbed mid brown sandy loam with brick and stones, and, below 65cm, a mid brown stony sand. The water main was located at the eastern end of H1 at a depth of 103cm. H4 was also located at the southern end of Finkle Street, on the corner of Gowthorpe. It contained a water main and electricity service in a mid brown sandy loam similar to that in H1.

4 2 Another hole, H8, was excavated outside 14, Finkle Street (part of Blackamoor's Head pub). It was located directly over the existing water main, and therefore contained only recently disturbed and mixed deposits.

4 3 H2, opposite Addinall's Yard on Finkle Street, was also over the water main. It revealed a number of drains as well as the water main, and all the soils were mixed and disturbed to just below the depth of the main at 100cm. From this depth to the base of the hole at 130cm, the soil was grey-black silt with occasional stones.

4 4 At the south-west end of Micklegate, outside Gotch's, H5 was begun in the roadside but extended into the footpath. It contained, beneath the tarmac and brick layer, a mid brown loamy sand with some stones, becoming paler and more silty with depth. All was heavily disturbed by modern service trenches including two gas pipes, electricity cable, a BT box and a disused water or gas pipe as well as the water main at the base of c 100cm.

4 5 The next trench, H7, was located in the centre of Micklegate opposite No 43. It was located directly over the water main and contained the disturbed brown loamy sand of the water main trench, with a grey silt emerging below the level of the main at c 150cm below the surface.

4 6 Continuing up Micklegate, H6 was opposite Preston's Yard and contained similar disturbed soils. Cleaner yellowish brown silty sand was observed at the edges of the trench, and below the main at c 170cm below the surface. Both H6 and H7 showed a layer of bricks set in a surface below the tarmac which had been disturbed by the digging of the original water main trench.

4 7 H3 was at the Millgate end of Micklegate opposite the library. It was located in part over the hole excavated in 1995 by Yorkshire Water and left with a plate over it. H3 extended that trench south-westwards, exposing a further length of the water main running down Micklegate.

4 9 1 Extending from H3 southwards to the end of Wren Lane was T2, a machine cut trench linking the new main to the end of the main laid in 1995 along Wren Lane. The trench was 35cm wide and between 114cm and 117cm deep.

4 9 2 Beneath the tarmac was a layer of bricks set on edge which extended to a depth of between 51cm and 56cm below the surface. Below the bricks was a layer of disturbed brown stony sand with brick rubble in places which gave way to dark grey to black organic silt between 81 and 90cm below the surface. This layer contained large amounts of animal bone and pottery ranging in date from early medieval to nineteenth century. The northern section of T2, for 2.8 metres, contained a layer of yellow-white and orange gravelly sand beneath the silt, from 115cm to the base of the trench at 117cm.

4 9 3 A disturbed area of brick and brown stony sand crossed the trench between 2.8 metres and 4.3 metres from H3, cutting through all the layers beneath the tarmac to below the base of T2. South of this, the same soils continued except below the organic silt, where the white gravelly sand was replaced by a mid-grey silty clay which extended to the base of the trench at 114cm. 160cm out from the kerb on the south-east side of Micklegate a trench filled with sand and containing gas pipes and multiple ducts crossed T2, reaching to a depth of 104cm. T2 was deepened to allow the water main to run beneath this, to a depth of 120cm.

4 9 H3 was subsequently enlarged at its southern end at the junction with T2. An area of stones and cobbles was encountered in the brown loamy sand which extended to a depth of 130cm below the surface, above grey brown organic silt. To the west of the water main trench, a layer of pale brownish yellow sand stretched from 60cm to 115cm below the surface, coming down onto grey brown silt. Below this, at a depth of 130cm to 145cm was a layer of compacted white and brown limestone fragments. These lay above a layer of cobbles set in black organic silt, containing 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, which extended to the base of H3 at 145cm. These layers were not apparent in T2 or elsewhere in H3. To the east of and beneath the water main was a brown clay from 160cm to the base of the trench at 185cm.

4 10 The trenches H1 to H8 and T2 completed the mains laying part of the works. The remainder of the trenches was hand dug service connections joining the new main to existing supplies to properties. The connections involved the excavation of a hole over the new main, and another in the footpath outside the property involved, often with an intermediate hole between. The service pipe was sent between these holes by means of a mole or 'grundemat' which bored a hole horizontally through the soil. In several places lengths of trench were machine cut, where the mole encountered obstructions.

4 12 In Finkle Street most of the holes were either directly over the water main or were shallow excavations in the footpath, and did not reveal any undisturbed archaeological levels. They were therefore not recorded in detail. Those at the north-eastern end of Finkle Street and many of those in Micklegate provided rich archaeological deposits, and are described in the order in which they were excavated.

4 13 1 C1 (plate 31) was situated over the main opposite No 48 Micklegate. C1 was 150cm deep and 140cm x 90cm. The water main was at 123cm below the surface running south-west to north-east.

Context Nos - 2034 0-15cm  
2036 15-35cm  
2148 35-45cm  
2127 35-55cm  
2087 35-150cm  
2150 40-70cm



2128 70-86cm  
2068 86-120cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained cobbles, wood, leather (three pieces all from medieval shoes), bone, brick and tile and pottery from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century

4 13 2 C2 (plate 32) was situated 7.6 metres north-west of C1, opposite No 59 Micklegate. It was 106cm deep and 125cm x 73cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2121 24-37cm  
2036 24-37cm  
2128 37-50cm  
2129 50-75cm  
2068 75-106cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone, wood, and pottery from (?)14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century, and leather (26 pieces including a medieval shoe sole, a post-1500 shoe bottom unit, 17 offcuts and 7 fragments)

4 13 3 OCI joined C1 and C2. It was between 140 and 75cm deep, and was 7.65m long by 30cm wide

Context Nos - 2034 0-22cm  
2121 22-34cm  
2148 22-35cm  
2150 34-40cm  
2087 35-140cm  
2127 34-40cm  
2171 42-70cm  
2068 60-75cm

4 13 4 C3 was situated near to the footpath, in line with C1 and C2, opposite No 59 Micklegate. It was 73cm deep and 50cm x 110cm. A gas main ran south-west to north-east at a depth of 63cm, in a trench 48cm wide at the south-east end of C3

Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2036 16-35cm  
2127 16-34cm  
2086 34-73cm

The black organic silt 2086 contained cobbles, bone, wood, straw, tile and pottery from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 5 C4 was situated in the footpath outside No 59 Micklegate. It was 45cm deep and was 45cm x 212cm. An old water main ran across it at 45cm below the surface, from which service pipes ran to north-west and south-east. Ducts crossed the trench near the south-east side at a depth of 40cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-16cm  
2127 16-45cm

4 13 6 C5 was situated near the footpath, in line with C1 and C2, opposite No 48 Micklegate. It was 78cm deep and 53cm x 127cm. A gas main at 71cm and BT ducts at 76cm ran across the trench at its south-east side

Context Nos - 2034 0-16cm  
2036 16-36cm  
2085 36-78cm

4 13 7 C6 was situated in the footpath outside No 48 Micklegate It was 80cm deep and 61cm x 90cm A cast pipe at 34cm deep, ducts at 52cm and a pipe at 55cm deep ran north-east to south-west across the trench  
Context Nos - 2034 0-16cm  
2127 16-80cm

4 13 8 C7 was situated over the main opposite the entrance to Wren Lane It was a maximum of 130cm deep and 74cm x 118cm with an extension on its north-west side of 59cm x 74cm The water main ran through this extension at a depth of 124cm  
Context Nos - 2034 0-15cm  
2036 15-25cm  
2148 25-35cm  
2087 35-130cm  
2121 21-42cm  
2132 42-53cm  
2121 53-80cm

4 13 9 C8 was situated 6 45 metres north-west of C7, opposite Nos 61-65 Micklegate It was 92cm deep and 90cm x 93cm  
Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2121 24-41cm  
2128 41-60cm  
2127 60-70cm  
2128 70-92cm

4 13 10 OC2 joined C7 and C8 It was 100cm deep and was 6 45m long by 30cm wide  
Context Nos - 2034 0-20cm  
2121 20-40cm  
2127 40-65cm  
2128 65-100cm

4 13 11 C9 was situated near the footpath, in line with C7 and C8, opposite Nos 61-65 Micklegate It was 75cm deep and 91cm x 107cm A gas main at a depth of 75cm lay in a trench 44cm wide across the centre of the trench  
Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2121 24-40cm  
2036 24-75cm  
2130 40-55cm  
2093 55-75cm

The dark brown organic silt 2093 contained bone, shells, slag, fe objects, leather (7 shoe parts, a strip and a fragment, all medieval), and pottery from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century A wooden beam emerged from the north-west section at the top of the layer

4 13 12 OC3 ran from C8 towards C9 for approximately 6 5m It was up to 70cm deep and 35cm wide  
Context Nos - 2034 0-22cm  
2121 22-40cm  
2091 40-70cm  
2088 50-70cm

The black silty loam 2088 contained a large amount of animal bone and pottery from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 13 CI0 was situated over the main opposite No 44 Micklegate It was 160cm deep and 85cm x 115cm The water main ran across the trench at a depth of 135cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-40cm  
2148 40-50cm  
2121 40-50cm  
2087 50-160cm  
2128 50-100cm

4 13 14 C11 was situated 7.4 metres north-west of C10 opposite No 55 Micklegate It was 105cm deep and 70cm x 145cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2121 30-45cm  
2127 45-55cm  
2128 55-65cm  
2104 65-75cm  
2068 75-105cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone, wood, straw, 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> C pottery and leather (2 fragments, 3 offcuts and one shoe, medieval)

4 13 15 C12 was situated in the footpath, in line with C7, C8 and C9, outside Nos 61-65 Micklegate It was 65cm deep and 65cm x 160cm A duct crossed the trench at a depth of 40cm near the south-east side, and the old water main crossed near the centre of the trench at a depth of 60cm Two services ran from this to stop taps in the northern corner of the trench

Context Nos - 2034 0-20cm  
2127 20-65cm

4 13 16 C13 was situated near the footpath, in line with C10 and C11, opposite No 55 Micklegate It was 75cm deep and 65cm x 153cm A gas main at a depth of 75cm ran across C13, and the trench for this occupied the south-eastern half

Context Nos - 2034 0-18cm  
2036 18-75cm  
2121 18-33cm  
2127 33-50cm  
2068 50-75cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained brick, bone, wood, straw, leather (medieval shoe piece) and pottery from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 17 C14 was situated over the main opposite No 50 Micklegate It was 120cm deep and 75cm x 120cm The water main was at 125cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-17cm  
2036 17-40cm  
2087 40-120cm

4 13 18 C15 was not excavated

4 13 19 C16 was situated in the footpath, in line with C10, C11 and C13, outside No 55 Micklegate It was 90cm deep and 45cm x 130cm A duct crossed the trench at a depth of 45cm

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-60cm  
2068 60-90cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone, wood and leather (medieval shoe sole)

4 13 20 C17 was situated near the footpath, in line with C10 and C11, opposite the gate of No 44 Micklegate It was 90cm deep and 80cm x 120cm A gas main crossed the trench at a depth of 65cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-20cm  
2036 20-65cm  
2127 20-40cm  
2068 40-90cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained large quantities of wood, bone, shells, iron object and pottery from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 21 CI8 was situated 5.9 metres north-west of C14, opposite Nos 61-65 Micklegate. It was 117cm deep and 80cm x 90cm. A pipe running north-south crossed the corner of the trench at a depth of 84cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2121 24-41cm  
2093 41-85cm  
2068 85-117cm  
2133 95-100cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone, wood, leather (medieval shoe sole), pottery from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> C, and a line of cobbles (2133) crossing the trench with a horizontal beam of wood at the same depth.

4 13 22 C19 was situated near the footpath, in line with C14 and C18, opposite Nos 61-65 Micklegate. It was 85cm deep and 70cm x 110cm. The gas main at 80cm depth ran in its trench across the south-eastern half of the trench.

Context Nos - 2034 0-23cm  
2121 23-35cm  
2036 23-35cm  
2089 35-85cm

The dark brown organic silt 2089 contained large amounts of wood, twigs, straw, shell, some bone and pottery from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> C.

4 13 23 C20 was situated in the footpath outside the gates of No 44 Micklegate. It was 45cm deep and 50cm x 230cm. It contained two electric cables at 45cm and 50cm below the surface, and two pipes at 25cm and 50cm below the surface, all crossing from north-east to south-west, and a water service at a depth of 45cm running north-west to south-east.

Context Nos - 2034 0-10cm  
2121 10-20cm  
2127 20-45cm

4 13 24 C21 was situated in the footpath outside Prestons Yard. It was 60cm deep and 135cm x 45cm, with an extension to the south-east of 60cm x 165cm. An old water main ran north-east to south-west at a depth of 55cm, with a service running south-east from it into the extension. A gas pipe at a depth of 40cm crossed the water main near the north-east end, and a duct at 50cm ran parallel to the water main to the south-east.

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2140 10-50cm  
2127 50-60cm

4 13 25 C22 was situated in the footpath, in line with C14, CI8 and C19, outside Nos 61-65 Micklegate. It was 50cm deep and 60cm x 165cm. The old water main crossed the trench at a depth of 50cm, and a duct at 40cm ran parallel to the south-east. There was a stop tap in the west corner of the trench.

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-50cm

4 13 26 C23 was situated near the footpath, in line with C24, opposite the entrance to Hope Yard It was 95cm deep and 90cm x 110cm It contained the gas main in its trench at a depth of 90cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-45cm  
2036 25-90cm  
2092 45-60cm  
2068 60-95cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained patches of pale grey clay, and bone, wood, slag and pottery from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 27 C24 was situated over the main, opposite the entrance to Hope Yard It was 170cm deep and 95cm x 135cm The main was at a depth of 145cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2121 30-45cm  
2094 45-160cm  
2128 70-115cm  
2135 115-170cm

4 13 28 C25 was situated over the main opposite the Post Office, 7 2 metres south-west of C24 It was 180cm deep and 110cm x 125cm The main was at a depth of 130cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-28cm  
2121 28-40cm  
2128 40-120cm  
2136 120-180cm

4 13 29 C26 was situated near the footpath, in line with C25, opposite No 45 Micklegate It was 95cm deep and 65cm x 170cm A gas main ran across the centre of the trench at a depth of 93cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-40cm  
2128 32-40cm  
2068 40-95cm

The black organic silt 2068, which was concentrated on the north-west side, contained straw, wood, leaves, hazelnuts, bone, lead, 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> C pottery and leather (4 fragments)

4 13 30 C27 was situated in the footpath, in line with C24 and C23, outside the entrance to Hope Yard It was 60cm deep and 60cm x 140cm Ducts ran across the trench at a depth of 40cm, and a water service with stop tap ran south-east to north-west along the side of the trench

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-60cm

4 13 31 C28 was situated in the footpath, in line with C25 and C26, outside No 47 Micklegate It was 60cm deep and 60cm x 190cm The old water main crossed the trench at a depth of 55cm, and a duct crossed at a depth of 40cm

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-60cm

4 13 32 C29 was situated in the footpath, in line with C25, outside the north end of the Post Office It was 40cm deep Its dimensions were not noted as it was abandoned as being in the wrong place for a service connection

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-40cm

4 13 33 C30 was situated near the footpath, in line with C32, opposite No 43 Micklegate It was 100cm deep and 110cm x 110cm A cast pipe at a depth of 20cm ran north-south across the eastern side of the trench, and the trench for a gas main ran south-west to north-east across the centre, with an old water main parallel to it at the base of the trench

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-40cm  
2137 25-100cm  
2128 40-63cm  
2089 63-93cm

The dark brown organic silt 2089 contained straw, bone and pottery from 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> C

4 13 34 C31 was situated near the footpath, in line with C33, opposite No 39 Micklegate It was 135cm deep and 60cm x 150cm The gas main ran across the centre from south-west to north-east at a depth of 97cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-28cm  
2036 28-100cm  
2121 28-45cm  
2096 45-60cm  
2068 60-100cm  
2149 100-135cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained wood, straw, shell, bone and tile, and merged with no clear interface into the grey silt 2149

4 13 35 C32 was situated over the main in the same position as H7, opposite No 43 Micklegate It was 150cm deep and 90cm x 130cm The water main was at a depth of 120cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2036 25-130cm  
2068 130-150cm

4 13 36 C33 was situated over the main opposite No 39 Micklegate, 10 metres south-west of C32 It was 145cm deep and 100cm x 150cm The water main was at a depth of 125cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-45cm  
2087 45-130cm  
2128 45-60cm  
2138 60-80cm  
2139 80-145cm

4 13 37 C34 was situated in the footpath in line with C30, outside No 43 Micklegate It was 50cm deep and 60cm x 150cm A duct ran from south-west to north-east at a depth of 40cm

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-50cm

4 13 38 C35 was situated in the footpath, in line with C33 and C31, outside No 39 Micklegate It was 70cm deep and 60cm x 220cm A duct ran from south-west to north-east near the south-east end of the trench at a depth of 40cm

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2127 10-70cm

4 13 39 C36 was situated near the footpath, in line with C32, opposite the southern end of the Post Office It was 70cm deep and 60cm x 115cm A gas main ran from south-west to north-east across the centre of the

trench at a depth of 45cm, with a service pipe running south-east from it

Context Nos - 2034 0-18cm  
2140 18-45cm  
2121 18-25cm  
2127 25-70cm

4 13 40 C37 was situated in the footpath, in line with C36, outside the southern end of the Post Office. It was 40cm deep and 45cm x 200cm. There was a stop tap in the eastern corner.

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2140 10-40cm

4 13 41 C38 was situated next to the footpath, in line with C33, opposite the north-east corner of The Griffin public house. It was 85cm deep and 70cm x 140cm. A gas main at 60cm and an old water main at 65cm ran south-west to north-east across the trench, with a service pipe running south-east from the water main.

Context Nos - 2034 0-14cm  
2036 14-20cm  
2095 20-45/65cm  
2068 45/65-85cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone, iron objects, 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> C pottery and large quantities of leather (8 offcuts, 15 fragments and 5 parts of shoes, all medieval). The upper surface of the layer sloped down from north-east to south-west, and it continued below the base of the trench. The dark brown sand 2095 also contained 15<sup>th</sup> C pottery.

4 13 42 C39 was situated over the main to the north-east of H3 and adjacent to the large trench opened in 1995 (H9). It was 130cm deep and was an irregular shape of 100cm x 155cm maximum. The water main was at a depth of 125cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-23cm  
2036 23-125cm  
2121 23-45cm  
2128 45-100cm  
2069 100-130cm

The dark grey organic silt 2069 contained bone, post-medieval window glass, 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, worked bone, clay pipes and leather (medieval shoe fragment).

4 13 43 C40 was situated near the footpath on the corner of Micklegate and Water Lane, outside the Library. It was 100cm deep and 80m x 120cm with an extension to the west of 50cm x 105cm. It contained a gas main running south-west to north-east at a depth of 80cm, and BT ducts parallel to and immediately below the gas.

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-30cm  
2036 25-80cm  
2127 30-48cm  
2148 48-58cm  
2068 56/73-100cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone and leather (medieval shoe fragment), and deepened to the south-west.

4 13 44 C41 was situated over the main immediately north-east of H5, near the footpath outside No 28 Finkle Street (Gotch's). It was 140cm deep and 65cm x 130cm. The water main was at a depth of 120cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-24cm  
2121 24-35cm  
2148 24-35cm  
2087 35-125cm  
2141 45-90cm  
2142 90-140cm

4 13 45 C42 was situated near the footpath, in line with C41, opposite the footpath to the car park It was 100cm deep and 70cm x 120cm A gas main ran centrally across the trench at a depth of 73cm, from south-west to north-east

Context Nos - 2034 0-25cm  
2121 25-40cm  
2090 40-70cm  
2089 70-100cm

The dark brown organic silt 2089 contained bone, 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, wood, glazed tile and leather (two medieval shoe fragments and one other fragment)

4 13 46 C43 was situated in the footpath, in line with C42 and C41, outside the path to the car park It was 67cm deep and 40cm x 170cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-6cm  
2143 6-25cm  
2127 25-67cm

4 13 47 C44 ran between the edge of H5 and the southern corner of Micklegate, in the footpath It was 75cm deep and 30cm wide, with a total length of approximately 11 metres In the centre was a wider cut-out of 110cm x 160cm This section contained an electric cable at a depth of 60cm and two cables at 40cm A cast pipe at 57cm crossed the trench immediately to the south-east of the wide section, and several pipes at 40cm crossed near to the north-west end At the north-west end was a BT inspection chamber

Context Nos - 2134 0-12cm  
2083 12-65cm  
2144 30-55cm  
2084 65-70cm  
2145 70-75cm

4 13 48 C45 was situated in the footpath on the corner of Micklegate and Water Lane outside the library It was 55cm deep and an irregular shape approximately 100cm x 80cm It contained a cable running east to west at a depth of 40cm and 3 water services immediately below the cable running north-south

Context Nos - 2134 0-12cm  
2127 12-55cm

4 13 49 C46 was situated in the footpath at the southern end of The Griffin public house It was 75cm deep and 30cm x 75cm It contained a stop tap and a water service pipe at 70cm

Context Nos - 2034 0-15cm  
2127 15-75cm

4 13 50 C47 was situated in the footpath outside Gotch's (28, Finkle Street) It was 113cm deep and 45cm x 205cm The water main crossed at the south-east end at a depth of 95cm, and ducts ran parallel to it to the north-west at a depth of 77cm A surface drain ran over the main

Context Nos - 2134 0-8cm  
2036 8-34cm  
2127 34-70cm



2068 52/68-62/78cm  
2145 62/78-113cm  
2087 70-113cm

The black organic silt 2068 formed a layer 10cm thick falling quite steeply from south-east to north-west, and contained twigs and wood

4 13 51 C48 was situated in the footpath outside No 35 Finkle Street, opposite C47. It was 90cm deep and was an irregular shape with maximum dimensions of 115cm x 310cm. It contained a number of services all running south-west to north-east, including a gas main at a depth of 70cm, an old water main at 70cm, BT ducts at 55cm, and a drain at 55cm. At the south-west end a duct crossed the water main and a service ran north-west from it.

Context Nos - 2034 0-15cm  
2127 15-85cm  
2068 85-90cm

The black organic silt 2068 contained bone and leather (medieval shoe sole)

4 13 52 C49 was situated near the footpath outside No 53 Finkle Street, in line with C47 and C48. It was 75cm deep and 70cm x 80cm. It contained a gas main running south-west to north-east along its south-east edge at a depth of 90cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-29cm  
2036 18-90cm  
2146 29-40cm  
2127 40-50cm  
2068 45/50-53/60cm  
2145 53/60-60/75cm  
2147 60-75cm

The black organic silt 2068 formed a layer deepening and thickening to the north-west (i.e. towards C48). The difference in surface height between the two trenches accounts for some but not all of the difference in the depth of the layer, which was continuous between the two. 2068 contained bone, hazelnuts, plant material, 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery and leather (medieval shoe fragment).

4 13 53 C50 was situated in the footpath on the corner of Micklegate and Millgate, outside No 67 Micklegate. It was 90cm deep and 100cm x 120cm. It contained several services running south-west to north-east, including cables at depths of 58cm, 60cm and 62cm, a ducted cable at 32cm and the old water main at 90cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-12cm  
2036 12-30cm  
2157 12-90cm

4 13 54 Subsequent to the excavation of all the service connection holes, an open cut was made between C41 and C42 where a break had occurred. This cut, OC4, encountered a brick shaft leading down to a substantial brick-lined drain which ran up Micklegate from south-west to north-east. It was discovered that this drain, the top of which was at a depth of approximately 1.8 metres, was laid in 1855. No other details were recorded on OC4.

## ABBEY YARD - WATCHING BRIEF

5 1 The work in Abbey Yard involved a number of trial holes and the excavation of a machine cut trench along the whole length of Abbey Yard for the laying of a new main (plan 14)

5 2 The first trial holes were along Back Park Street. Only the two nearest to Abbey yard were recorded in detail as the rest were in heavily disturbed areas

5 3 HB1 was on the corner of Abbey Yard and Back Park Street, and HB2 was 7 metres to the south of HB1. Both contained a fill, below tarmac, hardcore, sand and old road surfaces, of disturbed dark brown stony loam with brick, tile, bone and pottery from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This represented the fill of the original trench dug to lay the water main that ran down the centre of both holes. HB1 also contained a jetton of 1621 within this soil. Beneath the trench for the main, from c 50cm below the surface, a white and pale yellow fine sand with clay patches was visible in HB1.

5 4 A further hole was excavated on the corner of James Street and Market Lane. The tarmac here covered dark brown to black silt alongside the water main, but the small size of the hole, and the disturbance caused by the main, limited observation.

5 5 The main trench along Abbey Yard (T5) was started from the west side of James Street. T5 was between 75 and 108cm deep, and between 35 and 66cm wide. The road crossing revealed a number of old road surfaces, mixed clays and a layer of bricks, reaching to 73cm below the surface. Beneath these was a layer of hard stony black silt containing some large stones, and further east a mid-brown silty stony sand containing 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery. On the eastern side of James Street a large brick-lined culvert crossed the trench, topped with flat sandstone slabs. East of this the layers were disturbed by various service trenches running down James Street, up to the beginning of Abbey Yard itself.

5 6 At the western end of Abbey Yard, dark grey and brown stony silts and sands continued, with a thin layer of black silt below at 114cm to 116cm from the surface. Further modern disturbances were visible as patches of limestone hardcore showing in the north section of the trench. Black stony sands with brick fragments occurred in patches up to 63cm below the surface.

5 7 Approximately 5 metres into Abbey Yard was another culvert, crossing the trench from north-west to south-east. It was stone lined with a capping of large stones (70cm wide) and some bricks on the eastern side. East of this the bands of sand, brick rubble, and silty stony sands continued with occasional gritty grey clay patches. From 60cm below the surface was a dark grey silty sand which contained a piece of fine decorated leather, either from a shoe or a piece of clothing. The base of T5 was between 92 and 94cm below the surface.

5 8 Mixed pale yellowish brown sands and clays continued for approximately ten metres east of the culvert, disturbed and crossed by a hydrant and a gas service pipe. At this point large stones appeared between 90 and 94cm below the surface at the base of the trench, extending for 70cm eastwards across the whole width of the trench. The soil around them was greyish clay.

5 9 Further east again, beyond 3 2 metres of mixed brown clayey silts and a set of four ducts, and below brick rubble and dark brown silty clay, was a length of white limestone block foundation wall running east to west along the south side of T5. It was between 90 and 104cm below the surface and stretched for approximately 2 8 metres. More ducts marked its eastern end, though it was unclear whether it ever extended further.

5 10 East of these ducts was a layer of black sandy silt with charcoal which appeared at the base of the trench and rose to within 55cm of the surface by 2 1 metres east of the ducts. This layer contained bone, post medieval window glass and pottery from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century. It continued for a further 5 metres until it was cut by brick wall foundations. These were disturbed by modern services but were composed of hand made 2" bricks, crossing the trench from north to south. The black silt continued east of the foundations for approximately one metre, then petered out to be replaced by brown clay with stones and brick/tile fragments.

5 11 The clay continued eastwards, cut by various modern service trenches. T5 was 100cm deep at this point. After approximately 10 metres, the clay contained patches of charcoal and some bone, and was interrupted by a large limestone block in the south facing section at a depth of 40 to 54cm below the surface. The area was heavily disturbed by modern services, and further traces of limestone appeared to the east, but it was not clear whether either the block or the traces were in their original position.

5 12 Brown disturbed sand continued to overlie brown clay as the trench continued eastwards, both cut by various modern services. A gas pipe running east to west became visible on the south side of the trench where it was widened at the junction with Back Park Street, with a layer of sand surrounding it. The pipe gradually crossed the trench from south-west to north-east, and the trench was widened and deepened to allow space for the water main to pass beneath it. Grey silt appeared at the base of the trench here. As the trench curved north-east with the road line, lenses of dirty yellow sand appeared within the clay, and limestone blocks were visible in the south facing section within the disturbed sands above the clay. These features appeared to relate to the backfill of the gas trench.

5 13 Disturbances continued to the east, with limestone blocks associated with modern hardcore beneath the tarmac road surface, and a concentration of bricks with no visible structure at 30 to 70cm below the surface. The level of disturbance continued to increase towards the eastern end of Abbey Yard and its junction with Park Street, with brick rubble, hardcore, sandstone setts, and concrete overlying mixed sands and clays with stones and brick fragments. Brick foundations crossed the trench east of the current building line along Park Street, and east of these again, more bricks and dressed stones, some substantial. However, it was not clear whether these were associated with modern disturbances or with earlier building foundations.

5 14 A trench was excavated from HBl to T5 at the junction with Back Park Street. Tarmac covered brick rubble which overlay mixed brown stony sand similar to that in T5. Towards the base mottled grey-brown clay appeared. The trench was 34cm wide and approximately 100cm deep.

## MARKET PLACE, THE CRESCENT AND NEW STREET - WATCHING BRIEF

6 1 The water main from the western end of Market Place, where T3 and T4 ended, and the corner of New Street and Ousegate was cleaned and re-lined. This was achieved by means of access holes excavated at intervals. The trenches were mostly machine excavated under archaeological supervision, with two in Market Place hand excavated under archaeological supervision (plan 15)

6 2 S1 was located on the edge of the central paved area of Market Place, west of the Cross and east of the joined ends of T4 and T3. It was 100cm x 190cm, and 152cm deep. It contained the water main running east to west at a depth of 115cm.

Context Nos - 2134 0-10cm  
2036 10-50/56cm  
2154 50-55cm  
2155 55-85cm  
2067 85-152cm  
2156 110cm

The dark brown to black organic silt 2067 contained small stones, with bone, wood, medieval and post med pottery and leather (3 parts of medieval shoes and another fragment with an iron concretion)

6 3 S2 was located near the eastern end of the paved central area of Market Place. It was 135cm x 180cm and 125cm deep. It contained the water main running east to west at a depth of 115cm at the southern edge of the trench, and another main running north south at the same depth with a brick chamber above.

Context Nos - 2134 0-7cm  
2099 7-15cm  
2100 15-30cm  
2101 30-52cm  
2102 52-103cm  
2067 103-105cm  
2097 105-125cm

The brown to black organic silt 2067 contained wood and bone.

6 4 S3 was located at the western end of The Crescent, south-west of the south-west corner of the Abbey Church. It was 125cm x 195cm and 135cm deep. It contained the water main running north-west to south-east at a depth of approximately 115cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-28cm  
2036 28-51cm  
2153 51-60cm  
2152 60-135cm

A large piece of dressed limestone and a medieval lock bolt were recovered from the disturbed fill 2152.

6 5 S3A was located on the Crescent approximately 5 metres to the west of S3. It was 160cm x 200cm and 150cm deep. It contained the water main running north-west to south-east at a depth of 117cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2105 30-150cm  
2201 150cm

A large piece of dressed limestone was recovered from immediately beneath the main.

6 6 S4 was located on the Crescent, south of the Abbey Church. It was 200cm x 230cm and 150cm deep. It contained the water main running east to west at a depth of 110cm, a service pipe running north-to south at a depth of 90cm, and a valve and fire hydrant in a brick chamber.

Context Nos - 2034 0-20cm  
2036 20-50cm  
2105 50-150cm

Dressed limestone was recovered from the disturbed fill 2105, and from around and immediately beneath the water main.

6 7 S5 was located on The Crescent opposite the pillar on the west side of the south gate into the Abbey Church. It was 200cm x 185cm and 152cm deep. It contained the water main running east to west at a depth of approximately 112cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2105 30-140cm  
211 limestone 8cm  
2098 128-152cm

A number of dressed limestone blocks were found between 35 and 100cm below the surface (plate 33). These were not in situ but redeposited in the fill of the water main trench.

6 8 S6 was located on The Crescent to the east of S5, opposite Park House. It was 157cm x 182cm and 200cm deep. It contained the water main running south-west to north-east at a depth of 111cm, with a service pipe running south to north from it.

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2077 30-40cm  
2105 30-140cm  
2106 49-82cm  
2108 82-104cm  
2107 99-109cm  
2109 109-159cm  
2098 159-200cm

A large piece of dressed limestone was lying immediately beneath the water main.

6 9 S7 was located outside No 5 New Street in the roadside. It was 144cm x 155cm and 167cm deep. It contained the water main running south-west to north-east at a depth of approximately 110cm, with a valve above and a fire hydrant in a brick chamber to the south.

Context Nos - 2034 0-22cm  
2064 22-43cm  
2105 22-140cm  
2097 71-167cm

6 10 S8 was located on The Crescent approximately 11 metres west of S5. It was 116cm x 158cm and 150cm deep. It contained the water main running east to west at a depth of 113cm.

Context Nos - 2034 0-30cm  
2105 30-54cm  
2111 54-110cm  
2108 54-104cm  
2110 90-100cm  
2112 104-150cm

Several dressed limestone blocks were recovered from immediately below the water main.

6 11 S9 to S16 were located in New Street between the entrance to Thornden Buildings and the corner of New Street and Ousegate S16, on the corner of New Street, was directly over the trench that had been excavated in 1995 and was therefore entirely disturbed. The other trenches were all over the existing water main which ran at a depth of between 95 and 105cm below the surface. The fill above the main was similar to that in the Crescent holes, but without the dressed limestone. Other layers were also similar, with brown and orange silty sands lying beneath the level of modern disturbance. The tarmac in New Street was thicker than in The Crescent, and there was no sign of the former brick surface which was present in places in The Crescent as well as in Micklegate.

6 12 Smaller holes were dug, mainly by hand, in the footpaths along New Street to make new connections to the main. These were on average 50cm deep, and did not penetrate beneath modern disturbed made-up ground. A final connection hole on the corner of Ousegate and New Street (C52) was also filled with disturbed soils containing modern debris.

## 7 DISCUSSION

7 1 The watching brief revealed some archaeological deposits of interest. The footpath around Church Avenue was mostly very disturbed, with modern services and previous footpath surfaces. However, where the trench encroached into the Cholera Burial Ground, human bone immediately appeared, in some places associated with deposits of lime. This occurred both on the north and the west side of the Burial Ground. The bones were not apparently articulated nor laid out in any way, indicating a mass grave. The known number of burials in the cholera epidemic of 1848-9 is over one hundred, and the evidence of the watching brief indicates that these were spread across the whole area of the burial ground.

7 2 Along the western side of Church Avenue and the eastern end of Abbey place were articulated skeletons as well as disturbed human bones. The dating evidence associated with these was minimal, consisting of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> century pottery in the grave cuts of S19, 20, 21, 9 and 10, with more mixed pottery ranging from 12/13<sup>th</sup> century to 18<sup>th</sup> century around some of the other skeletons (S1, 5 and 13). The remainder of the skeletons had no dating evidence at all, and because of the degree of later disturbance of all of the burials it would be unwise to assign too firm a date from the associated finds. The evidence of the bones themselves suggests a medieval date (The Human Skeletal Material, J Langston, enc). Two samples, from S5 and S17, have been sent for C14 dating and the results should clarify matters. Several timber nails were found in Abbey Place but not associated with the burials, and there were no other signs of coffins. This, together with the absence of jewellery and the poor physical state of the individuals, might indicate that the area was used for the burial of poorer people.

7 3 The human bone remains stretched along Abbey Place as well as Church Avenue. These are assumed to be from earlier burials in the Abbey graveyard which have been disturbed by modern services in the same way as the articulated skeletons. Some of the disarticulated bone from the area of the Cholera Burial Ground may also be from earlier, medieval burials which were later disturbed.

7 4 The precise boundaries of the medieval graveyard were not established, and it may have extended to the northern limits of the Abbey precinct. This, as discussed below, could have run north of Church Avenue. The western limits could have been beneath the early 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings of Abbey Place, and certainly reached to within a few feet of them.

7 5 The area of the Cholera Burial ground is open space in 1847 (plan 2), before the epidemic, and the buildings to the west and north are no earlier than early 19<sup>th</sup> century. As the Crescent and the extant railings round the Abbey churchyard were constructed in 1793, it seems likely that a major remodelling of the area to the north of the railings took place at the same time. The proximity of the medieval burials to the buildings on Abbey Place suggests that the position of the burials was lost by this period, as it is unlikely that dwellings would have been erected over known graves.

7 6 At the western end of Abbey Place the discovery of substantial stonework beneath the extant railings is of interest. The implication must be that this is part of the precinct wall of the Abbey and could date from the medieval period. It certainly predates the late 18<sup>th</sup> century remodelling of the Abbey grounds, and the early 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings on the north side of Abbey Place. It would seem likely to

have extended southwards towards the Abbey Gatehouse which is known to have stood at the eastern end of the Market Place. The precise line is however uncertain, as a plan of 1847 places the Abbey gatehouse further to the west than would link up with the stonework. Wherever the gatehouse was, the western boundary of the Abbey precinct would seem to be marked by property boundaries clear in 1847, running north along the eastern edge of The George Hotel (now Londesbrough Arms), and turning east at the back of the long plots on the south side of Micklegate. This line is no longer clear because of the redevelopment of much of the south side of Micklegate.

7.7 The trench along the north side of the Market Place (T4), along with T3, S1 and S2, revealed good organic remains (see Assessment of the plant remains, J P Huntley, *enc*), with indications of an aquatic environment. The implications of this are interesting, as noted in the environmental report. Back Dam, which ran to the north of Market Place, and possibly another stream running to the south of the Abbey, may have provided a very wet environment. This does not however seem to have limited commercial or industrial development in the area. Patches of cobbling, probably of post-medieval date, may have been a response to the waterlogged conditions and an attempt to provide a better surface for coaches approaching the George Hotel (now the Londesborough Arms).

7.8 The Crescent provided some evidence of former masonry, but unfortunately all disturbed by earlier water mains. The presence of buildings in this vicinity was to be expected, though the monastery was already overgrown with weeds by 1540 (Coucher Book of Selby, Y A S Record Series 1892). The Crescent was constructed in 1793, at which time any remaining buildings were presumably removed, although their site was known. A drainage system was introduced after the cholera epidemic in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, though mains water was not provided until later. It appears that the trench for the original water main must have encountered substantial masonry remains from the monastery buildings, and these were used to prop the main, especially at joints, and as part of the backfill. The possibility therefore remains of building foundations elsewhere to the south and west of the Abbey Church.

7.9 The trench in Abbey Yard (T5) and the trial holes there encountered much modern disturbance but did produce some interesting material. Two culverts near the western end of the street reinforce the impression of numerous watercourses on both sides of the Abbey. The pottery ranged from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century, and a coin of 1621 confirms post-medieval activity in the area, but there was no evidence of medieval occupation. The fine piece of decorated leather is from an undated deposit. Abbey Yard is mentioned in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, but its location may have been altered when The Crescent was constructed. The tithe barn was further to the south-west, and Abbey Yard was within the precincts of the medieval abbey, but activity here may not have been intensive.

7.10 Finkle Street and Micklegate produced, with Market Place, the richest organic deposits. The parts of Finkle Street which were excavated were mainly those which had been disturbed in modern times, but many of the Micklegate excavations produced evidence of activity stretching back to the early medieval period.

7.11 The whole of Micklegate and Finkle Street had a brick paved surface beneath the tarmac, which post-dated a large drain which is known to have been laid in 1855, but predated the provision of other services. It is possible that this surface, which one inhabitant claims to remember as a child, was in fact laid at the same time as the drain, in



an attempt to improve the physical conditions in the town after the cholera epidemic of 1847-8

7 12 Beneath the brick, generally below a further build-up of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century deposits, layers of black and brown organic silt occurred in varying thicknesses and depths throughout the area of the street. These all looked very similar, though some were stonier than others, or had a greater wood or straw content, or more or less leather or animal bone. The thickness varied from a few centimetres to over 50 centimetres. The pottery in these layers ranged from 12/13<sup>th</sup> century to 19<sup>th</sup> century, indicating a high degree of mixing. One of the organic layers, in C18, contained only 12/13<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and the majority of the others were 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century. This could be the result of disturbances or dumping, as suggested in the pottery report (Pottery Assessment, Mark Stephens, enc ), but in some instances at least appeared to result from a gradual build-up of undifferentiated material which was continually churned up in the damp conditions. The soil samples suggest a fairly damp environment with probable periodic flooding (Assessment of the plant remains, J P Huntley, enc )

7 13 The activities which were taking place in the market area of Micklegate certainly included the keeping of livestock, probably for sale, as evidenced by hay and straw remains. Butchered bone, predominately cattle, and leather offcuts and fragments indicate further use of animal products, as do cattle horn cores recovered from several trenches (Assessment of the animal bone, Stokes & Huntley, enc ). The relatively large number of leather shoes could be evidence of on-site leather working, probably shoe repair rather than manufacture, (see Leather Report, T Padley, enc ) or of high losses of shoes, perhaps as a result of the deep mud which must have been the normal ground surface in Micklegate. Several pieces of slag were found which suggest metal working of some sort, but metalwork was relatively scarce throughout the areas investigated. This might indicate a real scarcity or, more likely, reflect conditions which were inimical to the recovery of small objects such as coins or other metal objects.

7 14 Oyster, mussel and cockle shells (which were present in larger quantities than suggested by the recovery rate (see Assessment of the animal bone, Stokes & Huntley, enc )) suggest a seafood element to the local diet, which is hardly surprising. Some of the wood could represent bedding material for livestock, but larger pieces, such as that noted in C9 and C18, indicate structural elements, though of unknown date. Only one of the nails found came from Micklegate. Laid cobbles were noted only in C18.

7 15 The relative depths of the organic deposits, which were initially thought to be the same, indicates a build up of material in different parts of Micklegate over a considerable period of time. The emerging picture is one of various market activities taking place, all subject to flooding and waterlogging, which gradually raised the level of Micklegate by as much as a metre. The height of the stone-built Bishop's Staithe at the north-east end of Micklegate is of significance in this respect. Still standing at its original ground level, this substantial 14<sup>th</sup> century building is significantly higher than the medieval levels encountered within Micklegate. It must therefore have been built on a ridge, either natural or man-made, between the lower ground of Micklegate and the River Ouse onto which it fronted.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

8 1 The archaeological work undertaken in Selby in 1995 and 1996 on behalf of Yorkshire Water showed that the town has great archaeological potential. Rich organic deposits were widespread in several areas of the town and produced evidence of both medieval and post-medieval life. There was evidence of early medieval pottery in Micklegate, which indicates that this part of the settlement was in use from within a hundred years of the foundation of the Abbey in 1069. The alignment of Micklegate might suggest that it was in existence before the Abbey and Market Place/Gowthorpe.

8 2 The evidence of the depth of archaeological deposits in both Micklegate and Market Place suggests a substantial build-up of the ground since the medieval period, and the nature of the deposits and the organic material within them indicate that these areas were low-lying and subject to flooding. The interesting conclusion of the environmental evidence that Market Place was wetter than Micklegate highlights the importance of Micklegate and again throws into question which of the two was developed earlier.

8 3 It is clear that Micklegate was a centre of economic activity. The physical evidence of the Abbots Staithe warehouse and the documentary evidence of port activity, fishing and cloth manufacture (Selby Abbey and Town, Prof R B Dobson, rev ed 1993) is now supplemented by the archaeological evidence of leather working, metal working and market trading. The position of Selby on the river undoubtedly helped its development as a distribution centre for the products of both the town and its hinterland.

8 4 The evidence of the burials in Church Avenue and Abbey Place has also added to the overall picture of life in the town. Although firm dating is not yet established, a late medieval date seems the most likely. The town was prosperous in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and the burials may represent an extension of the graveyard to the north at a time of increased population. Although the number of skeletons excavated was small, it represents the only scientifically recovered direct evidence of Selby's former inhabitants and as such is uniquely important.

8 5 In all, the work so far completed shows the high archaeological potential of the town, suspected since the 1970's, but only now proven. The circumstances of recovery of most of the material, apart from the skeletons, was far from ideal, and it is probable that more careful excavation of the organic deposits in Micklegate and Market Place would produce more stratigraphically identifiable remains capable of closer dating.

## SELBY '96 CONTEXT RECORDS

### ABBREVIATIONS

AP - ABBEY PLACE  
AY - ABBEY YARD  
C - CRESCENT  
CA - CHURCH AVENUE  
FS - FINKLE STREET  
JS - JAMES STREET  
M - MICKLEGATE  
MP - MARKET PLACE  
NS - NEW STREET  
O - OUSEGATE

#### 2001

Brick setts

T1 (CA)

On surface at junction of Church Lane and Abbey Place/Church Avenue, set in sand

#### 2002

Brick rubble

T1 (CA)

Sub-surface under 2001

#### 2003

Disturbed mortary stony clayey loam

T1 (CA)

Layer occurring at eastern end of Church Avenue beneath 2002 and 2012 to bottom of trench at up to 90 cm below surface, containing brick, tile, charcoal, 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> C pot, animal bone, flint, clay pipe stems and bowls, oyster shell, iron objects, slag, 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> C glass, human bone

#### 2004

Brick Culvert

T1 (CA)

Brick lined culvert running north-west - southeast across trench at depth of 60 to 67 cm below surface Probably culverted course of Church Beck constructed when old people's houses built in 1970s

#### 2005

Tarmac

T1 (CA)

Tarmac of path of Church Avenue

#### 2006

Stone flags

T1 (CA)

Stone flags at eastern end of Church Avenue, between iron railings and tarmac path, from surface to 4 cm below surface

#### 2007

Dark silty clay with cinders

T1 (CA)

Intermittent layer beneath 2006 and 2005 in eastern and central Church Avenue, from 4 to 11 cm below surface, above 2008, and from 4 to 40 cm

below surface further west, above 2012 and 2015, containing animal bone, 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, and some ?human bone frags in burial ground area

**2008**

Limestone frags

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2007 in Church Avenue opposite path, from 11 to 16 cm below surface, above 2009, possibly base of earlier path

**2009**

Ash/cinders

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2008 in Church Avenue opposite path, from 16 to 28 cm below surface, above 2010, possibly base for earlier path

**2010**

Pebbly gravel

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2009 in Church Avenue opposite path, from 28 to 37 cm below surface, above 2011, possibly base of earlier path

**2011**

Light brown silt

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2010 in Church Avenue opposite path, from 37 to 44 cm below the surface, above 2012, possibly base of earlier path

**2012**

Mixed mortar and bricks

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2011 in Church Avenue opposite path, from 44 to 63 cm below the surface, above 2016, possibly base of earlier path, containing mod pot

**2013**

Friable dark brown silty clay

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2007 in central section of Church Avenue, from 45 to 70 cm below the surface, containing 70% mortar, brick frags and tile, possible demolition layer - 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot

**2014**

Brown loamy topsoil

T1 (CA)

Topsoil in T1 where trench leaves footpath and encroaches on burial ground area

**2015**

Crushed lime

T1 (CA)

Layer of crushed lime in area where T1 encroaches on burial ground, beneath 2007 and above 2003, from 54 to 58 cm below the surface, containing some human bone frags, mid-18<sup>th</sup>C glass, sickle blade fragment, clay pipe stem and 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot - mixed Soil sample - mortar fragments with stones, bone, charcoal, amorphous organic debris, no seeds

**2016**

Dark brown silty clay

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2012 opposite path on Church Avenue, from 63 to 90 cm below the surface (base of trench at 90 cm), possibly same as 2003, containing 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe stems, oyster shell, 18<sup>th</sup> C glass, human bone

**2017**

Stone flags

T1 (CA)

Flags laid on sand to depth of 9 cm at end of Church Avenue - ?same as 2006

**2018**

Concrete

T1 (CA)

Concrete base for flags 2017 from 9 cm to 13 cm below the surface

**2019**

Disturbed black sandy silt

T1 (CA)

Beneath 2018 from 13 cm to 80 cm (bottom of trench) below the surface at eastern end of Church Avenue between footpath and railings, containing brick and tile frags, some bone, post med and mod pot

**2020**

Brown clayey silt

T1 (CA)

Layer to east of 2019 from 13 cm to 102 cm (bottom of trench), containing 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pot, bone, clay pipes (stems and bowls), wooden ?spindle, and bricks 2115

**2021**

Flags

T1 (AP)

Stone flags on Abbey Place to depth of 9 cm, laid on sand

**2022**

Concrete

T1 (AP)

Concrete base for flags on Abbey Place, from 9cm to 13 cm below the surface

**2023**

Limestone hardcore

T1 (AP)

Layer beneath 2022 on Abbey Place, 13 to 18 cm below surface

**2024**

Mixed brown sandy loam with dark brown patches

T1 (AP)

Layer beneath 2023 and 2025 on Abbey Place east end, above 2026 and beyond, from 50 to 70 cm below surface, containing brick, tile, some human bone at 50 - 54 cm below surface, also containing animal bone, 2 nails, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipe, 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> C glass, oyster shell, 1899 penny, iron bar ?punch iron spike - very mixed

**2025**

Black sandy loam

T1 (AP)

Layer beneath 2023 and above 2024 on Abbey Place in extension hole for Sl, 17 to 32 cm below surface, containing brick and tile, 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C

pottery, clay pipe stems, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> C glass, post-med Window glass, nail, human bone

**2026**

Mid-brown clayey silt with many small angular stones

T1 (AP)

?disturbed fill of grave cut of S1, beneath 2024, from c 60 cm below the surface, containing 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> C pottery and human bone

**2027**

Spongy mid to dark -brown clayey silt, slightly organic

T1 (AP)

Fill immediately around bones of S1, following shape of body

**2028**

Brown sandy silt with charcoal

T1 (AP)

Layer beneath flags on Abbey Place at West end, to depth of c 50 cm below surface, containing charcoal, 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipe stem and animal bone

**2029**

Mixed disturbed sandy loam

T1 (AP)

Layer beneath 2028 at west end of Abbey Place, from 50 to 80 cm below the surface, containing brick, tile, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipes, 3 nails, ?clinker, slag, oyster shell, animal and human bone frags

**2030**

Light brown sandy clay

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2015 in central part of Church Avenue, from 40 to 75 cm below the surface, containing occasional stone frags and brick, human bone frags, nail, 12<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, oyster shell, worked wooden object with copper studs, clay pipe stem, 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> C glass, ?ferrule, copper alloy offcut, iron bolt

**2031**

Topsoil/dark brown stony loam

T1 (CA)

Layer above 2032, 2060, 2044, 2045 at south-western end of Church Avenue within burial ground area, to a depth of 35 cm below the surface, containing 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pot, animal and human bone

**2032**

Pale brown loamy silt with many small angular stones

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2031 and 2005 at south-western end of Church Avenue, containing animal and human bone, 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe stem, tile, nail, iron objects (between legs of S5 and beneath skull of S5), extending over area of skeletons in Church Avenue

**2033**

Crushed lime

T1 (CA)

Layer into which S8 is cut, containing some loose human bones, from 27 cm to 70 cm below the surface

#### 2034

##### Tarmac

T2 (MP), T3 (MP), H1 (FS), H2 (FS), H3 (M), H4 (M), H5 (M), H6 (M), H7 (M), H8 (FS), C1 (M), C2 (M), C3 (M), C4 (M), C5 (M), C6 (M), C7 (M), C8 (M), C9 (M), OC1 (M), OC2 (M), OC3 (M), C10 (M), C11 (M), C12 (M), C13 (M), C14 (M), C17 (M), C18 (M), C19 (M), C20, C23 (M), C24 (M), C25 (M), C26 (M), C30 (M), C31 (M), C32 (M), C33 (M), C36 (M), C38 (M), C39 (M), C40 (M), C41 (M), C42 (M), C43 (M), C46 (M), C48 (M), C49 (M), T4 (MP), T5 (AY), S3 (C), S3A (C), S4 (C), S5 (C), S5 (C), S6 (C), S7 (C), S8 (C), SC1-19 (NS)

Road and pavement surface in Micklegate, Finkle Street, Market Place, The Crescent, New Street, between 6 and 40 cm thick Same as 2005

#### 2035

Disturbed dark brown stony sandy loam

H1 (FS)

Fill of H1 below 2034, containing brick, lumps of tarmac, stones, (old road surfaces), to 110 cm below surface

#### 2036

Crushed limestone hardcore

H1 (FS), C1, C2, C3, C5, C7, C9, C13, C14, C17, C19, C23, C31, C32, C38, C39, C40, C47, C49 (M), T4, S1 (MP), S3 (C)

Layer of modern hardcore from 55 cm to c 65 cm below the surface in H1, top fill of old mains trench 15 to 35 cm below the surface in C1, layer beneath 2121 from 24 to 37 cm below the surface in C2, fill of gas main trench from 16 to 65 cm below the surface in C3, C19, C23 and from 28 to 100 cm in C31, fill of BT and gas trench below 2034 from 16 to 80 cm below the surface in C5, C17, C38 and C40, top fill of old main trench from 15 to 25 cm below the surface in C7 and from 17 to 40 cm in C14, fill of gas main trench from 24 to 75 cm below the surface in C9 and C13, fill of water main trench from 22 to 120 cm below the surface in C32 and from 23 to 125 cm in C39, layer beneath 2134 from 8 to 30 cm below the surface in C47, fill (mixed) of gas main trench from 18 to 90 cm in C49, layer under 2149 to 30 cm below the surface at eastern end of T4, Layer beneath 2134 from 10 to between 45 and 56 cm below the surface in S1, layer beneath 2034 from 28 to 51 cm below the surface in S3

#### 2037

Disturbed brown sandy loam

H2 (FS)

Fill of old water main trench beneath tarmac to base of hole at 104 cm below the surface

#### 2038

Dark brown stony loam

H3 (M)

Fill of old water main beneath tarmac, very disturbed with bricks etc, in same position as '95-H9 over water main, to depth of 154 cm below the surface, containing animal bone (cattle and sheep) Same as 2087

#### 2039

Mid brown stony loam

H4 (FS/MP)

Same as 2038 and 2087

#### 2040

Grey/black sandy silt with occasional stones

H2 (FS)

Layer beneath 2037, from 104 to 130 cm below the surface

2041

Disturbed light brown loamy sand with some stones

H5 (M)

Layer beneath 1002, from 24 cm to 65 cm below the surface, above 2043, same as 2038 and 2087

2042

Brown silty sand

H6 (M)

Layer beneath brick rubble from 40 cm to 160 cm below the surface, containing occasional brick and bone fragments, disturbed fill of original water main trench, same as 2038, 2087

2043

Pale yellow brown silty sand

H5 (M)

Layer of beneath 2041 from 65 cm to 100 cm below the surface in H5

2044

Dark brown disturbed loam

T1 (CA)

Intermittent layer over S9/10 Extension, beneath 2031 and above 2045, containing some human bone, 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe stem, nails, George III penny (1806), probably representing the interface between 2031 and 2045

2045

Disturbed dark brown loam

T1 (CA)

Fill of large disturbance in S9/10 Extension, beneath and with indeterminate horizon with 2044, from 45 cm to 65 cm below the surface, containing patches of silt and 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, nail and jumbled broken human bone

2046

Pale grey-brown sandy silt

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cuts for S5, S6 and S7, beneath 2032, from 30 cm to 65 cm below the surface, containing some human bone

2047

Mid grey silt with some stones

T1 (CA)

Layer between 60 cm and 70 cm below the surface, beneath 2057, 2048 and 2046, above 2119, underlying the skeletons on Church Avenue

2048

Pale grey-brown silty loam

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cuts for S9 and S10, beneath 2032 and above 2047, containing 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> C pottery frag and iron object

2049

Light brown silty clay

T1 (CA)

Fill around dog skeleton in western part of Church Avenue, containing 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> C pottery



2050

Grey-brown silty loam with stones

T1 (CA)

Fill around skull S13, above 2033, late 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> C pottery

2051

White crushed lime

T1 (CA)

Layer into which 2052 (S15) is cut, at depth of c 70 cm below the surface, same as 2053, 2123 etc , not excavated

2052

Pale grey-brown silty loam

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cut of S15, above 2051, at c 70 cm below the surface, containing nail - not excavated beyond 70 cm

2053

White crushed lime

T1 (CA)

Ridge of crushed lime between S15 and S16, rising to 60 cm below the surface, and extending beneath 2054

2054

Pale grey-brown silty loam

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cut for S16, above 2053 at a depth of c 70 cm , not excavated

2055

Dark brown disturbed loam

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2005, extending to c 55 cm below the surface, at the north-western corner of Church Avenue, containing 2120 and mixed pottery etc , possibly same as 2003

2056

White crushed lime

T1 (CA)

Layer of crushed lime between S9/10 and S17/18, c 2cm thick, beneath 2047

2057

Pale grey-brown loam with some small stones

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cut of S17/S18, containing some disarticulated fragments of bone and lead offcut, beneath 2032

2058

Compact, disturbed, dark brown silty clay with limestone fragments

T1 (CA)

Fill of trench for gas main running north-south along western part of Church Avenue to west of T1, below tarmac to depth of 45 cm below the surface, containing tarmac lumps, brick and tile fragments, oyster shell, clay pipe stem, post med pottery, iron enamelled spoon handle, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> C glass and human bone fragments

2059

Disturbed compact mid-brown silty clay with limestone fragments

T1 (CA)

Fill of trench for gas service emerging from gas main 7.2 m from trench nail 3, below tarmac to depth of 55 cm below the surface, and turning north within S17/21 extension to run south-north to east of T1

**2060**

Disturbed brown loamy clay  
T1 (CA)

Layer beneath topsoil 2031 in S17-S22 extension, within cholera burial ground area, containing disarticulated human bone and 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, above S22

**2061**

Pale grey-brown loam  
T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cut of S19/S20/S21, below 2032 and above 2047, between 35 and 65 cm below the surface, containing 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2062**

White crushed lime  
T1 (CA)

Layer of crushed lime north of S21, probably extension of 2056, at similar level

**2063**

White crushed lime  
T1 (CA)

Layer of crushed lime between S18 and S19, continuation of 2056

**2064**

Brick  
T4, T3 (MP), S7 (C)

Layer beneath tarmac of laid bricks, from 13 cm to 22 cm below the surface - former surface of western end of Market Place and part of The Crescent

**2065**

Brown silty sand  
T3 (MP)

Layer beneath 2064, from 22 cm to 87 cm below the surface, containing 2066 within it, above 2067, rising to the south-east and eventually disappearing by 2.5 m from south-eastern end of trench, containing animal bone (cattle) Large stone near south-eastern end of layer at depth of 60 cm

**2066**

Yellow/cream stone  
T3 (MP)

Layer within 2065, from 49 cm to 57 cm below the surface, from half way along trench to where 2067 rises

**2067**

Black organic silt  
T3, S1, S2, T4 (MP)

Layer beneath 2125 (T3), 2129 (S1), 2102 (S2) and 2078 (T4) with high organic content and high level of preservation, containing wood, leather, animal bone (sheep) and med and post med pottery, at depths from 52 to 105 cm (bottom of trench in T3), from 85 to 152 cm (bottom of S1), and from between 60 and 90 cm to between 100 and 110 cm below the surface, above 2080 and 2152 (T4), generally thicker towards the west near to Finkle Street and narrowing to a thin band only 2 cm thick

at the eastern end of the Market Place In S1, contains brown patches with small stones, and 2156 Soil sample - stones - some charred/calced, brick, clinker, cinder, charcoal, twiggy material, bracken, industrial waste, hammerscale, small leather fragments, bone - some burnt, water flea egg cases, seeds - abundant, rye grain, waterlogged taxa - weed and ruderal

#### 2068

Black organic silt

Layer similar to 2067, occurring throughout Micklegate and at the top of Finkle Street at depths between 40 cm and 150 cm below the surface, also containing hazelnuts, oyster and mussel shells, and varying amounts of straw, with pottery ranging from 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> C to 19<sup>th</sup> C

#### T2 (M)

Layer beneath 2070 and above 2073/2131, from between 74 and 81 cm below the surface to between 93 and 102 cm below the surface, cut by 2072 and 2124, narrowing and deepening towards the south, containing much bone, med and post-med pot, some wood and straw Soil sample - stone, mortar, brick fragments, oyster and cockle shell, coal, leather, small fence post (conifer), charcoal, bracken, twigs, fish bones, tiny leather fragments, sphagnum leaves, seeds - plantain, arable weeds, flax, wet ground taxa (?hay)

#### C1 (M)

Layer on south-east side of hole and patchily on north-west side, beyond old main trench, beneath 2128 from 86 to 120 cm below the surface, disturbed in part, containing cobbles, wood, leather, glass, bone (mostly cattle, some sheep, one pig), oyster shell, brick and tile, 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery

#### C2 (M)

Layer beneath 2128, from 75 to 106 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing bone (mainly cattle, some sheep, one horse and one pig), much leather, wood, med and post med pot Soil sample - largely bracken, alder twigs, coal, cereal straw, fly puparia, insect fragments, seeds - waste ground type, flax, elderberry fruit stones

#### OC1 (M)

Layer beneath 2127 and 2128, from between 60 and 73 cm below the surface to at least 75 cm below the surface (base of trench), rising towards the north-west

#### C7 (M)

Layer beneath visible in sides beyond edge of mains trench, from c 80 cm below the surface, containing 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> C pottery

#### C11 (M)

Layer beneath 2104 (indeterminate interface) from 75 to 105 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing leather, bone (mainly cattle and sheep, one horse), oyster shell, wood and 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> C pottery

#### C13 (M)

Layer beneath 2127 between 50 and 75 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing brick, bone (mainly cattle, some sheep), mussel shell, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> C pot, wood, leather and straw

#### C16 (M)

Layer beneath 2127 from 60 to 90 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing bone (sheep), wood and leather

#### C17 (M)

Layer beneath 2127 from 40 to 90 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing much wood, bone (cattle, sheep and pig), 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> C pot, iron object and shells

#### C18 (M)

Layer beneath 2093 from 85 to 117 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> C pottery, bone (cattle and sheep), leather and wood

C23 (M)

Layer beneath 2092 from 60 to 95 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing bone (cattle and pig), mussel shell, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> C pot, wood, slag, leather

C26 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 from 40 to 95 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing straw, wood, leaves, hazelnuts, bone (cattle and sheep), leather, lead, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipe stem, mostly on south-west side of hole, disturbed over gas main in central section

C31 (M)

Layer beneath 2096, above 2084, from 60 to 100 cm below the surface, containing wood, bone, straw, shell, pot and tile

C32 (M)

Layer beneath 2036 from 130 to 150 cm (base of hole) below the surface

C38 (M)

Layer beneath 2095 from between 45 and 65 cm below the surface to 85 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing much bone (mostly cattle and sheep, also domestic fowl and large ungulate), much leather, 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> C pot, nail, iron objects

C40 (M)

Layer beneath 2127 and 2148 from between 58 and 73 cm to between 85 and 100 cm below the surface, deepening towards the south-west, containing some bone (cattle)

C47 (FS)

Layer beneath 2127, above 2145, from between 52 and 68 cm below the surface to between 62 and 78 cm below the surface, rising towards the south-east, containing twigs, wood

C48 (FS)

Layer beneath 2127 from 85 to 90 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing leather, bone (cattle)

C49 (FS)

Layer beneath 2127, above 2145, from between 45 and 50 cm below the surface to between 53 and 60 cm below the surface, thickening and deepening towards the south-west, containing bone (mainly cattle, one sheep, one small ungulate), oyster shell, hazelnuts, plant material, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, leather

2069

Grey organic silt

C39 (M)

Layer, less organic than 2068, beneath 2128 from 100 to 130 cm (base of hole) below the surface, cut by 2036, containing animal bone (cattle), 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe bowls and stems, post med window glass, bone knife handle

2070

Disturbed brown sand with brick rubble

T2 (M)

Layer beneath 2071 and 2121 and above 2068, from between 51 and 63 cm below the surface to between 74 and 81 cm below the surface, cut by 2072

2071

Yellow/white compacted stony sand

T2 (M)

Layer between 2121 and 2070, between 56 and 63 cm below the surface

2072

Brown sand with much broken brick in upper levels

T2 (M)

Fill of old trench, beneath 2034 from 28 cm to bottom of trench at 125 cm below the surface

**2073**

Mid-grey silty clay

T2 (M)

Layer beneath 2068 between 93 cm and 116 cm below the surface

**2074**

Compacted black silty clay

T1 (AP)

Layer at western end of Abbey Place, beneath 2021, above 2175, containing frequent bone, including human, and 16<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2075**

Light brown loam

T1 (AP)

Layer at western end of Abbey Place, beneath 2074 to a depth of 70 cm (base of trench), containing animal bone, 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipe stems, lead window came, cast brass object

**2076**

Limestone blocks

T1/T4 (AP/MP)

2 courses of dressed limestone blocks crossing trench at western end of Abbey Place, beneath extant railings and their footings, former wall foundations with a total height of 54 cm, 80 cm thick, possible former precinct wall of Abbey

**2077**

Cobbles

T4 (MP), S6 (C)

Area of cobbles in Market Place, over 2078, and beneath 2034 between 20 and 40 cm below the surface in T4, and visible in north facing section at 40cm in S6

**2078**

Mixed brown sandy stony loam

T4 (MP)

Layer beneath 2077, 2150, above 2080 and 2067, from between 30 and 35 cm below the surface to between 60 and 75 cm below the surface, contains 2079 and 2151 within it, containing mod pot and various modern services

**2079**

Dark grey organic silt

T4 (MP)

Intermittent layer within 2078 and beneath 2151 where it occurs, from 57 to 69 cm below the surface, containing animal bone (mainly cattle, also horse, pig, sheep and cat) 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> C pot Soil sample - roundwood and other wood fragments, leather fragments, some charcoal, some industrial waste, water flea egg cases, few seeds

**2080**

Grey-beige silty sand

T4 (MP)

Layer beneath 2078 and 2067, from between 75 and 110 cm below the surface to base of trench at 115 cm below the surface, for eastern half of T4

**2081**

Disturbed dark brown stony loam

HB1, HB2 (AY)

Fill of test holes at corner of Abbey Yard and Back Park Street, beneath 2036 from 45 to 80 cm below the surface, containing bone, 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C, pot, brick, tile and jetton of 1621 (in HB1)

**2082**

White and pale yellow fine sand with clayey patches

HB1 (AY)

Layer beneath 2081 from 80 cm to base of hole at 85 cm

**2083**

Mixed brown, brownish-yellow and dark brown loamy sand with clay and silt patches

C44 (M)

Layer beneath 2134 from 10 cm to 65 cm below the surface, containing brick, tile, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, clay pipe stems, animal bone (cattle, sheep, pig and large and small ungulate), shells, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> C glass

**2084**

Grey-black silt

C44 (M)

Layer beneath 2083 from 65 to 70 cm below the surface, containing wood, 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> C pot and bone (sheep)

**2085**

Dark brown disturbed stony sand with clay and silt patches

C5 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 from 36 to 78 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing bone (mainly cattle, some sheep), tile, 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, 18<sup>th</sup> C glass, post med window glass, clay pipe stems

**2086**

Black organic silt with stones

C3 (M)

Layer in north-west side of C3 beneath 2127, from 34 to 73 cm (base of hole) below the surface, similar to 2068 but stonier, containing tile, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> C pottery, cobbles, bone (mostly cattle, one sheep), mussel shell, wood and straw Soil sample - cereal straw with bracken, wood and bark, little charcoal, animal hair, insect fragments, bread wheat ears, probable rye, few seeds - arable weeds, flax, self-heal, yellow rattle

**2087**

Mixed disturbed brown stony loamy sand

C1, OC1, C7, C10, C14, C33, C41, C47 (M)

Fill of old mains trench, beneath 2034, to depths of between 100 and 140 cm, containing iron objects, post med window glass, 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe stems, oyster shell, dressed stone/brick

**2088**

Black silty loam

OC3 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 from 40 to 70 cm (base of trench) below the surface, containing much bone (cattle, horse and pig) and 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2089**

Dark brown silt

Organic layer similar to 2068, occurring in several places in Micklegate  
C19 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 from 35 to 85 cm below the surface, containing much wood, twigs, straw, shell, some bone (cattle and sheep), 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pot

C30 (M)

Layer beneath 2128, from 63 to 93 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing straw, 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pot and bone (cattle and large ungulate)

C42 (M)

Layer beneath 2090 from 70 to 100 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing bone (cattle, sheep and pig), 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pot, glazed tile, wood, leather

2090

Brown loamy sand

C42 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 and above 2089, from 35 to 70 cm below the surface, with brick and clay patches, disturbed, similar to 2127, containing bone (cattle and sheep) and 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> C pottery

2091

Mixed brown sand

OC3 (M)

Layer beneath 2121, from 40 to 70 cm below the surface, containing 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, 20<sup>th</sup> C glass, same as 2127

2092

Fine dark grey stony sand

C23 (M)

Layer beneath 2121, from 45 to 60 cm below the surface, over 2068 with indeterminate interface, containing clay pipe stem, 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> C potsherd

2093

Grey-brown organic silt

C9, C18 (M)

Layer beneath 2130 (C9) and 2121 (C18), at depths from between 41 cm (C18) and 55 cm (C9) to 85 cm (base of holes) below the surface, with high level of preservation of organic material, containing animal bone (cattle, sheep, one pig and one domestic fowl), leather (C9), oyster shells (C9), iron slag (C9), lead window came (C9), wood, 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, some stones in C18

2094

Fine brown sand

C24 (M)

Fill of trench for water main, beneath 2121 from 45 to 160 cm below the surface, containing bone (sheep)

2095

Dark brown disturbed sand

C38 (M)

Layer beneath 2034 and 2036 from 20 cm to between 45 and 65 cm below the surface, cut by gas main, disturbed by water service, above 2068, containing brick, tarmac, bone (pig), 15<sup>th</sup> C pottery, wire, clay pipe stem

2096

Mixed grey-brown silt with stones and patches of pale grey silt

C31 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 from 45 to 60 cm below the surface, above 2068, containing bone (sheep and large ungulate), 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, worked oyster shell, clay pipe stem

**2097**

Silty brown sand  
S2 (MP), S7 (C)

Layer beneath 2105 (S7) and 2067 (S2), at depths from between 71 and 105 cm to 167 cm (base of holes), probably undisturbed natural

**2098**

Orange-brown to dark brown clay and silty sand  
S5, S6 (C)

Layer beneath 2151 from 128 to 152 cm (base of hole) beneath the surface in S5, and from 159 to 200 cm (base of hole) in S6, cut by 2105, probably undisturbed natural

**2099**

Orange sand  
S2 (MP)

Layer of sand recently deposited immediately beneath flags to depth of 15 cm below the surface, above 2100

**2100**

Concrete  
S2 (MP)

Layer of concrete beneath 2099, from 15 to 30 cm below the surface, above 2101

**2101**

Mixed sandy loam  
S2 (MP)

Layer of disturbed soil beneath 2100, from 30 to 52 cm below the surface, above 2102, containing some cobbles, broken limestone fragments, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, bone

**2102**

Banded silts and clays  
S2 (MP)

Layer beneath 2101 and above 2067, from 52 to 103 cm below the surface, containing rubble patches and some bone

**2103**

Dark grey stony silt  
T5 (AY)

Layer at the western end of Abbey Yard from 56 to 86 cm below the surface, containing pottery, some bone and leather

**2104**

Dark brown silty sand with black patches  
C11 (M)

Layer at depth of 65 cm to 90 cm below the surface, above 2068, containing animal bone and post med to modern pottery, probably interface between 2128 and 2068

**2105**

Disturbed mid to light brown loamy stony sand and clay  
S3A, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9 (C)

Mixed layer beneath 2034 (S3A, S4, S5, S6, S8, S9) and 2064 (S7), from between 30 and 50 cm to between 49 and 150 cm below the surface, above



2106, 2097 and 2098, containing brick fragments, charcoal flecks, bone (pig, cattle, sheep, large and small ungulate, domestic fowl and fish), 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, oyster shell, dressed stones (particularly S5) and stone fragments, fill of water main trench

2106

Dark grey-brown silt

S6 (C)

Layer beneath 2105, above 2108, from 49 to 82 cm below the surface, containing brick fragments

2107

Concrete

S6 (C)

Narrow layer beneath 2108 and above 2109, from 99 to 109 cm below the surface

2108

Yellowish brown sand

S6, S8 (C)

Layer beneath 2106 and above 2107 in S6, below 2105 and above 2112 in S8, from 82 to 104 cm below the surface, lower fill of water main trench

2109

Grey-brown silt

S6 (C)

Layer beneath 2107, from 109 to 159 cm below the surface, containing 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, bone (cattle and sheep) and oyster shell

2110

Limestone fragments

SS (C)

Layer of angular limestone fragments at edges of hole cut by 2105/2108, from 90 to 100 cm below the surface, containing some animal bone (cattle)

2111

Dark brown silty clay

S8 (C)

Layer in western half of S8 beneath 2105 and above 2108/2112, from 54 to 110 cm below the surface

2112

Dark brown silty clay

S8, S9, S10 (C, NS)

Layer in S8 beneath 2108/2111 from 104 to 150 cm (base of hole) below the surface, in S9 beneath 2134, above 2114, from 52 to 150 cm below the surface, in S10 beneath 2034, from 40 to 120 cm below the surface, all cut by 2105, containing charcoal flecks

2113

Orangey brown sand

S9, S10 (NS)

Layer of undisturbed sand beneath 2112/2114, from between 120 and 150 cm to between 130 and 168 cm (base of holes) beneath the surface, probably natural

2114

grey fine sand

S9 (NS)

Layer beneath 2112, above 2113, from 150 to 155 cm below the surface

**2115**

Brick wall

T1 (CA)

Brick wall foundations consisting of three courses of mortared bricks crossing trench at right angles between 160 cm and 193 cm south of iron railings on Church Avenue, at depth of 40 cm below the surface

**2116**

Black sand

T1 (AP)

Patch of sand at 60 - 70 cm below surface 3.5 m from west end of trench below 2029

**2117**

Light brown loam

T1 (AP)

Layer 52 - 70 cm below surface

**2118**

Grey-brown silty loam with some stones

T1 (CA)

Fill of grave cut for S8, above 2033, less stony than 2032

**2119**

Pale brown sand

T1 (CA)

Largely unexcavated layer beneath 2047 on western side of Church Avenue at a depth of 70 cm below the surface, ?natural

**2120**

Yellow brown clay

T1 - (CA)

Redeposited layer occurring in patches within 2121 at north-western corner of Church Avenue

**2121**

Brick

T2, C holes (M)

Layer of bricks beneath tarmac throughout Micklegate, cut by and therefore pre-dating original trench of water main, although in places apparently re-laid after water main trench cut, 19th century (post 1855)

**2122**

Pale brown stony loam

T1 (CA)

Layer at north-western corner of Church Avenue between 55 cm and 65 cm below the surface, beneath 2121 and above 2123, possibly same as 2032

**2123**

White crushed limestone

T1 (CA)

Layer beneath 2122 at north-western corner of Church Avenue, from 65 cm below the surface to the bottom of the trench at 70 cm, possibly same as 2015, 2062 etc

**2124**

Disturbed stony brown loam

T2 (M)

Fill of former trench for gas main and other services at south-east end of T2

**2125**

Grey silt

T3 (MP)

Layer beneath 2064 towards south-eastern end of trench, stretching for 1 m, from 31 to 52 cm below the surface, and between 2065 and 2126

**2126**

Disturbed brown silty sand

T3 (MP)

Disturbed fill of trench for electricity cable at south-eastern end of T3, above 2067

**2127**

Brown sand with stones

C1, C3, C4, C6, C7, C8, C11, OC1, OC2, C11, C12, C13, C16, OC1, OC2, C17, C20, C21, C22, C27, C28, C29, C34, C35, C36, C40, C43, C45, C46, C47, C48, C49 (M)

Layer of disturbed soil containing brick, tile fragments and 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pot, animal bone, clay pipe stems, at depths between 15 and 70 cm below the surface, generally beneath 2034 and 2121 where present, cut by 2087

**2128**

Dirty dark yellow sand

C1, C2, OC1, C8, OC2, C10, C11, C24, C25, C26, C30, C33, C39, C41 (M)

Layer widely spread in Micklegate, at depths between 35 and 70 cm to 40 and 100 cm below the surface, commonly 10 to 20 cm thick, occurring beneath 2121 and 2127 most commonly, and frequently above 2068, 2069 and 2089 (organic silt layers), containing 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery. Possibly deliberately laid down after the mixed organic silt layers were deposited, as a seal or a sub-base for later ground surfaces

**2129**

Dark brown silt

C2 (M)

Layer containing bone beneath 2128 and above 2068 from 50 to 75 cm below the surface, less organic than 2068 but similar, probably interface between 2128 and 2068

**2130**

Hard compacted grey silt

C9 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 and above 2093, from 40 to 55 cm below the surface, containing charcoal patches, brick fragments and much tile

**2131**

Yellow-white and orange hard gravelly sand and sandy gravel

T2 (M)

Layer beneath 2073 from 116 to 125 cm (base of hole) below the surface, representing undisturbed natural

**2132**

Black ashy sand

C7 (M)

Layer beneath 2121 and above 2127, from 42 to 53 cm below the surface, at edge of hole, cut by 2087

**2133**

Cobbles

C18 (M)

Line of cobbles within 2068 at depth of 95 cm below the surface, associated with beam of wood laid horizontally at the same depth

**2134**

Flags

C16, C21, C22, C27, C28, C29, C34, C35, C37, C44, C45 (M), C47 (FS), S1, S2 (MP)

Modern flagstones laid on surface on parts of the pavement area of Micklegate, Finkle Street and Market Place, generally on a sub base of sand

**2135**

Pale grey-brown silt

C24 (M)

Layer beneath 2128 from 115 to 170 cm (base of hole) below the surface

**2136**

Clean yellow-orange sand

C25 (M)

Layer beneath 2128, from 120 to 180 cm (base of hole) below the surface, probably undisturbed natural

**2137**

Yellow sand

C30 (M)

Fill of trench for various services, from 20 to 100 cm below the surface

**2138**

Dark grey silt

C33 (M)

Layer beneath 2128 and above 2139, from 60 to 80 cm below the surface, containing some bone (cattle and sheep)

**2139**

Pale grey silty sand

C33 (M)

Layer beneath 2138, from 80 to 145 cm (base of hole) below the surface

**2140**

Yellow sand

C21, C36, C37 (M)

Layer of modern sand beneath 2034/2134, to a depth of 45-50 cm below the surface

**2141**

Compacted dirty yellow sand with stones

C41 (M)

Layer beneath 2128 and above 2142, from 45 to 90 cm below the surface, containing mortary patches

**2142**

Grey sandy silt

C41 (M)

Layer beneath 2141, from 90 to 140 cm (base of hole) below the surface, possibly natural

**2143**

Stone setts

C43 (M)

Line of stone setts set on edge beneath 2034, from 6 to 25 cm below the surface, above 2127

**2144**

Stone foundations

C44 (M)

Line of stone foundations running north-west to south-east in line with existing building line, from 30 to 55 cm below the surface, with concentration of brick and tile below them, within 2083

**2145**

Grey silty sand

C44 (M), C47, C49 (FS)

Layer beneath 2084 (C44) and 2068 (C48, C49), from between 62 and 70 cm to between 75 and 113 cm below the surface (base of holes C44 and C47), and from 53 to 75 cm below the surface above 2147 in C49

**2146**

Concrete

C49 (FS)

Layer of modern concrete/former road surface beneath 2034, from 29 to 40 cm below the surface

**2147**

Brown silt

C49 (FS)

Layer beneath 2145, from 60 to 75 cm (base of hole) below the surface

**2148**

Brick rubble

C1, OC1, C7, C10, C40 (M)

Layer beneath 2034, between 10 and 12 cm thick, representing remains of brick layer 2121 where it has been disturbed by later services etc

**2149**

Dark grey silt

C31 (M)

Layer beneath 2068 from 100 to 135 cm (base of hole) below the surface, considerably less organic than 2068, but no clear interface

**2150**

White lime mortar

C1, OC1 (M)

Layer of white lime mortar with mixed brown sand and brick, on east side of hole from 40 to 70 cm below the surface, beneath 2127 and above 2128

**2151**

Dark brown sandy silt

S5 (C)

Layer beneath and cut by 2105, from 50 to 128 cm below the surface, above 2098

**2152**

Medium grey brown loamy silt with stones and limestone chippings

S3 (C)

Layer beneath 2153 from 60 to 135 cm below the surface, containing hand-made brick, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipe stem, 18<sup>th</sup> C glass,

post med window glass, iron lock bolt, buckle frame, tile and bone  
Same as 2105

**2153**

Crushed limestone and sand

S3 (C)

Layer beneath 2036 and above 2152, from 51 to 60 cm below the surface, containing brick fragments and a large dressed limestone block

**2154**

Orange brown disturbed sand with black patches and pebbles

S1 (MP)

Layer beneath 3036 from 45 to 55 cm below the surface, narrower where 2036 is deeper, containing tarmac lumps and brick fragments, bone, 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> C pot and worked flint

**2155**

Grey-brown silty sand

S1 (MP)

Layer beneath 2154 from 55 to 85 cm below the surface, with an indeterminate interface with 2067

**2156**

Limestone blocks

S1 (MP)

Line of undressed limestone blocks within 2067 at a depth of 110 cm on south side of hole, also around and beneath water main

**2157**

Brown stony loam

C50 (M)

Layer beneath 2034/2036 to 90 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing brick rubble, cobbles and modern disturbance around various service cables and ducts

**2158**

Mixed disturbed stony brown loam

C51 (O)

Layer beneath 2036 from 40 to 75 cm (base of hole) below the surface, containing brick, tile, modern rubbish, becoming more compacted with depth

**2159**

Dark grey silty sand with cobbles

C52 (JS)

Layer beneath 2036 and 2160 from 90 to 110 cm (base of hole) below the surface, beneath new water main

**2160**

Grey-brown stony sand

C52 (JS)

Layer beneath 2036 below gas main, from 55 to 90 cm below the surface, above 2159, containing coal frags, brick (some hand made 2"), tile, bone, 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2161**

Tarmac/concrete

T5 (JS/AY)

Former road surfaces beneath 2034 stretching up to 60 cm below the surface

**2162**

Pale grey-brown to orange clay

T5 (JS)

Layer beneath 2161 from 36 to 65 cm below the surface on western side of James Street, above 2163

**2163**

Brick

T5 (JS)

Layer of bricks beneath 2162 from 65 to 73 cm below the surface, above 2164

**2164**

Hard stony black silt

T5 (JS)

Layer beneath 2163 from 73 to 100 cm (base of trench) below the surface, containing some large stones at 97 cm below surface crossing trench, on east side of James Street

**2165**

Brown silty sand

T5 (JS/AY)

Layer beneath 2166, east of 2164, from 73 to 100cm (base of trench) below the surface

**2166**

Mid-brown silty sand with stones

T5 (JS/AY)

Layer above 2165, from 30 to 73 cm below the surface, containing occasional brick fragments and 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> - late 18<sup>th</sup> C pot

**2167**

Brick

T5 (AY/JS)

Brick culvert crossing trench north-south at a depth of 60 to 100 cm below the surface, topped with large flat sandstone slabs

**2168**

Disturbed sandy loam with brick rubble

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2034 from 20 to 56 cm below the surface, above 2103 at west end of Abbey Yard

**2169**

Light brown mortary stony sand

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2103, above 2170, from 86 to 113 cm below the surface

**2170**

Black silt

T5 (AY)

Thin layer beneath 2169, from 114 to 116 cm (base of trench) below the surface

**2171**

Brick

OC1 (M)

Line of bricks forming wall foundations from 42 to 70 cm below the surface, 2 25 m south-east of C2

**2172**

Dark brown/black silt

J1 (JS)

Layer below 2034 in trial hole in James Street

**2173**

Stone

T5 (AY)

Stone lined culvert crossing trench at a depth of 40 cm, 70 cm across

**2174**

Pale yellow-brown stony sand with gritty grey-brown clay patches

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2103 east of 2167, from 75 to 92 cm below the surface, containing brick fragments, bone, clay pipe stem, 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2175**

Stones

T5 (AY)

Stony layer from 90 to 94 cm below the surface, ?former ground surface

**2176**

Greyish clay

T5 (AY)

Layer surrounding stones of 2175

**2177**

Disturbed brown to black silty clay

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2178 east of 2175/2176 from 45 to 100 cm (base of trench) below the surface, containing some brick fragments

**2178**

Mortary brick rubble

T5 (AY)

Layer above 2177 from 35 to 45 cm below the surface

**2179**

Limestone blocks and bricks

T5 (AY)

Foundations running east to west along south side of trench for 2.8 m at a depth of 90 to 104 cm (base of trench) below the surface, cut by modern ducts at either end

**2180**

Mixed brown loamy sand

T5 (AY)

Layer east of 2179 and in road crossing trench opposite Back Park Street, beneath 2161 from 35 to 90 cm (base of trench) below the surface, rising towards the east above 2181, containing 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, animal bone

**2181**

Black sandy silts

T5 (AY)

Layer east of and beneath 2180, rising from 90 cm to 55 cm below the surface, containing charcoal fragments, bone, 16<sup>th</sup> - late 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery, clay pipes, post med window glass



**2182**

Grey ash

T5 (AY)

Intermittent narrow layer between 2180 and 2181, containing med and post-med pottery, clay pipe stem

**2183**

Brick

T5 (AY)

Wall of 2" bricks across trench near eastern end of Weatherills

**2184**

Brown clay

T5 (AY)

Layer of disturbed brown to grey clay along much of the base of the trench and in the road crossing to Back Park Street, containing some stone, brick and tile, charcoal and animal bone, from between 35 and 45 cm to 95 cm (base of trench) below the surface

**2185**

Yellow sand

T5 (AY)

Fill of trench around gas pipes running diagonally across trench at 35 to 50 cm below the surface

**2186**

Limestone

T5 (AY)

Limestone block in south facing section under 2034, from 10 to 37 cm below the surface, within backfill of gas trench

**2187**

Yellow sand

T5 (AY)

Intermittent layer under 2180 from 65 to 80 cm below the surface

**2188**

Grey silt

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2180 from 65 to 95 cm (base of trench) below the surface, opposite Back Park Street

**2189**

Dirty yellow sand

T5 (AY)

Lenses of sand above and within 2184, from 45 to 70 cm below the surface, containing modern pottery

**2190**

Brick

T5 (AY)

Concentration of bricks beneath 2161, over 2184, east of gas pipe, from 30 to 70 cm below the surface

**2191**

Limestone blocks and hardcore

T5 (AY)

Modern hardcore within 2 large limestone blocks

**2192**

Modern disturbance

T5 (AY)

Bricks, sandstone setts and hardcore near eastern end of Abbey Yard

**2193**

Brick

T5 (AY)

Layer of bricks beneath 2034, over 2194, near eastern end of Abbey Yard

**2194**

Mixed disturbed yellowish brown sand with brown clay and stones

T5 (AY)

Layer beneath 2193 near eastern end of Abbey Yard, containing brick fragments

**2195**

Modern disturbance

T5 (AY)

Layer of bricks, dressed stones and setts beneath 2034 to 80 cm below the surface, at eastern end of Abbey Yard

**2196**

Stones

T5 (AY)

Layer of large stones beneath 2195 from 80 to 95 cm (base of trench) below the surface, at eastern end of Abbey Yard

**2197**

Mixed dark brown stony loam

CC7 (CA)

Layer beneath tarmac to base of trench at 60 cm below the surface, containing 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> - modern pottery, 18<sup>th</sup> C glass

**2198**

Loose brown stony loamy sand

C48 (FS)

Layer beneath tarmac and above 2199 from 12 to 40 cm below the surface, containing 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2199**

Disturbed compacted brown and orange silty sand

C48 (FS)

Layer beneath 2198 and above 2068 from 40 cm to 85cm below the surface, containing bone and 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> C pottery

**2200**

Disturbed gravelly mortary sandy loam

CC5 (CA)

Fill around water service connection at north-west corner of Church Avenue, beneath flags to depth of 47cm, containing 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> C pottery, animal bone, clay pipe stem

**2201**

Pale yellow fine sand

S3A (C)

Layer at 150cm below the surface, beneath 2105, probably natural

**2202**

White crushed limestone

T1 (CA)

Layer around grave fill of S12, 30cm wide, at 70cm below surface,  
unexcavated

**2203**

Spongy grey silty sand

T1 (CA)

Grave cut of S12, surrounded by 2202, at 70cm below surface, unexcavated