

General site shot



6 STONEBRIDGATE
RIPON
NORTH YORKSHIRE

METHODOLOGY:

The area to be investigated measured 13m x 10m and was subrectangualr in plan.

The project was designed so as gather sufficient information to establish the presence / absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the area concerned. The following recommendations were followed:

a. That a watching brief should be made during the removal of the on site concrete slab and associated foundations. This should be followed by a rapid cleaning of the site and the recording of any visible archaeology both in plan and section.

b. To select and excavate by machine or hand two 2 metre trial holes, to a depth of undisturbed natural deposits. The location of these excavations are to be determined by any previously exposed archaeology.

c. To maintain a watching brief during the hand or machine excavation of the strip foundation trenches.

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THE WATCHING BRIEF: PHASE I

The concrete platform was broken up and removed by a machine, the underlying hardcore and gravels were cleaned back by hand to reveal a gently undulating surface of compacted sands and demolition rubble.

This surface had been cut by modern drainage features and shallow foundation trenches, some of which contained modern bricks and concrete fragments. This demolition layer also contained rectilinear brick features and the intermittent and fragmentary remains of a cobbled surface, these features were investigated and found to be shallow and insignificant. The layer was sealed in places by superficial spreads of dark brown loam.

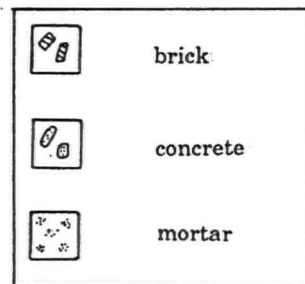
A single unstratified sherd of 15th Century green glazed medieval pottery was recovered from the demolition rubble.

No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified, it was therefore recommended that the two trial holes be machine excavated under close archaeological supervision.

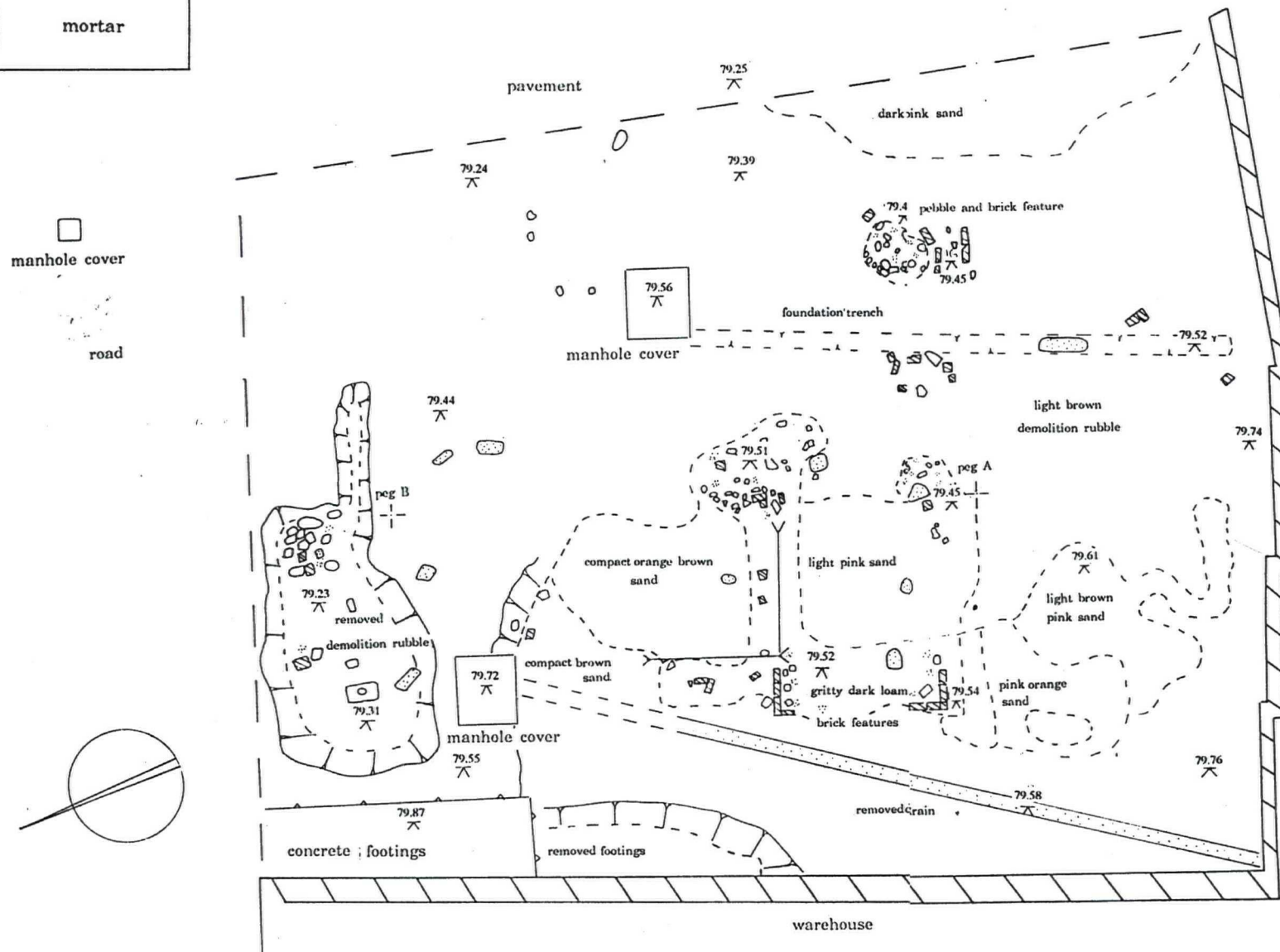
Removal of on site concrete



Key



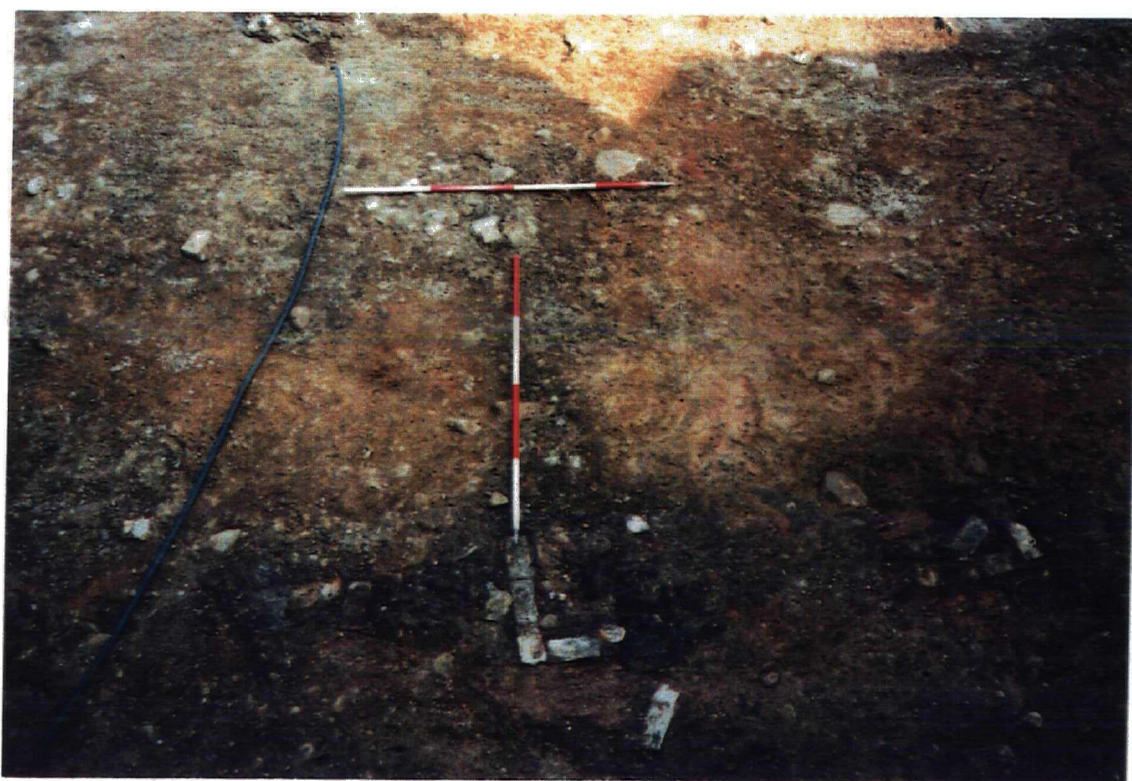
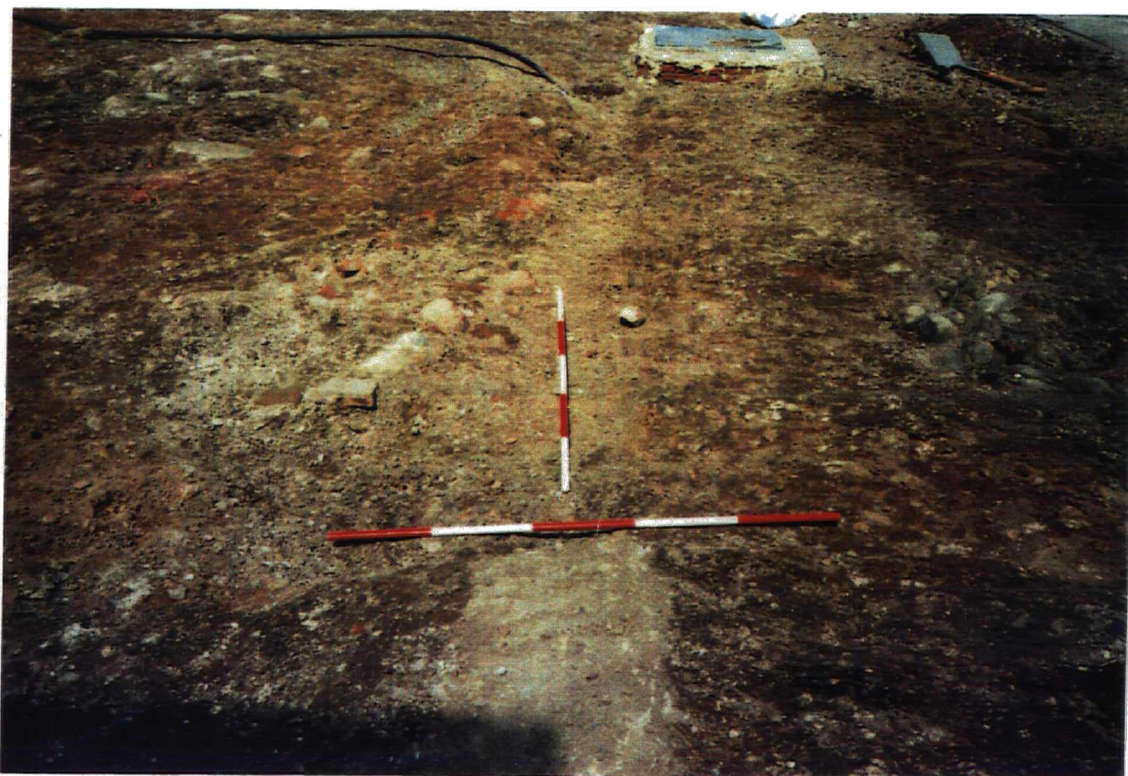
SITE PLAN



Scale 1:50  0 5 metres

All heights are given in metres above sea level

General site shot



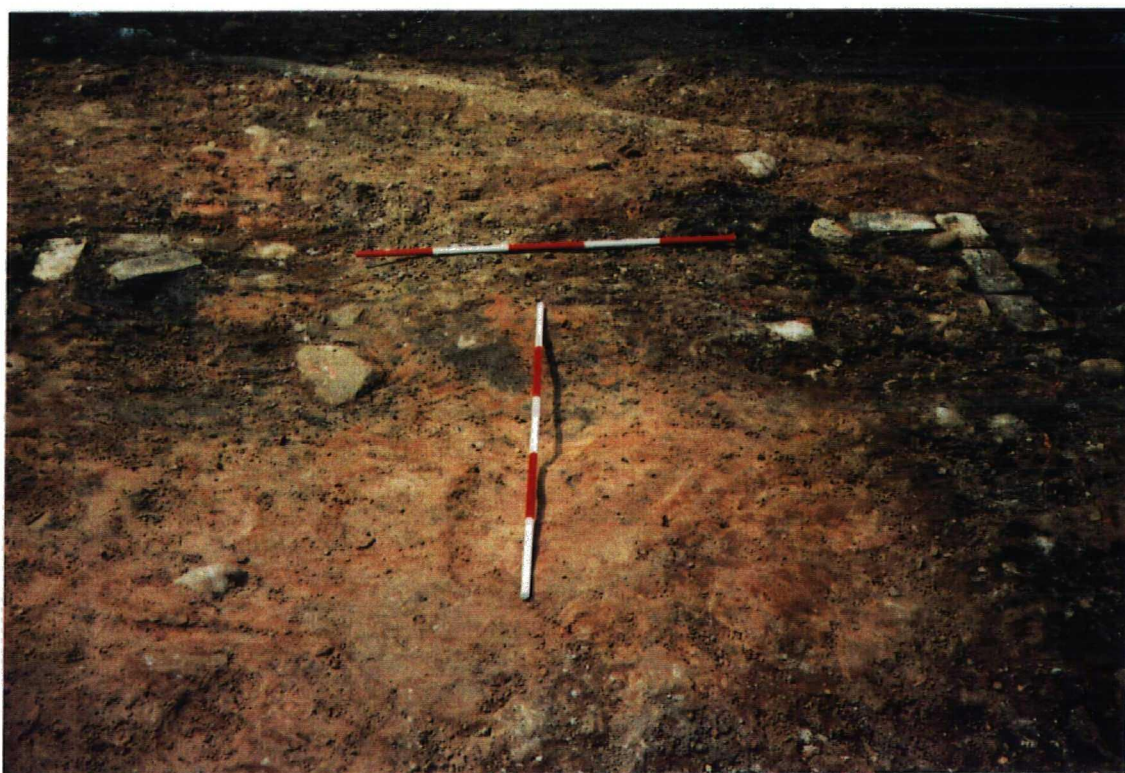
Demolition rubble

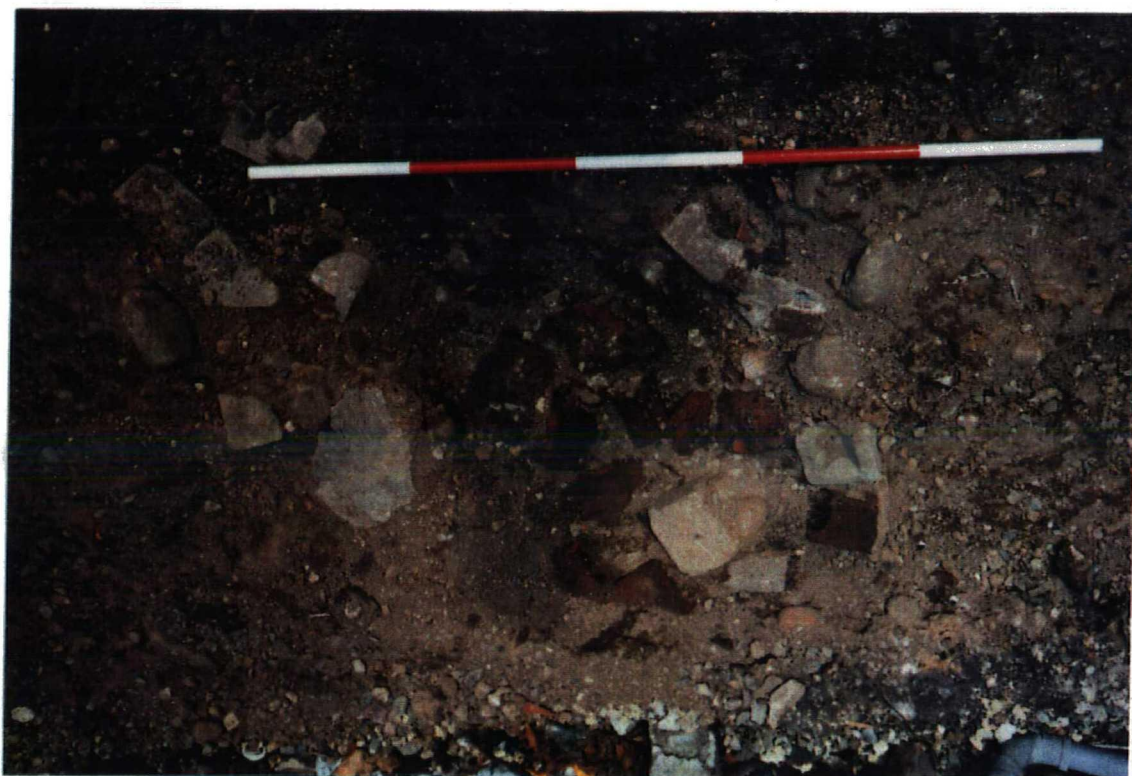


Demolition rubble and features



Demolition rubble and brick features





Demolition rubble

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THE TRAIL HOLES:

Two trial holes measuring 2m x 2m were machine excavated to the level of the proposed foundation base 78.44 metres above sea level. These sondages were located within the central area of the site so as to establish the depth of the demolition layer and it's relationship to the sands.

The conclusions drawn from the excavation of these two exploratory sondages established that the layer of demolition was relatively shallow and overlying successive layers of sand that were archaeologically sterile.

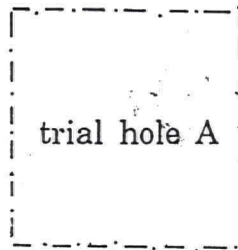
It was therefore advised that the proposed strip foundation trenches could be machine excavated under archaeological supervision.

WATCHING BRIEF: PHASE II

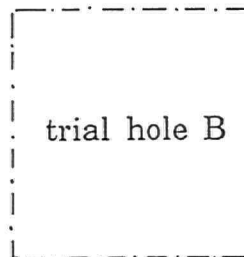
The foundation trenches were machine excavated down to the required depth 78.44 metres above sea level.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified within the four foundation trenches.

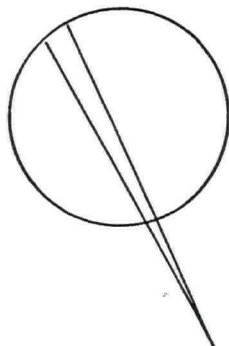
Location plan of trial hole A and B



peg A

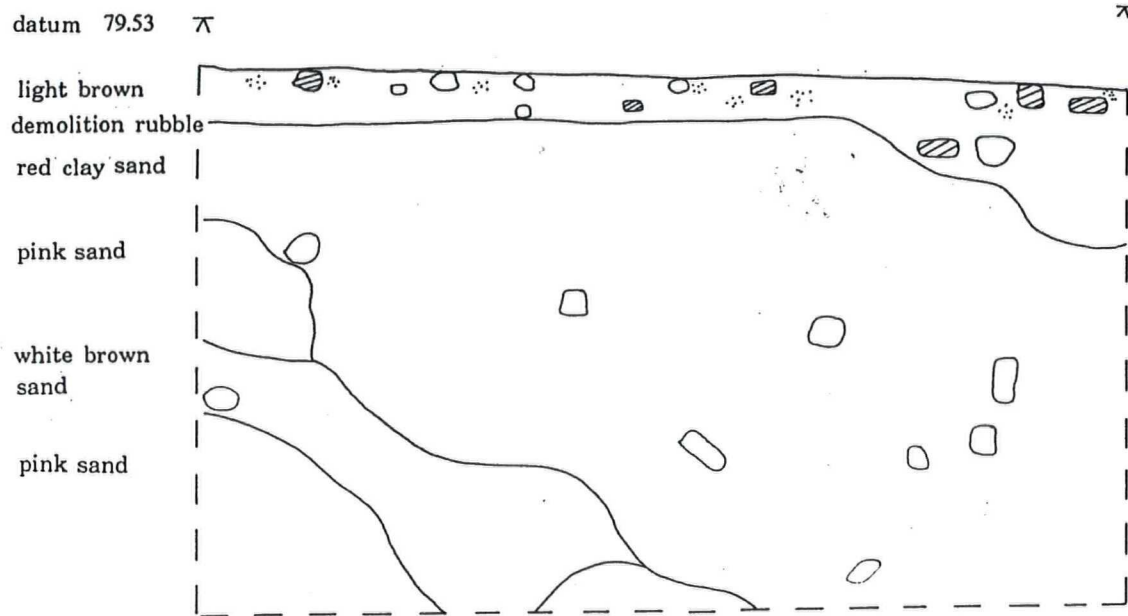


peg B

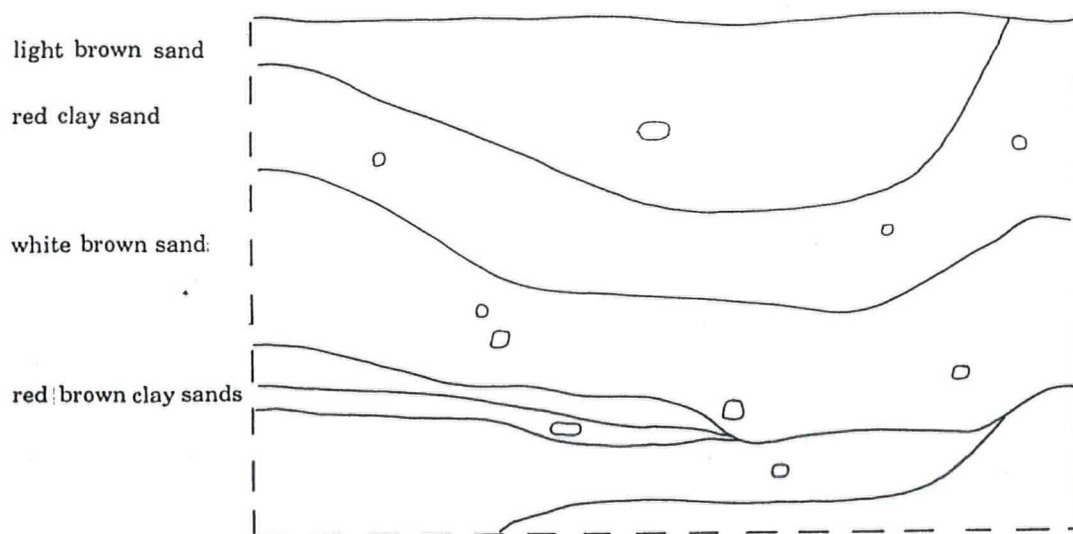


Scale 1:50

facing south east

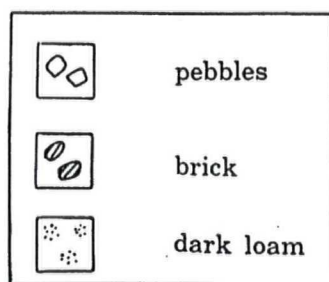


facing north east

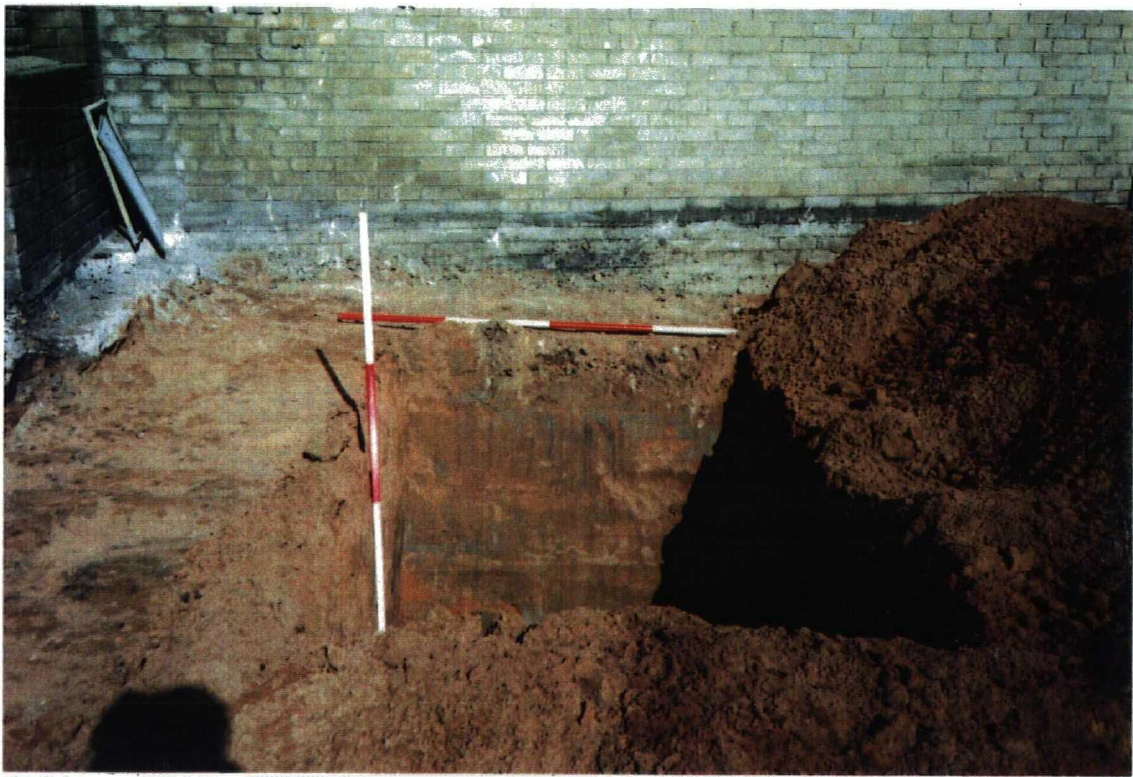


scale: 1:10 0 50 1 metres

Key



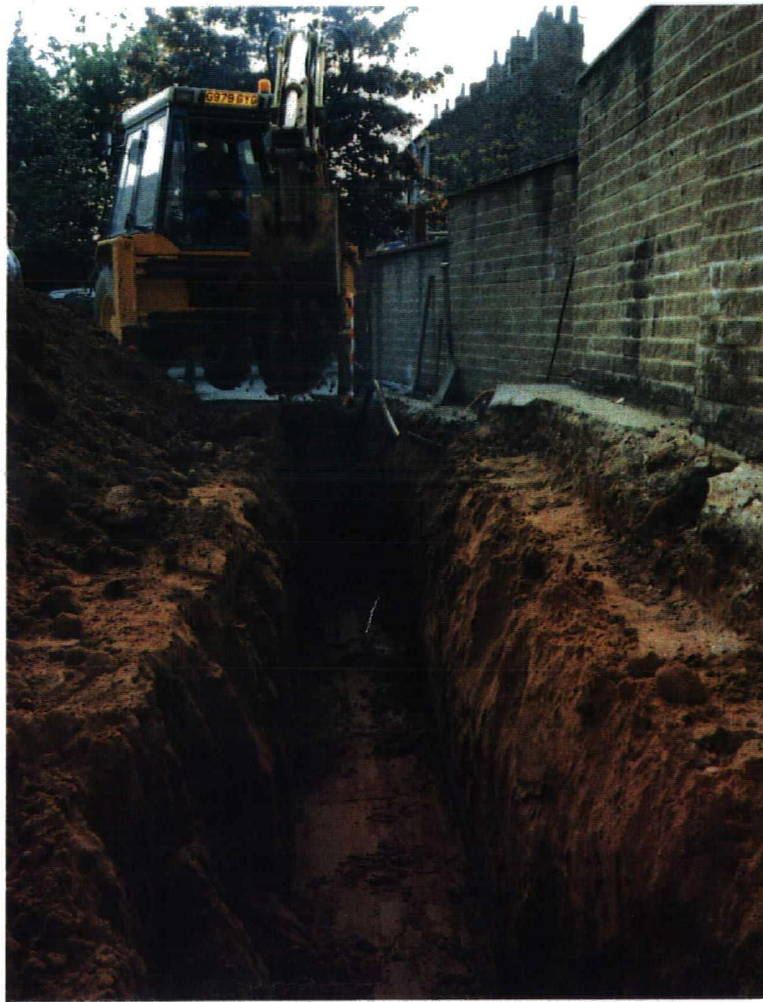
Trial hole A



Trial hole B



Machine trench



6 STONEBRIDGE GATE
RIPON
NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
APRIL 1992

REPORT

CONCLUSIONS:

No significant features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified during recent excavations at 6 Stonebridge Gate, Ripon, North Yorkshire.

It would appear that the site had been subject to a high level of modern disturbance related to the demolition of 18th structures and the installation of a prefabricated office unit. It is suspected that the successive layers of sands that were underlying this demolition rubble had been brought onto the site in an attempt to make up the ground level in association with the 18th Century development.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Given the archaeological potential for this area of Ripon it is recommended that any further ground disturbance should be closely monitored by an archaeologist. Should any ground disturbance take place within the immediate area it would be useful to ascertain the depth of the sand deposits.

REPORT:

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