

NYC 1822

NYE 367

NYS 722

THE BRIGANTIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE

BRITANNIA CHAMBERS
18a HORSEMARKET
BARNARD CASTLE
Co DURHAM DL12 8LZ



| NYCC HER | |
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| SNY | 722 |
| ENY | 367 |
| CNY | 1822 |
| Parish | 1092 |
| Rec'd | 11/05/2001 |

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Gail Falkingham,
Heritage Unit,
North Yorkshire County Council,
County Hall,
Northallerton,
North Yorkshire DL7 8AH.

10th May, 2001

Dear Gail,

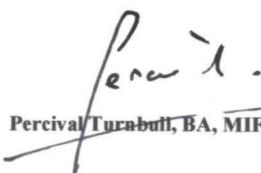
WATCHING BRIEF AT TOWER STREET, RICHMOND.

This is to confirm that we have now concluded the watching brief which you requested be carried out during the course of resurfacing work in Tower Street, Richmond. I should say that the scheme of works as originally planned has not been completed: on the accompanying plan, areas of grey tone indicate the original scheme, and the areas enclosed by a red line those parts which have actually been recobbled, the remaining central strip (including the whole of the lane to the Market Place) having received merely a new dressing of asphalt. I understand that, at least for the present, this is how matters are to be left.

Excavated areas (that is to say, those indicated by the red line) were dug out by JCB machine to a maximum depth of 400 mm and an average of 300 mm. Over the whole of the area, recent asphalt and hard-core directly overlay a deposit of dirty, greasy black clay soil, which contained rubbish of the past century or so in date. Nowhere did operations penetrate through this layer and, apart from some recent drainage and water pipes, no feature was seen which was likely to be earlier in date than the last (twentieth-century) resurfacing of the area. Only material of modern date was recovered from the site and from the excavated spoil: specifically, nothing of mediaeval or of early post-mediaeval date was found.

We have encountered some difficulties with communications with the County Highways office over this piece of work, and have more than once gone to the site, having been told that excavation was to take place, to find that no-one was there, and we were not informed that work had been finished as it was. I know that you are aware in general terms of some problems, and mention the matter only to underline for future reference the importance of having a named person who can be relied upon to pass information to us .

With best wishes,


Percival Turabull, BA, MIFA, FSA

Deborah Walsh, BA, AIFA

