

YORK



ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRUST



Inc doc
KNURIP/OS4.

NYCC HER	
SNY	8466
ENY	2036'
CNY	3350
Parish	6043/6051
Rec'd	18/09/2003

**SKELL CORRIDOR,
RIPON FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME,
NORTH YORKSHIRE**



**REPORT ON AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESK TOP STUDY**

2003 FIELD REPORT
NUMBER 16

**RIPON FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME,
SKELL VALLEY CORRIDOR
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESK TOP STUDY**

By Rhona Finlayson

CONTENTS

- ABSTRACT
1. INTRODUCTION
 2. METHODOLOGY
 3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY
 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
 5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS
 6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS
 7. LIST OF SOURCES

Appendix 1 : Known Archaeological Monuments and Finds
Appendix 2 : Archaeological Events (investigations)

York Archaeological Trust: a registered charity
Cromwell House, 13 Ogleforth, York YO1 7FG
Tel. (01904) 663000 Fax. (01904) 663024
e-mail:enquiries@yorkarchaeology.co.uk

List of Figures

Fig. 1, Location of study area

Fig. 2, Location of known archaeological sites, monuments and investigations

Fig. 3, Extract copied from 1831 estate map, showing the approximate relationship between the 19th course and the modern course of the river Skell.

Fig. 4, Extract copied from Estate map, 1870

List of Plates

Plate 1, Meander in the River Skell

Plate 2, Wooded banks of the River Skell

Plate 3, facing east, looking into the Fountains Abbey, Royal Studley Scheduled Area from the eastern edge of the study area

Plate 4, East side (up-stream side) of Fountains Bridge

Plate 5, Up-stream side of the Iron footbridge across the River Skell, supported on stone piers constructed on the north and south banks.

Plate 6, Worked stone blocks in the bed of the River Skell (below)

Plate 7, Facing north, stone structure at Aldfield Spa and derelict post-medieval building

Plate 8, South side of building range close to Aldfield Spa

Plate 9, Stone structure coving Aldfield Spa

ABSTRACT

This archaeological desk top study, carried out by York Archaeological Trust in May 2003, covered a heavily wooded stretch of the Skell Valley downstream from Stephenson Bridge, lying adjacent to the Scheduled Monument and World Heritage Site of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Gardens. The area had once been a part of Studley Royal Gardens incorporated into the landscaped parkland by William Aislabie and some structures and above ground evidence of structures from this period survive, in addition to a 18th -19th century derelict building and a covered spring at Aldfield Spa. The potential for the survival of remains of prehistoric settlement, medieval water management systems and post-medieval landscaping and structures to survive within the study area was identified.

No previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the study area as it falls outside the boundaries of the important sites of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Gardens and beyond the western limit of the National Trust property. Since this study identifies the possibility of significant archaeological remains within the study area it is also recommended that archaeological monitoring should accompany any disturbance in the area of the proposed structures.

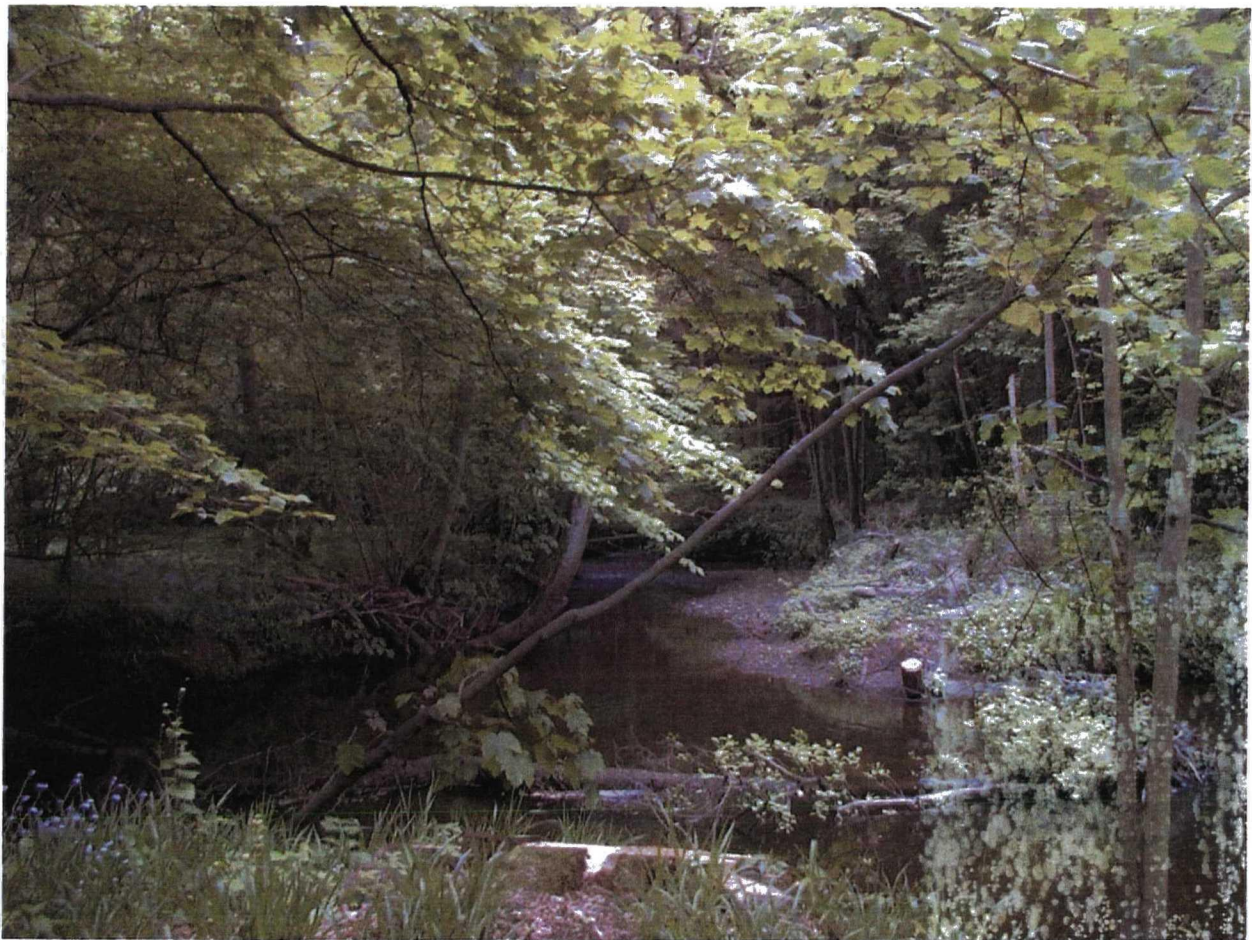


Plate 1, Meander in the River Skell

1. INTRODUCTION

In November 2002, York Archaeological Trust carried out an archaeological assessment of an area of land covered by a feasibility study for a proposed scheme for flood alleviation around Ripon, North Yorkshire. An area of the river Skell valley to the south of Ripon (see Fig. 1) has been added to this study area and a desk top archaeological assessment of this additional area was carried out in May 2003 and is reported here. The study was undertaken for the Halcrow Group Limited on behalf of the Environment Agency to provide background historical and archaeological information to inform the design for a flood alleviation scheme with the aim of minimising disturbance to historical and archaeological features.

A variety of sources were used to assess the significance of the study area, these included cartographic and documentary evidence, published and unpublished archaeological reports and books, National Monuments Record, the North Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Records, and the National Trust Sites and Monuments Record via the Archaeological Data Service, University of York.

2. METHODOLOGY

This assessment considers all the relevant archaeological information within the study area and makes reference to important sites close to the study area. The historical and archaeological background to the area was studied via a variety of media. The National Monuments Record (NMR) at Swindon and the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) of North Yorkshire County Council were consulted to identify the location of any known archaeological monuments and find spots. The National Trust Sites and Monuments Record was consulted via the Archaeological Data Service, University of York. The North Yorkshire County Record Office was consulted for cartographic data (18th century to 20th century). Published and unpublished archaeological reports and works of historical and archaeological synthesis were also consulted.

A superficial "walk-over" of the study area along public footpaths has been carried out.

Research notes are currently stored by York Archaeological Trust under the York Archaeological Trust accession code YORAT:2003.8

Information relating to the known archaeological sites and those with potential for surviving archaeological remains in the study area is presented in gazetteer form in Appendices 1 and 2 along with accompanying plan, Fig. 2.

3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The study area (see Fig. 1) extends for c. 3km along the Skell valley, from NGR SE 2488 6935 to SE 2705 6812. A number of small tributary streams including Gill Beck join the Skell along this part of the valley but most of these streams are not named by the Ordnance Survey Digital map.

The land ranges between the 100m and 140m contour lines each side of the Skell valley which is quite deeply incised along this stretch of the river. The valley bottom widens as the river

progresses east and the river follows several meanders. The river course downstream of the widening appears almost identical to that shown on 19th century maps dated 1831 and 1870 (see Fig. 3 and 4) but the up-stream section has varied considerably between that shown on the 19th century maps and the present day course. The solid geology underlying the area is an outcrop of Magnesian Limestone and Permian mudstone which extends in a north-south direction between the Pennines and the Vale of York (Geological Survey 1979). Overlying this solid geology are periglacial deposits of clay, sand and gravels. These deposits are not uniform, varying in depth and composition. Along the river valley there are overlying alluvial deposits, again of varying extent and depth.

The northern boundary of the study area is the B6265 which is carried over the Skell by Stephenson Bridge. For the most part of the study area the Skell valley is densely wooded to each side of the river. The woodland, Spa Gill Wood, Skell Bank Woods and Spring Wood, is mainly well-established mixed deciduous trees with some smaller areas of conifer plantation. A footpath runs along the north bank of the Skell closely following the river and other footpaths run through the woods. Downstream from Stephenson Bridge the river Skell is crossed by three footbridges and at the eastern edge of the study area by a stone bridge, Fountains Bridge. Here, the river runs through the World Heritage site of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Gardens which adjoins the eastern edge of the study area.

It is proposed that an earth-filled embankment, between 5-10m high be positioned at one of the proposed locations (see Fig. 1) and the area likely to be affected by the flood extent could extend east to the B6265. Thus, the majority of the study area could be affected by the proposed scheme. Access for the proposed construction work is most likely to be along the track/footpath along the north bank of the Skell. At the time of carrying out the survey no information was available regarding the location of "borrow pits".



Plate 2, Wooded banks of the River Skell

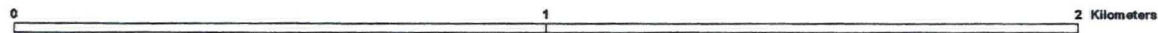
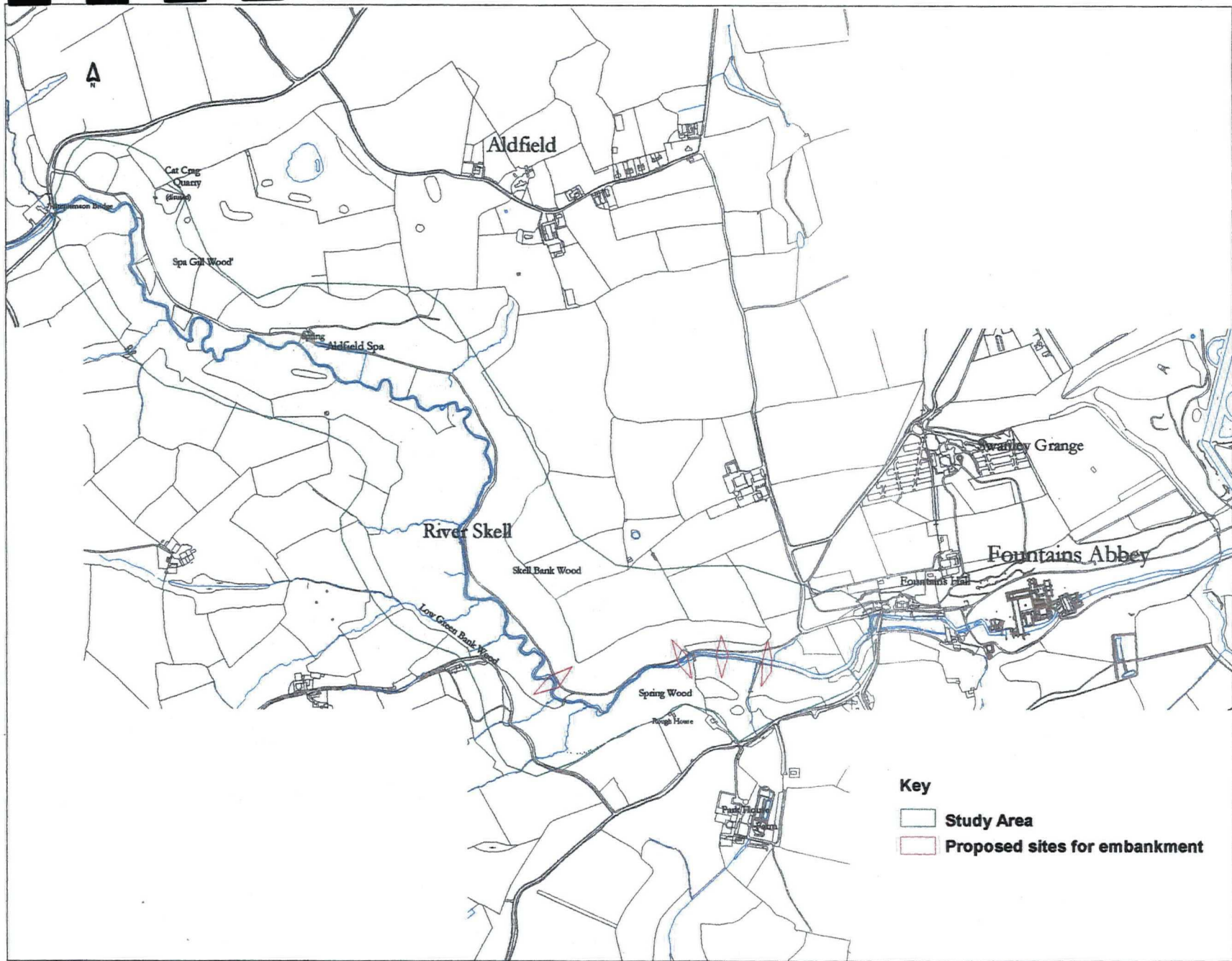


Fig.1 Location of Study Area

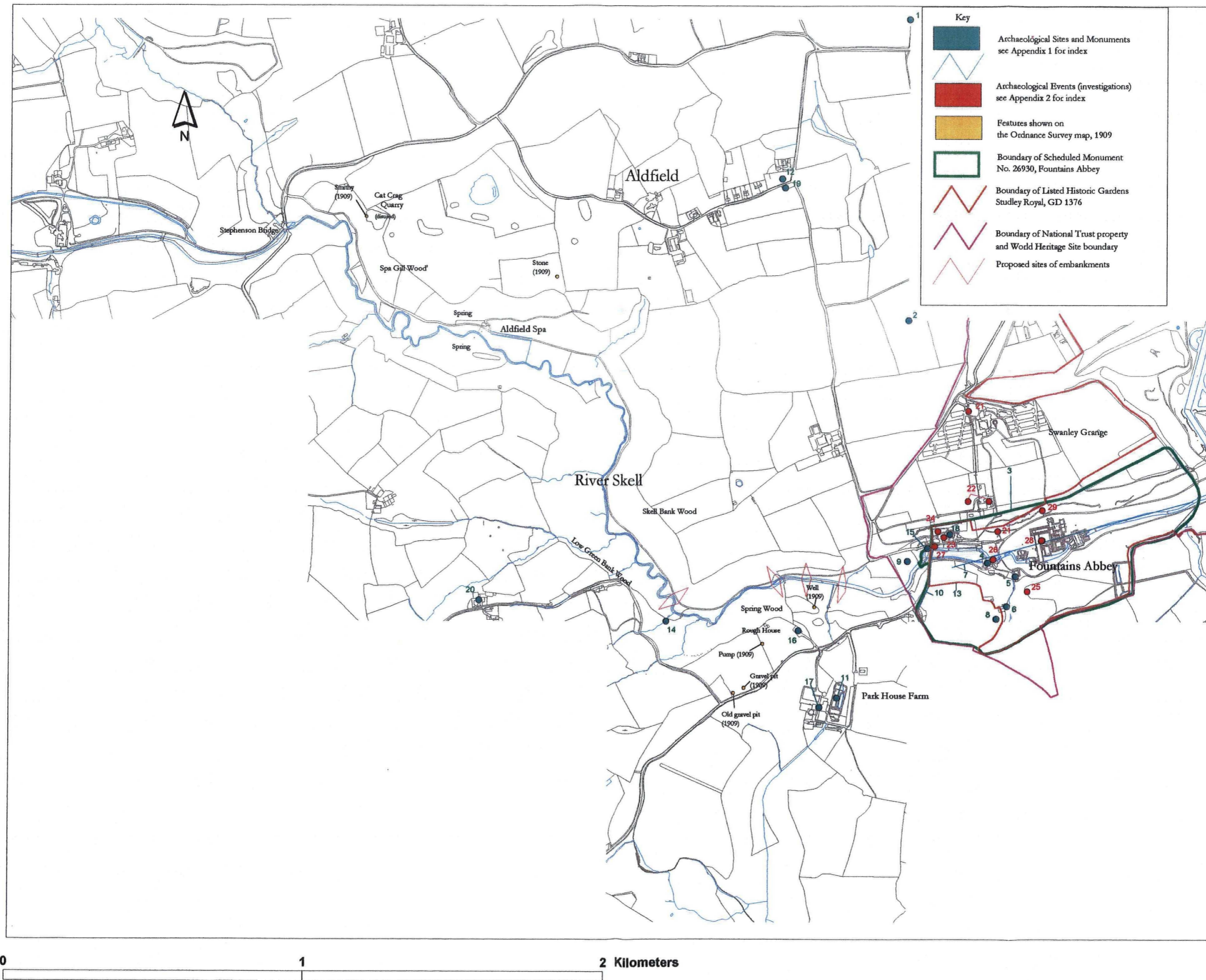


Fig. 2, Location of known archaeological sites, monuments and investigations. Appendices 1 and 2 provide a gazetteer to the mapped numbers

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The study included an assessment of the National Monuments Record (NMR), the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) of North Yorkshire County Council, and the National Trust Sites and Monuments record (via the Archaeological Data Service, York University), cartographic data (18th century to 20th century), published and unpublished archaeological reports and works of historical and archaeological synthesis which related to the study area.

The study area falls outside the boundary of the Scheduled Monument site of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Gardens. It is in these areas and on the western boundary of the National Trust Property that all previous archaeological investigations have occurred. Full details of the archaeological investigations which occurred close to the area are not covered by this report but findings from these archaeological investigations, and an examination of the documentary and cartographic evidence for the study area is discussed below period by period. A full list of archaeological monuments including their statutory status is provided in Appendix 1 and a full list of all of the archaeological events (investigations) is provided in Appendix 2.

4.1 Prehistoric period (to 1st century AD)

There is extensive recorded evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Ripon. The area between the Swale and the Ure is clearly of significance in terms of major funerary and ritual monuments in this period. Immediately to the north and east of Ripon there are three henge monuments, at Hutton Moor (SE 353735), Cana (SE 351718) and Nunwick (SE 323747) and numerous barrows have been identified. A "beaker" burial was discovered c. 1m below the surface in a gravel quarry at West Tanfield (SE 260779) in 1973 (Mayes *et al*, 1986, 1-4). The material in which the well-preserved buried bones were discovered - sands and gravels derived from Pleistocene outwash - is very commonly found within the area. Gravel pits are shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1909 in the area south of Spring Wood.

Numerous prehistoric find spots have been recorded in the Ripon area although none recorded within the study area. These, often found in antiquity, have an area location rather than a pinpointed find spot. The four figure grid reference for the majority of the Neolithic and Bronze Age finds for Ripon is NGR SE 31 71 and may reflect the fact that all that is known is that they were found at "Ripon". The finds included stone and bronze axes, hammers, a spearhead and a hoard of implements. A more specific location is known for an Iron Age sword which is reported to have been found in the River Laver near Clotherholme ford (SE 2851 7205). Closer to the study area, a large, possibly Bronze Age sword was found near to Lindrick Farm and a gold torc dating to the Bronze Age or the Iron Age was found on High Lindrick Farm (see Fig 2 and Appendix 1). Neither of these finds, discovered in the 19th century, have a specific location and are recorded with the four figure grid reference SE 27 70.

The Ordnance Survey map from 1909 marks the site of a "stone" at SE 2580 6195, on the north bank of the Skell and several stones in a group on the south bank at SE 262 678 (also shown on the modern map). No further information has been identified concerning these stones but they could have a connection with early settlement in the area.

Prehistoric settlement is known to the north and west of Ripon, and to the south at Boroughbridge, placing the eastern extents of the study area within a possible "corridor" of

movement and settlement. While within the study area no monuments or finds of prehistoric date have been identified there may be sites of very early settlement or temporary camps along the Skell valley, particularly where gravel beds are found. More settled occupation may have been located on the river terraces and plains where the river valleys open out.

Within the study area, where the valley of the river Skell is deeply incised, the topography of the area is not likely to have attracted early settlement. Where the valley widens, there is a likelihood of settlement sites (for example in the area where the valley bottom widens in the locations where the forestry has recently been felled). The evidence of early settlement by humanity could be obscured and preserved by an accumulation of overlying alluvial deposits. Intensive forestry of an area and the resulting soil erosion and root action can also result in damage to archaeological deposits. However, examining the evidence overall there would seem to be a potential likelihood for the survival of the remains of prehistoric settlement within the study area, although the known evidence is relatively sparse.

4.2 Roman period (1st to 5th centuries AD)

While there is significant archaeological evidence of Roman activity in the vicinity of Ripon, to date, little evidence from this period has been discovered within the city. To the south-west of the study area, the village of Sawley may have Roman origins (NYM 7333). There is only one find of possible Roman date which has been recorded close to the study area; a round bronze box, possibly a Roman seal box was found at Lindrick, 1931 (NMR 51888).

4.3 Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian periods (5th-11th centuries)

The river Skell has a name with possible Scandinavian derivation, Kell meaning spring (Taylor 1998, 4), suggesting that the name dates from this period.

Ripon was an important monastic settlement in the early medieval period and there was an associated secular settlement there. The form or layout of early medieval Ripon is not known with certainty, but settlement in this period appears to have a focus around the ridge on which the Minster stands and the mound at Ailcy Hill. It seems likely, therefore, that it may have extended southwards towards a river crossing of the Skell.

To the south-west of the study area, the village of Sawley may have early medieval origins (NYM 7333):

There is no specific evidence or any strong indication for settlement of early medieval date within the study area.

4.4 Medieval period (11th-16th centuries)

Immediately to the east of the study area lies Fountains Abbey (NMR UI 51860) Scheduled Monument (no. 26930). It was founded in 1132 by a party of monks from the Benedictine Abbey of St Mary, York and was adopted by the Cistercian Order in 1133. In the 1140s the abbey was transformed as the original timber building was replaced by a formal cloister enclosure. Much of

this was destroyed by fire in 1146. Further improvement throughout the medieval period saw the abbey expand in size and grandeur until it became the most powerful and wealthiest house in England. The Fountains Abbey site covers the monastic precinct, a mill, water management works, agricultural and industrial features.

Lying to the north of and occasionally straddling the river Skell the remains of the Cistercian monastery are well-preserved and extensive. Elements of this monument are separately recorded in the NMR and the monastic site has been the subject of numerous archaeological events (see Appendix 2). Only those elements of the monastic site which are judged to relate to the study area are included here and have been mapped separately (see Fig. 2). The inner court of the monastic complex where the main religious and administrative buildings are sited, is defined by the river Skell to the south and a cliff face to the north. The western extent is defined by a gatehouse and wall closing the narrow stretch of land between the river and the cliff. An infirmary of the poor at Fountains Abbey (NMR 1345183) was documented in the reign of Richard I and was located by the Abbey gatehouse. The boundary wall (NMR 975400) of the Abbey survives to its full height on the south and south-west sides of the precinct. Agricultural and industrial facilities associated with the abbey were located beyond the inner court. The most prominent of these is the corn mill which was built in the 12th century, remodelled in the late 12th century and again in the early 13th century. This mill (NMR 620480) part of Scheduled Monument (no. 26930), Listed Building Grade I was powered by a leat or millrace leading from the Skell and remained working until 1937. To the east of abbey mill are the remains of a building first interpreted as a malthouse, brewhouse and bakehouse, (NMR 975426) part of Scheduled Monument (no. 26930). Following an excavation in 1977-80 it was re-interpreted as a woolhouse, incorporating a fulling mill and later a dyehouse. An earthworks survey in 1989 and 1991 identified traces of twenty two different buildings on the south side of the monastic precinct. One of these sat astride a stream and was presumably a mill. It survived as a ruin in to the 19th century (NMR 975311), part of Scheduled Monument (no. 26930).

Associated with these mills is a complex water management system (NMR 1057352) part of Scheduled Monument (no. 26930). The Skell was re-routed in 1140s to run 28m further to the south along stone revetted and lined drains and included tunnels, weirs and mill race serving Abbey Mill. The stone revetted and lined channels formed the edge of the inner monastic precinct, whilst a stone drain was constructed along its old line to flush latrines which were built above. A further channel fed water from a weir and sluice to the west of the outer precinct to provide power to the corn mill before rejoining the main channel. The woolhouse and malt house were fed by a ghyll running down through Kitchen Bank. The river continues under bridges, through channels and tunnels under the west claustral range and the infirmaries, flushing latrines and aiding sanitation in the buildings above. The river continues to be channelled to the east across two weirs and becomes a part of the formal gardens of Studley Royal (see post-medieval section). Water was provided to the abbey itself by a series of pipes leading from wells.

The study area lies up-stream from this important monastic site. Previous archaeological investigations do not appear to have investigated the potential for evidence of medieval activity beyond the Abbey walls. Further manipulations of the Skell could have occurred associated with the medieval use of the river. For example, the meanders of the Skell within the western part of the study area could have been used as opportunities to pond the Skell. The 1870 map shows the course of the Skell downstream from Aldfield Spa to be almost identical with its present day course. There is a possibility that there are structures associated with water management of the Skell within the study area dating from this period. Although no structures were immediately

visible, the area is very overgrown with vegetation and remains could be concealed below ground, or silted over within the river course. Further archaeological survey of the area would be necessary to assess if the Skell had been manipulated as part of the monastic use of the area.

The name "Spring Wood", given to the woodland on the south bank of the Skell in the area of the proposed embankment, could indicate that the woodland here has been used for coppicing in the medieval or post-medieval period. The name does not appear on 19th century estate maps of 1831 and 1870 but is annotated on the 1890 Ordnance Survey map which could indicate that the name is not of great antiquity.



Plate 3, facing east, looking into the Fountains Abbey, Royal Studley Scheduled Area from the eastern edge of the study area

An excavation carried out by the National Trust in 1991 within the Skell valley outside the west gate of Fountains Abbey in advance of the insertion of a new septic tank recorded 2.4m – 2.75m (8-9 feet) of dumped material derived from the stone quarries on either side of the valley and from the excavation of the abbey ruins. Quantities of architectural fragments and floor tiles were recovered from a number of the dump layers. The material was shown to have been dumped directly on river-bed deposits. The grid reference for this work is SE 27 68, which does not allow the exact location of this site to be indicated. This investigation does however indicate the

possibility of re-deposited medieval material relating to the Abbey beyond the Abbey wall, potentially within the study area.

There are two sites on higher ground which are very unlikely to be affected by the proposed flood alleviation scheme. Immediately to the south of the study area, is another Scheduled Monument, (no. 31338) which comprises six rectangular medieval fishponds (NMR 51927) which survive as earthworks next to Park House, a 17th century house, possibly a manor house.

Immediately to the north of the study area is the site of Aldfield chapel, founded in the 13th century. The present church, **St Lawrence's Church** (NMR 51918), was erected on the site in c. 1783 and has Grade I Listed Building status.

4.5 Post-medieval period (16th-19th centuries)

Studley Royal Park (NMR UI 51924) GD 1376

Fountains Abbey was one of the richest religious houses in England, following the Dissolution the buildings and some of the land was sold to Richard Gresham, who later sold them to Stephen Proctor. After several more changes of ownership the Abbey ruins and Fountains Hall were acquired by the Messenger family who sold them to William Aislebie. The principal entrance is from the west side of Ripon, south of Bishopton Bridge.

To the south of Ripon the post-medieval period saw the development of Studley Royal Park into the gardens they are today. Studley Royal Park, (NMR UI 51924) is a part of the Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Gardens site which has World Heritage Site status. The gardens lie immediately to the east of the study area, and the Skell is integral to the Gardens. The Archbishops of York had formed a park at Ripon, and the existing park at Studley Royal, appears on Saxton's Survey of 1577. The present park was developed from an earlier park owned by the Mallories in the 17th century, but no above-ground evidence exists to delineate an earlier enclosure. This was landscaped by John Aislebie, but following the fire which burnt Studley Hall in 1716 there was a major reorganisation of the landscape. Central to Aislebie's scheme was an enhancement of the river Skell. The valley sides were lowered and the bottom raised and canalised. Among the many features of the work was included a circular pond, on the east side of the canal flanked by two crescent ponds (Moon and Crescent Ponds).

Full details of the development of the gardens and archaeological features within the Gardens as a whole have not been included here, but clearly any alterations to the flow of the Skell would have to be assessed for the impact the change might have on the Skell as it flows through and forms an integral part of Studley Royal Gardens.

Studley Royal Park, (NMR 1097359)

Following the acquisition of the Messenger lands at Fountains Abbey in 1768, William Aislebie committed himself to a programme of land acquisition and lease to the west of the abbey, not satisfied with being able to view the ruins from the east alone. Drives and walks were constructed on both sides of the Skell, three bridges, one a fine stone bridge, giving cross-river

access. The major feature of this area is Rough House, which gives unparalleled views of the Abbey. It is thought that William stopped developing the area because he could not acquire the land necessary to complete his vision of it. A map of the estate of Mrs Lawrence, dated 1831 shows part of this area to belong to Mrs. Lawrence and parts to Lord Grantley (Fig. 3).

The 1831 map shows the study area to be significantly less wooded than it currently is. Two areas along the northern bank of the Skell are marked with trees (Fig. 3). The field boundaries on this map correspond broadly with those of the present day. An estate map dated 1870 (Fig. 4), is a more detailed map than that of 1831, and shows areas along both banks of the Skell within the study area to have been wooded, and names woods on the north bank, Spa Gill Wood and on the southern bank, Low Green Bank Wood, as they are today. The wood does not appear to come so close to the river as it does today, and there are areas on the 1870 map which appear as open ground. The study area of the Skell valley is not in the possession of the National Trust; neither does it form part of the World Heritage Site of Studley Royal Park. However, the area into which William Aislebie attempted to extend Studley Royal Park falls within the study area and there are remains here relating to the landscaping of the area in the 18th century.

Rough House

About 100m south of the proposed embankment, on higher ground, lies Rough House, (NMR 1097402), in the western extension of Studley Royal Park. This building was the final embellishment to the western part of the park. A pre-existing building with an unparalleled view of Fountains Abbey from the west was converted after 1774 by adding a heavy decorative shell of rough stone and giving the impression of a ruin. The pantile roof dates from the 20th century. It has Grade II Listed Building status. Rough House is unlikely to be directly affected by the construction of the proposed embankment, but its introduction could affect views from the site.

The Ordnance survey map of 1909 shows a pump in the field to the west of Rough House (at c. SE 2652 6792) and a well in the field to the east (c. SE 2669 6804), in addition to the spring shown on the modern map (see Fig. 2).

Bridges

An 1870 estate map (Fig. 4) and the Ordnance Survey map of 1909 show three bridges, at SE 2554, 4895, SE 2602 6828 and SE 2625 6801, which are presumably the sites of William Aislebie's three bridges across the Skell connecting paths on the north and south banks. These are the sites of present-day bridges, although only one survives as it was built in the 18th century. A footbridge (NMR 1097381), over the Skell, in Spring Wood was which was constructed c. 1774. It is made of stone, has three rounded arches with keystones and voussoirs, and stands on triangular cutwaters. It is a miniature version of the bridges at Bridge Hewick and Boroughbridge (both c. 1780). The bridge has Grade II Listed Building status (see Plate 4). The grid reference for this bridge as recorded in the NMR places it up-stream from Fountains Bridge but, from its description, it is presumably Fountains Bridge. A fuller visual survey than was possible for this desk top assessment might identify more clearly the surviving 18th structures.

Up-stream from Fountains Bridge is an iron footbridge, which is supported on stone piers which may have once supported another of William Aislebie's three bridges (see Plate 5). There are also worked stone blocks which appear to be of post-medieval date lying in the bed of the River

Skell (see Plate 6). These may have derived from other bridges or structures likely to relate to the 18th century landscaping of this parkland. A “walk-over” survey not confined to the footpath would allow an clearer identification of the documented sources with the surviving remains.



Plate 4, East side (up-stream side) of Fountains Bridge



Plate 5, Up-stream side of the Iron footbridge across the river Skell, supported on stone piers constructed on the north and south banks.



Plate 6, Worked stone blocks in the bed of the river Skell

Aldfield Spa

In the 17th and 18th centuries Ripon developed some reputation as a spa with the discovery of sulphur springs. A spring of sulphur water is known to have been utilised as a spa from 1698 at Aldfield although the springs may have been used from earlier times. Aldfield spring lies within the study area, c. 1.3km up-stream from Fountains Bridge. The site of the spring on the north bank of the Skell is covered by a small stone structure (Plates 7-9), allowing access to the water. A spring is also shown on the modern digital map as emerging close by on the south side of the river, but this area was not visually examined. The Ordnance Survey map of 1909 also shows a spring on the south bank, together with a magnesium and sulphur spa on the north bank and a well further up the north bank, close to the buildings associated with the Spa. The present condition of this building is roofless and derelict. The east part of the building range appears to have been constructed from rough stone blocks and to have been a single storey. This building is likely to have been the earliest part of the construction. It is adjoined by a larger two storey range constructed from more formally cut stone blocks. This building has undergone alteration; a doorway on the south side has been blocked. It is likely that this range of building dates from the 18th-19th century. It is not shown on a map dated 1831 (Fig. 3), but this map is not detailed and was drawn for the purposes of showing land ownership, thus the building's exclusion is probably not significant. The buildings are shown as two separate, adjoining cells on an estate map dated 1870 (Fig. 4) and on the second edition Ordnance Survey map revised in 1909 on both these maps "Aldfield Spa" is annotated and the buildings, located very close to the spa, presumably were associated with the use of the spa.



Plate 7, Facing north, stone structure covering the spring at Aldfield Spa and derelict post-medieval building



Plate 8, South side of building range close to Aldfield Spa



Plate 9, Stone structure covering the spring at Aldfield Spa on the north bank of the river Skell

Listed Buildings

There are a number of post-medieval buildings with Listed status or local historic interest within or near to the study area (see Fig. 2, and Appendix 1). The proposed flood alleviation scheme is unlikely to have any impact on these buildings or their immediate settings.

Park House, (NMR 51927) a 17th century house, possibly a manor house, and possibly dating from the late 16th century. Beside the house are six rectangular medieval fishponds which survive as earthworks. The fishponds are a Scheduled Monument, no. 31338 and the house is Grade II Listed Building. **Park House Barn**, (NMR 522931) is a post-medieval barn at Park House

St Lawrence's Church, (NMR 51918) Aldfield chapel, was founded in the 13th century, the present church erected c. 1783. Grade II Listed Building.

A house, (NMR 51897) dated 1676, opposite the chapel in Aldfield.

Fountains Hall (NMR 51877) Large House built 1598-1611 in the Elizabethan Renaissance style with Listed Building Grade I status, belonging to the National Trust.

Hog Hall (NMR 51854) Swanley, 15th century origins, probably a manor house of the Nortons, altered in the 16th and 17th century.

Grantley Hall, up-stream from the study area has been presumed to be unaffected by the proposed scheme and is not considered here.

Industrial Features

In the northern part of the study area is Cat Crag Quarry, now disused. A pond (at SE 2557 6943) in the field adjacent to Moor Lane is likely to be the site of an old quarry. It is shown in an estate map dated 1870 as if it is a quarry, but by 1909 it is shown as partly marshy, indicating that by this time it may already be disused. The 1909 map shows a two cell building as a smithy on a footpath close to Cat Crag Quarry, so presumably this quarry was in use at least until the early 19th century. This area is on significantly higher ground above the Skell valley is unlikely to be affected by the proposed scheme for flood alleviation.

The Ordnance Survey map 1909 shows a gravel pit and an old gravel pit south of the Skell at SE 264 267. This map also shows the site of an old quarry (SE 2616 6796) on the south bank of the Skell, near to a footbridge. These sites were utilised in the post-medieval period and could have been used from earlier times. They are close to the site of the proposed scheme for flood alleviation, but are of limited archaeological interest.

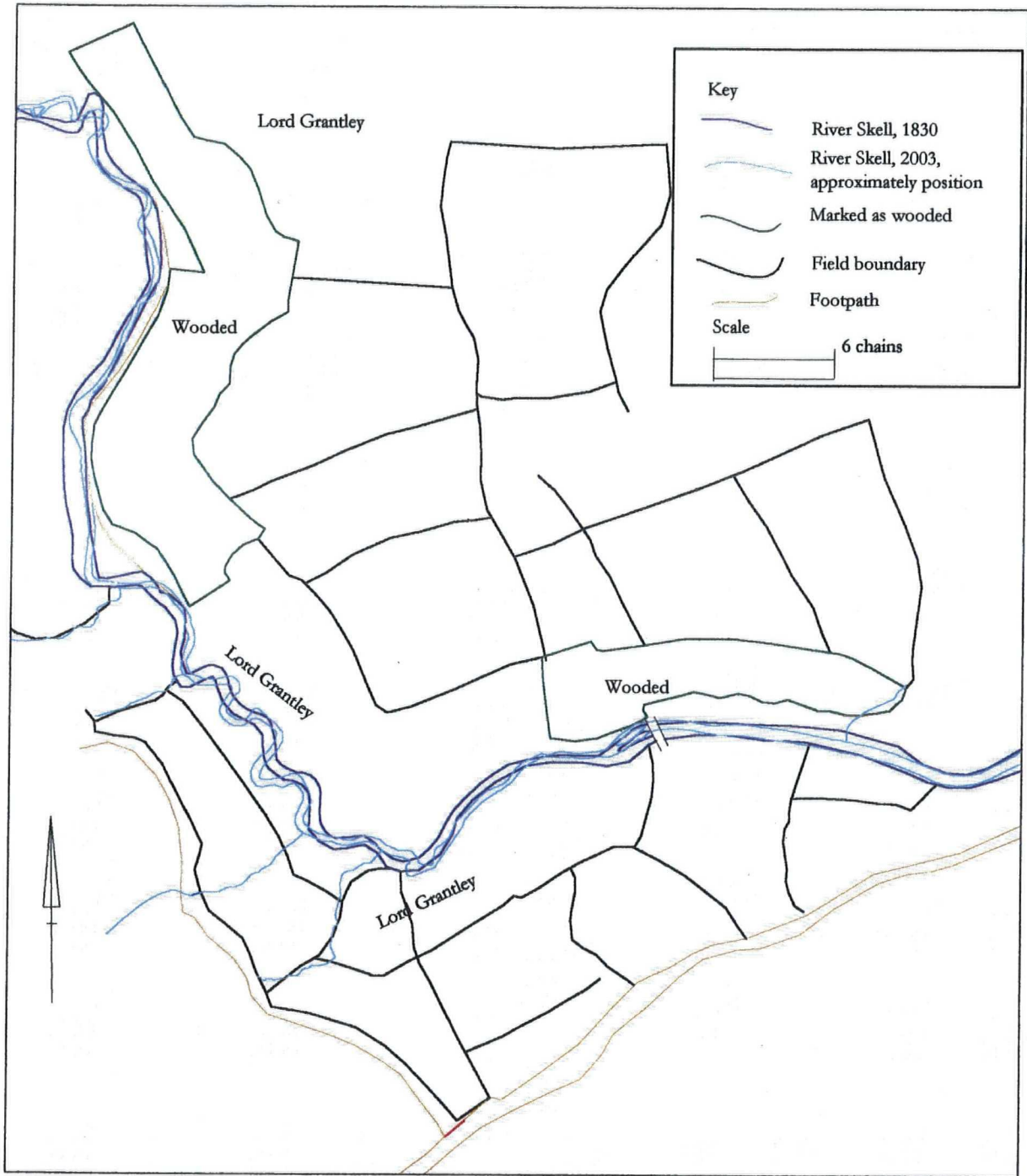


Fig. 3, Extract copied from 1831 estate map, showing the approximate relationship between the 19th course and the modern course of the river Skell (NYRO MIC 2707/127/127-141).

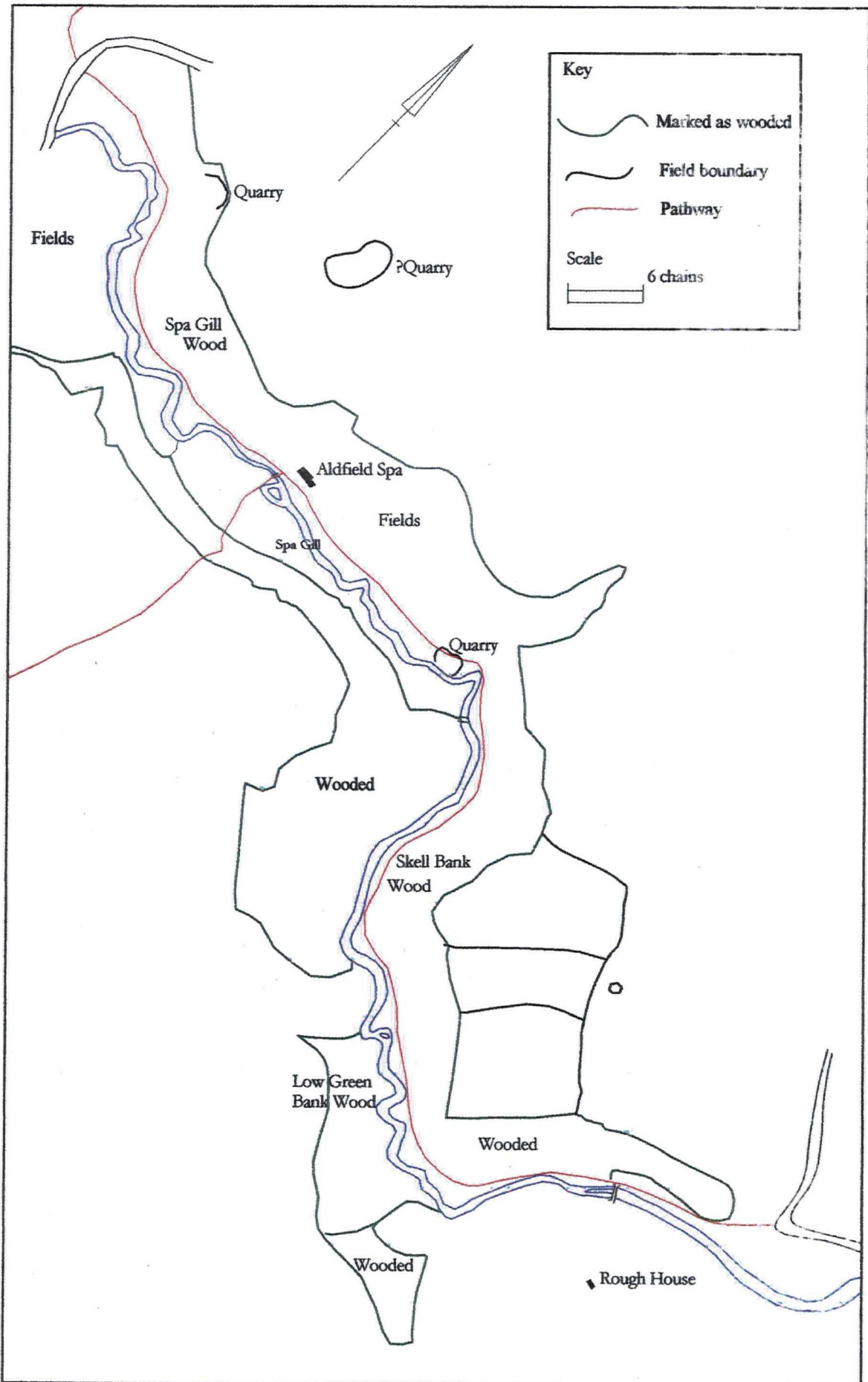


Fig 4. Extract copied from an Estate Map, 1870 (NYRO MIC 2707/127/2-21).