

- KEY:-**
- 1 NY 273
 - 2 NY 192, 212
 - 3 NYM 19760
 - 4 HARGM: 12000
 - 5 NMR UI 53730
 - 6 NYM 19807
 - 7 NMR UI 635478
 - 8 NYM 19780, 21611, 19771, 19772
 - 9 NYM 19770
 - 10 NYM 19789, 19790
 - 11 NYM 19808
 - 12 NY 42
 - 13 NY 336
 - 14 NYM 19798

100 metres

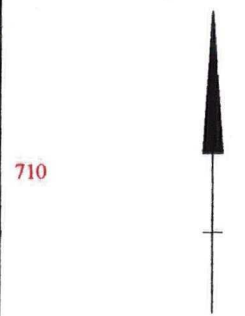


Figure 3
Showing a selection of archaeological sites and finds in the vicinity of the study area

BASED UPON ORDNANCE SURVEY DIGITAL DATA WITH PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE. CROWN COPYRIGHT, YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST CROMWELL HOUSE, 13 CUCKERHILL, YORK YO1 7FG. LICENCE NUMBER AT 00018843

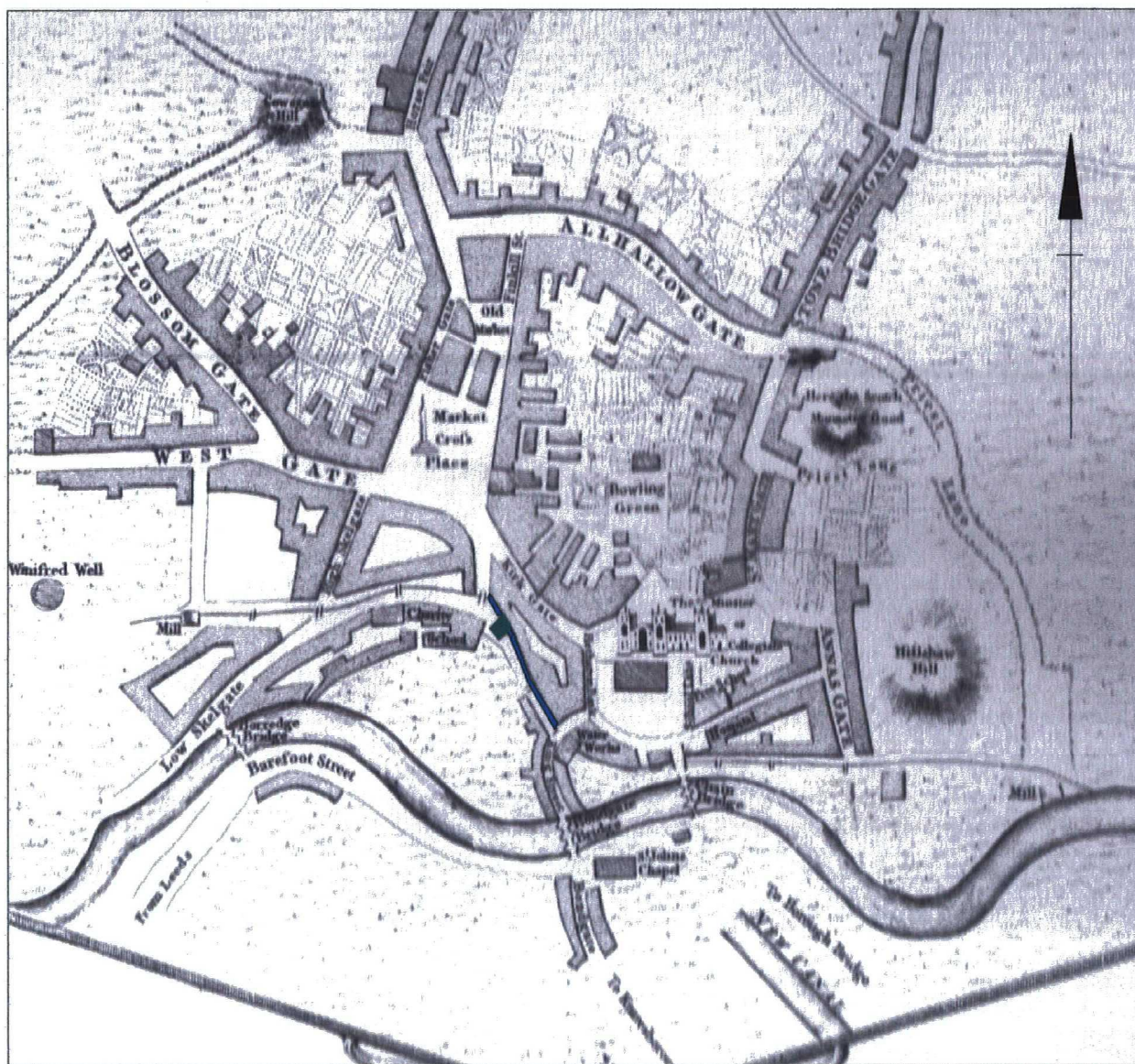


Figure 4 Jeffreys map of Ripon, 1772 showing mill race in Skellgarths



Figure 5 Langdale's plan of Ripon, 1818, showing the mill race at Skellgarths

6. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

There is little or no archaeological evidence pertaining to the prehistoric and Roman periods from the study area. Although there is, in relative terms, considerable evidence for the Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian periods from Ripon, this appears to be concentrated in the areas to the north and east of the Minster. It is possible that a mill mentioned in the Domesday Book lay close to the junction of Water Skellgate and Skellgarths in which case there may well be pre-Conquest activity, structures and deposits within the study area. The site lies close to the conjectured area of the medieval ecclesiastical precinct and associated secular settlement could be located in the vicinity. Analysis of the available evidence from the medieval period strongly suggests that the study area was used in association with the mill at the northern end of Skellgarths. Parts of what is believed to be the mill race have been seen below the western part of the Walker Barker premises and the name of the street, Water Skellgarth, may reflect the association with the mill on Skellgarths. This mill was still active in the post-medieval period and there is an 18th century reference to a watermill at the bottom of Duck Hill called Byemill (Mackay 1982, 77). In 1893 part of Bye Mill - Duck Hill, was sold due to road widening and the remainder became a house in 1988 (Taylor 1998, 15). There is a documentary reference to Skellgarths being called 'Walkmill Bank' in the 1340s (Fowler 1881, 140-143) which indicates that the mill here may have been a fulling mill. There are, therefore, indications that structures associated with the mill probably lie below the northern half of the study area and that these could span the 11th - 18th / 19th centuries. The southern part of the site is more problematic but evidence exists to indicate that it may have been a gently sloping area on the northern bank of a former course of the River Skell and, until recently, had not attracted a great deal of activity.

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

The north-west and probably south-west parts of the area of proposed development have had their ground surfaces raised to create the present car parking areas. Depending on how thick this make-up is, it may well partly protect some of the site but undoubtedly large parts of the site would be disturbed or destroyed by any form of development since it is likely that archaeological deposits, structures, and features lie within c.1m of the modern ground. The construction of the workshops and showroom along the west side of the site may have caused some damage to any underlying archaeology. There is evidence that medieval structures do survive below the modern buildings but this part of the site would be particularly vulnerable to any form of development.

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8.3 Cartographic Sources

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9. LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

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