

NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES LTD
BEVERLEY LEAD PIPE REPLACEMENT
Negative Watching Brief Report

Site name: Beverley Lead Replacement	Grid reference: TA 03748 39303
Parish: Beverley	County: East Riding of Yorkshire
Administrative authority: East Riding of Yorkshire CC	Development: Water pipeline renewal
Client: Yorkshire Water Services Ltd	Contractor: Morrison Utility Services Ltd
Site supervisor: Kevin Collins	Project manager: Oliver Cooper
Fieldwork Date(s): 20/02/2017 to 31/03/2017	Report date: 13/12/2017
Report by: Kevin Collins and Holly Cooper	
NAA project number: 1286	NAA report number: 17/153

REASONS FOR WATCHING BRIEF

A scheme of works was planned to replace lengths of cast lead pipe, installed in the 1880s, with modern plastic pipe, linking stretches of domestic and commercial water supply to the water main. In each case separate small pits were required to be excavated for each length of pipe to be replaced.

The works were scheduled to be carried out along Eastgate, Flemingate and Keldgate in the centre of Beverley, within the nucleus of the medieval town and in close proximity to the scheduled monuments of Hall Garth (HE 1008122) and Blackfriars (HE 1003598) as well as a number of Grade I and II listed buildings including Beverley Minster (HE 1084028). Groundworks along Keldgate had the potential to expose remains of Keldgate Bar and the town defensive ditch, Bar Dike, as well as archaeology relating to Beverley Minster and its grounds. Previous excavations along Keldgate and Flemingate have also revealed remains relating to medieval and post medieval industry, particularly associated with tanning (Tibbles 2001). The route of Eastgate, running through the scheduled area relating to Blackfriars, meant that there was a possibility of encountering medieval remnants of the Friary or indeed human remains from the associated burial ground.

RESULTS

Eastgate

Eight pits were excavated along Eastgate, ranging in size from 0.6m x 0.6m to 3.0m x 0.7m with depths varying from 0.6m to 1.0m. The natural chalk was encountered at a depth of 1.0m.

The pits were dug into the original cuts made for the lead pipes in the 19th century and as a result the fills encountered comprised redeposited chalk, sandy gravel and sandy silt. There was no evidence of any in situ archaeology or any later disturbance.

In terms of the artefactual assemblage, this too was mixed as a result of redeposition and comprised fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) including early handmade bricks, blue and white transfer printed pottery, clay pipe stems, fragments of animal bone and oyster shells. None of the assemblage was retained.

Flemingate

Eighteen pits were excavated along the footpath and road of Flemingate, ranging from 0.8m x 0.7m x 0.8m deep in the footpath to 1.5m x 1.0m x 1.3m deep in the road.

The pits were again dug into the original cuts made for the lead pipework and contained a similar mixture of redeposited chalk, sandy gravel and sandy silt. There was evidence of recent disturbance of the fill material relating to modern service upgrades but no in situ archaeology was recorded.

The finds assemblage comprised fragments of medieval green glazed pottery, blue and white transfer printed pottery, clay pipe stems, 20th-century smoked glass cup fragments and numerous pieces of animal bone. No finds were retained.

Outside number 13 Flemingate, within the backfill of the pipe trench, was a large fragment of sandstone masonry, located at a depth of 0.2m and lying above the lead water pipe. It was roughly triangular in shape (Plate 1); its faces measured 0.22m, 0.43m and 0.38m with a height of 0.3m. The shortest face was finely worked, flat with a vertical groove and rolled corner. Although unstratified it is likely that this masonry fragment was medieval, possibly associated with the nearby Minster or friary to the west. Due to its unstratified nature it was photographed and placed back in the excavation.



Plate 1: worked face of masonry block from Flemingate showing vertical groove and rolled corner.

Keldgate

Twelve pits were excavated along Keldgate, all approximately 1.4m x 3.0m with depths ranging from 1.3m to 2.0m.

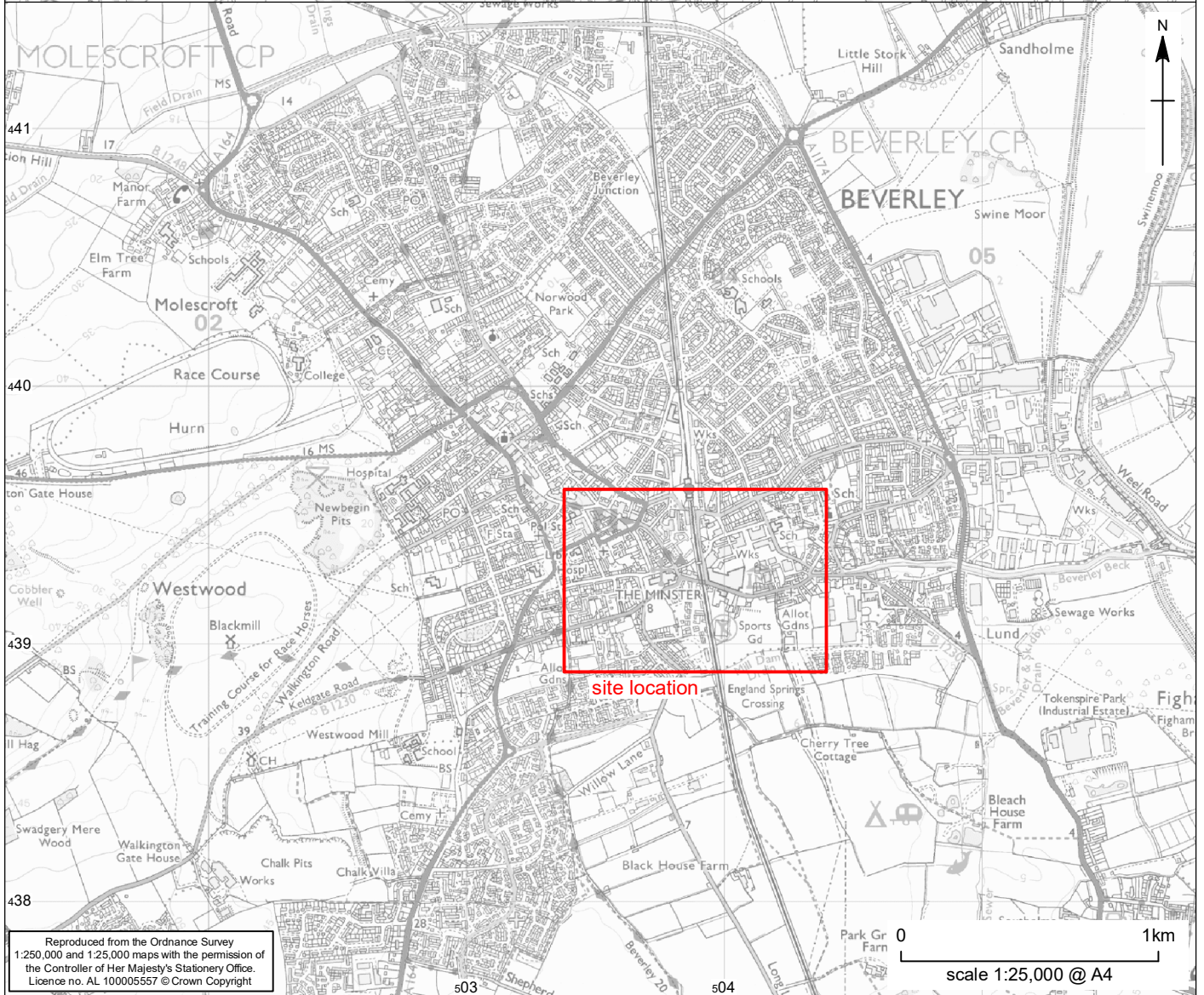
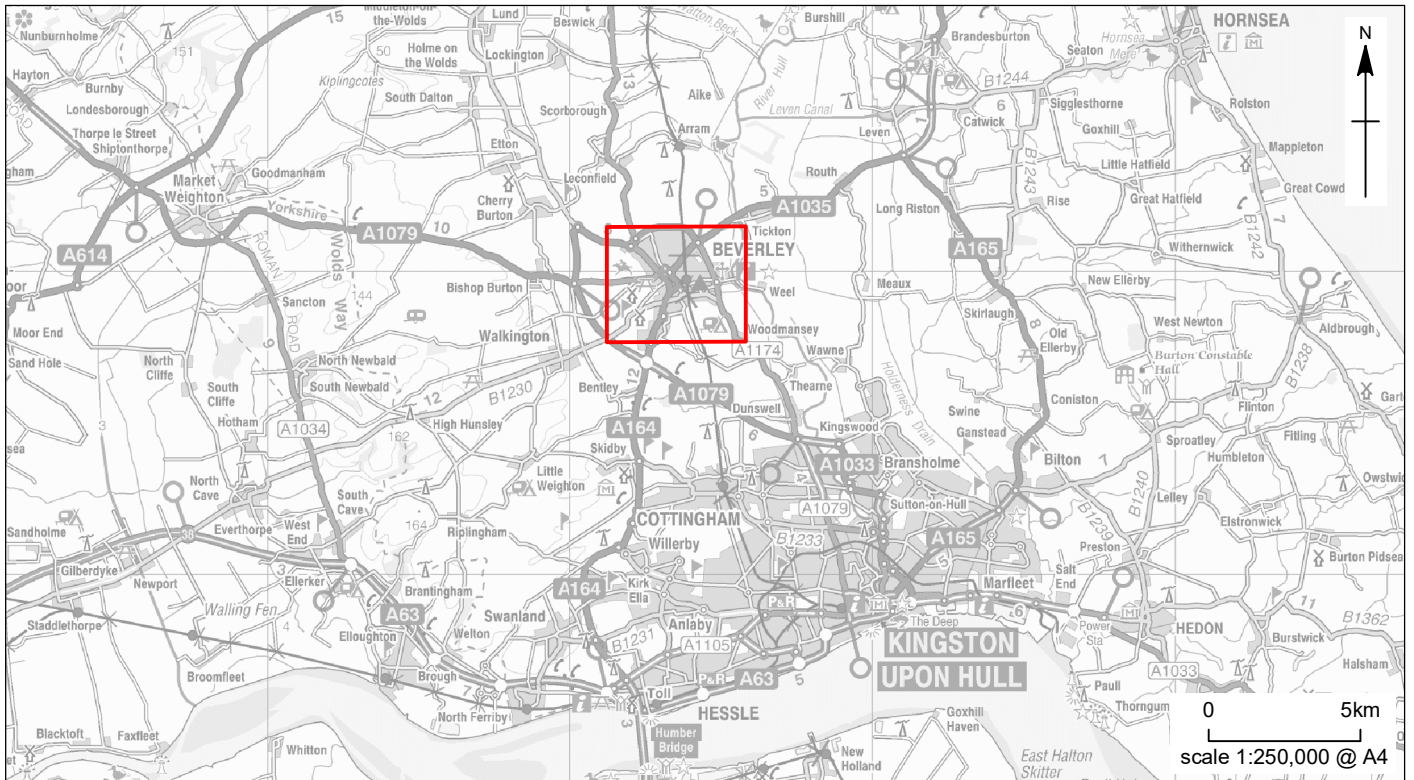
In addition to the redeposited material within the 19th-century pipe trenches (chalk, sandy gravel and sandy silt), some of the trenched contained modern 'type 1' fill relating to previous repairs to the lead water main. No in situ archaeological remains were encountered.

The finds assemblage comprised numerous fragments of post-medieval pottery and glass, clay pipe stems and a small number of fragments of green-glazed medieval ceramic. None of the finds were retained.

Archive deposition: Internal at NAA.

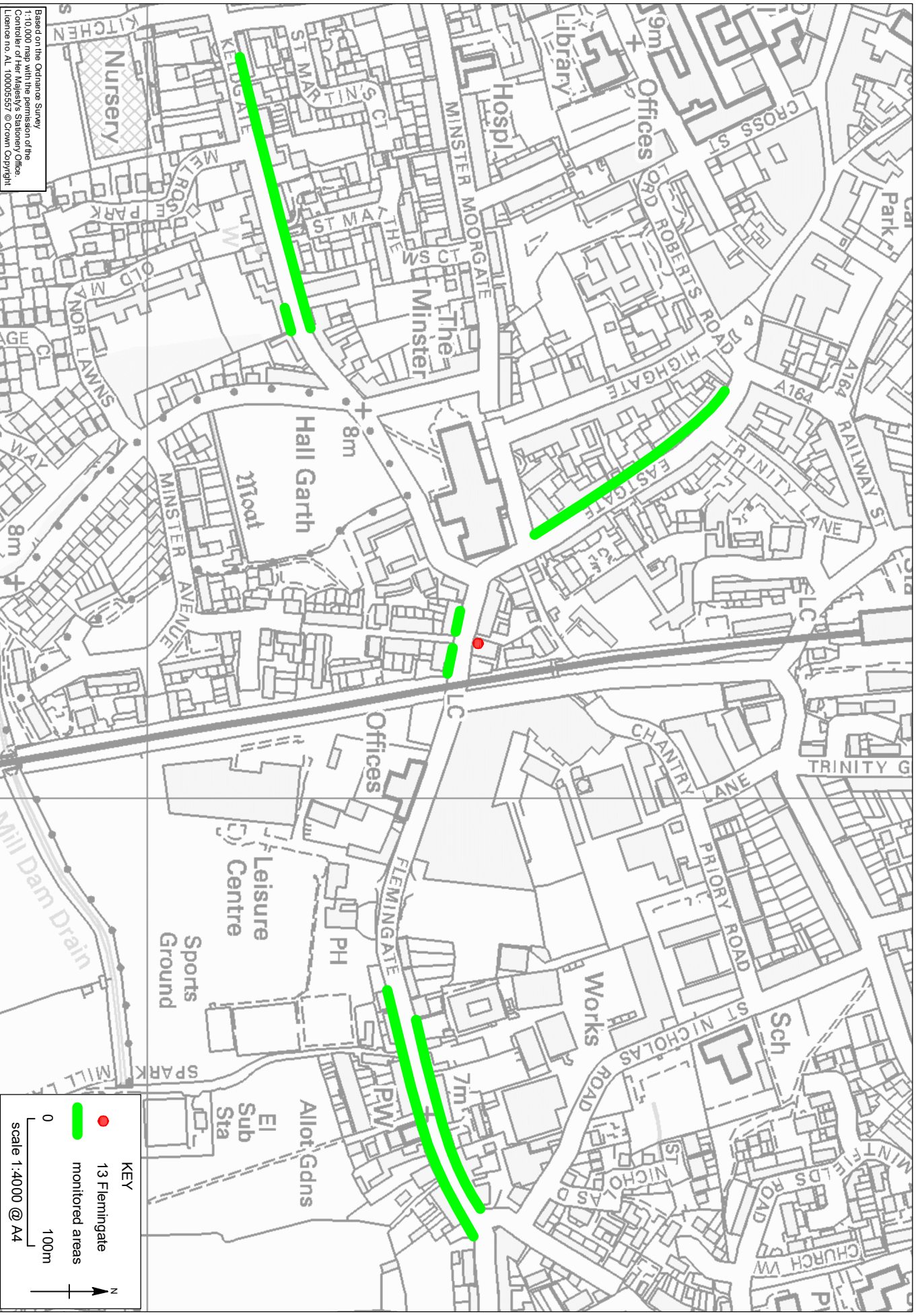
References

Tibbles, J. (2001) *An Archaeological Evaluation at 52 Keldgate, Beverley*, Kingston upon Hull: Humber Field Archaeology.



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KEY

- 13 Flemingate
- monitored areas

0 100m

scale 1:4,000 @ A4

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Beverley Lead Pipe Replacement: monitoring locations

Figure 2