



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054

INTRODUCTION

A watching brief on ground works for a cable trench was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Northern Powergrid between 18th January and 19th January 2021 at Toft Green, York, NGR SE 59795 51632 (Figure 1). The objective of the watching brief was to record any archaeological deposits or structures exposed by the ground works.

METHODOLOGY

A linear cable trench approximately 9m in length and located across Toft Green was excavated to a depth of 750mm below ground level by a 1-tonne rubber tracked excavator fitted with a 300mm-wide bucket (Figure 2, Plate 1). This included removal of the tarmac road surface and associated bedding material, and subsequent excavation of the underlying layers of compacted rubble and made ground. The cable trench was orientated northwest-southeast.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The monitored works were located just north of Micklegate, between at least two former Roman roads investigated during works at the site of the Old Railway Station (OSA 2009) and a small-scale evaluation at 104 Micklegate (Whyman 2015).

The monitored works were situated a few metres to the southwest of the location of the remains of a substantial apsidal building of Roman date exposed in 1840 and again in 2009 during excavations along Toft Green. The remains consisted of two *opus signinum* floors associated with limestone walls, a mortar surface and a tessellated pavement, situated at a depth of 15-16m AOD. Deposits associated with these structures were found to contain pottery dating from the 3rd century onwards, animal bone, oyster shell, CBM and glass.

Substantial deposits of reddish-brown clay were encountered immediately to the north of the monitored works (NAA 2014) and found to contain small quantities of Roman CBM, animal bone, oyster shell, plaster and pottery. The pottery suggested a date range from early to mid-2nd century. The deposits were interpreted as material which was deliberately dumped and levelled to facilitate Roman construction activities, with a recorded upper limit of approximately 15.5m AOD.

Medieval soil deposits were observed at a depth of 0.3m BGL during an evaluation and watching brief at land to the rear of 112 Micklegate in 1989.

The building at 98 Micklegate is Grade II Listed, and consists of a late 18th century house with 19th century alterations, comprising a 3-storey, 1 bay fronted house of orange brick with a hipped slate roof. It is part of a consistent and continuous range of structures along Micklegate, all of similar listed status. A backfilled cellar at 98 Micklegate was observed along with medieval or post-medieval deposits. The row in its current form was developed from the 17th century with continuous phases of occupation and alteration.

The large quantity of archaeological evidence recorded during modern archaeological interventions in the vicinity of the monitored works suggests that the urban stratigraphical record has considerable

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	1 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as Trent & Peak Archaeology

as ArchHeritage GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054

potential, but also varies greatly over short distances, as later medieval and post medieval activity has truncated the Roman phases of construction and occupation; archaeological investigations in the vicinity during sewerage repair (NAA 2014) recorded two large post-medieval pits cutting through Roman terracing deposits at 3.5m BGL.

RESULTS

The stratigraphical sequence sealed beneath the tarmac road surface appeared to consist of a general bulk deposit of firm mid-brown sandy clay, which had subsequently been truncated by a succession of modern cuts, presumably related to the instatement of kerbside services, at both ends of the monitored works and some smaller cuts presumably related to the insertion of modern services near the centre of the road. These modern cuts were backfilled with type-1 limestone hardcore typical of modern construction works. The southwest-facing section exposed during the works was recorded (Figure 3).

The deposits at the northwest end of the excavated section appeared to represent an upper layer of the urban stratigraphical sequence which had been subject to a lesser degree of modern truncation, when compared with the rest of the monitored works (see Plate 3). The exposed deposits impacted upon in the centre of Toft Green appeared to consist of the earlier deposits still present at the northwest end intermittently and unevenly mixed with macadamized aggregates typical of material derived from industrial contexts and re-used as ballast for the construction of roads in the 20th century.

CONCLUSIONS

No significant archaeological structures or deposits were impacted upon during the monitored works at Toft Green. The deposits impacted upon are representative of post-medieval or later contexts which have clearly been subjected to multiple episodes of truncation during the 20th and 21st century.

REFERENCES

Jackson, C. and Milstead, I., 2019. *Fibber's, Toft Green, York* YAT Desk Based Assessment and Borehole Evaluation report no. 2019/76

NAA. 2014. *Emergency Sewer Repair, Toft Green, York*

OSA. 2009. *Report on an Archaeological Evaluation at West Offices, Station Rise, York*. OSA report no. OSA09EV05

Whyman, M., 2015. *Archaeological Investigations at 104 Micklegate, York* YAT report no. 2015/15

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	2 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *Archeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054



Figure 1 Site Location

Crown copyright reserved. Reproduced with the permission of OS on behalf of HMSO. Licence number 100018343

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PAGE	3 of 8
		PHOTOS	3		

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as Trent & Peak Archaeology

as ArchHeritage GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054

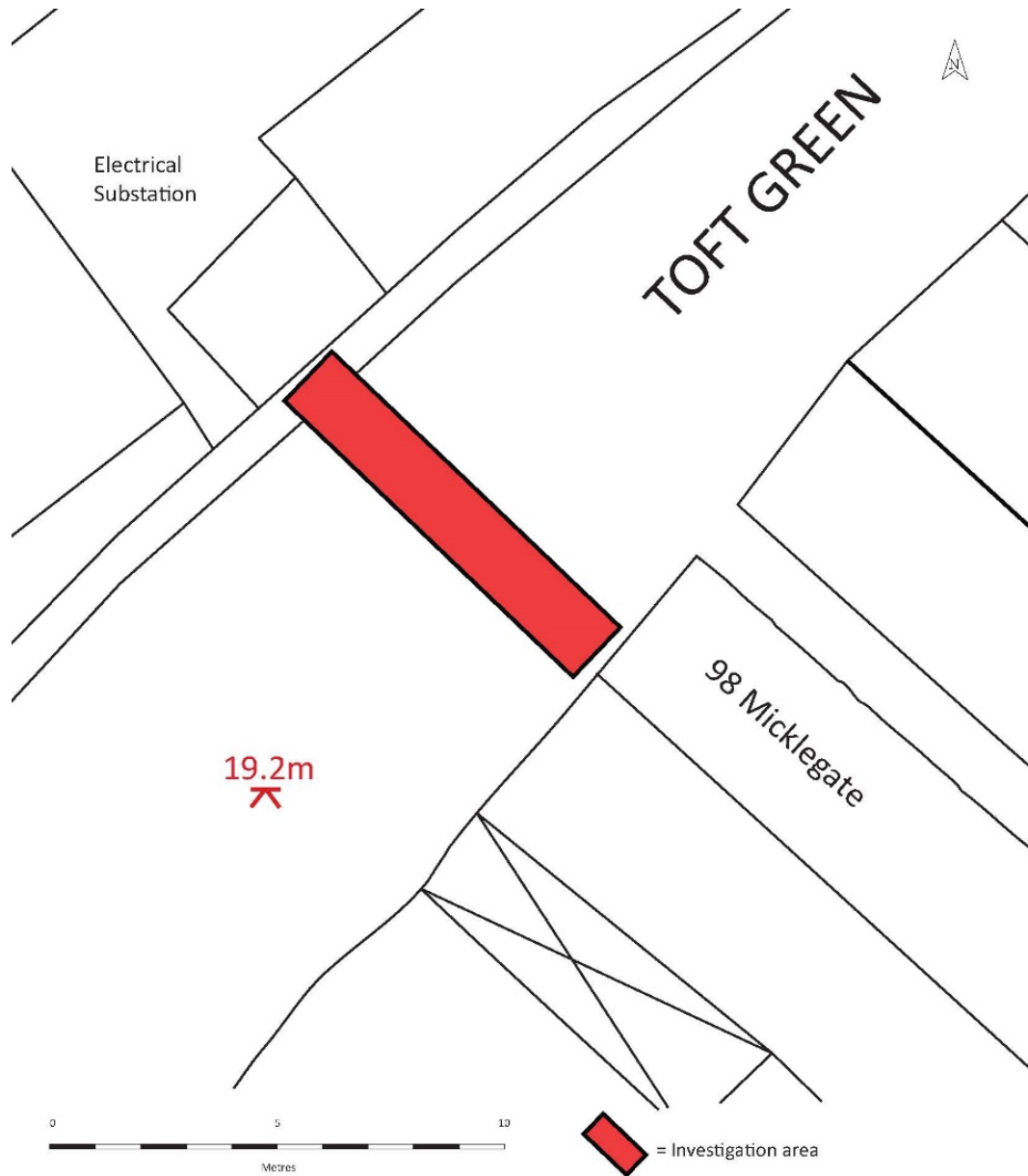


Figure 2 Location of Monitored works at Toft Green

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	4 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *ArchHeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054

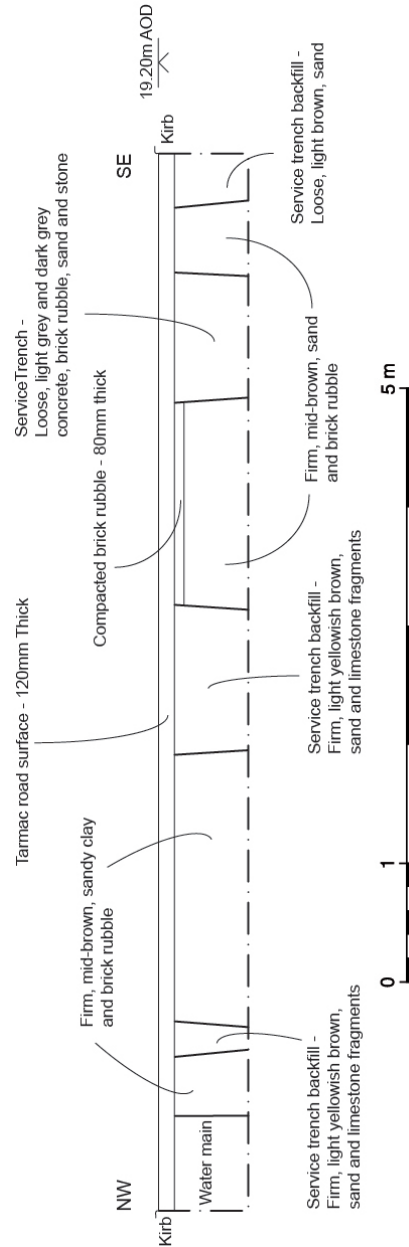


Figure 3 South-west facing section of monitored works

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	5 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *Archeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054



Plate 1 General view of monitored works, facing south-east.

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	6 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *Archeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054



Plate 2 General view of excavated trench, facing north-east. 0.1m scale units

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	7 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *ArchHeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Toft Green, behind 98 Micklegate, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	N/A	YAT REPORT #	2021/14
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59795 51632
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20054



Plate 3 North-west end of south-west facing section, facing north-east. 0.1m scale units

This Report has been prepared solely for the person/party which commissioned it and for the specifically titled project or named part thereof referred to in the Report. The Report should not be relied upon or used for any other project by the commissioning person/party without first obtaining independent verification as to its suitability for such other project, and obtaining the prior written approval of York Archaeological Trust for Excavation & Research Limited ("YAT"). YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this Report being relied upon or used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was specifically commissioned. Nobody is entitled to rely upon this Report other than the person/party which commissioned it. YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for any use of or reliance upon this Report by anybody other than the commissioning person/party.

COMPLETED BY	R. Jackson	CHECKED BY	M. Slater	FINISHED	03/02/21
FINDS	0	SAMPLES	0	PHOTOS	3
				PAGE	8 of 8

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland 47 (SCO42846)
in England No. 1430801



Registered Office:
Aldwark, York YO1 7BX Without Share
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Capital Registered

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading
trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*

as *ArHeritage* GLASGOW, trading as

Northlight Heritage NOTTINGHAM,