



# 2-4 MILLGATE

SELBY

NORTH YORKSHIRE

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Report February 2007

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION SECTION



# WATCHING BRIEF 2-4 MILLGATE SELBY NORTH YORKSHIRE

SITE CODE: SMG07 REPORT CODE: FAS2007 347 SMG302 NGR: SE 6154 3257

# REPORT

February 2007



# FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS LTD

Unit A3 Parkside Centre Terry Avenue York YO23 1JP 
 TELEPHONE
 (01904) 652000

 FACSIMILE
 (01904) 656222

 fas@fieldarchaeologyspecialists.co.uk

ON BEHALF OF	MR PHILLIP BURDEN
	Sunnyside
	Garmencarr Lane
	Wistow
	North Yorkshire
	YO8 3UW

PROJECT TEAM

Nicky Toop BA MA PhD

**REPORT PREPARED BY** 

Nicky Toop BA MA PhD

**Report Reviewed by** 

Cecily Spall BSc MA

**REPORT AUTHORISED BY** 

Justin Garner-Lahire BA

.....

# LIST OF CONTENTS

	Contents	Page
	Summary	ii
	Acknowledgements	ii
1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	LOCATION AND LAND USE	1
1.2	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	1
1.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	1
2.0	FIELDWORK PROCEDURE	3
3.0	FIELDWORK RESULTS	4
4.0	DISCUSSION	7
5.0	ARCHIVE AND RECOMMENDATIONS	7
Referenc	es	9
	Figures	
1	Location of site and area of watching brief	2
2	Northeast facing section	5
3	Location of features	6
	Plates	
1	2-4 Millgate	1
2	C.C. Hodges' Plan of Selby	3
3	Excavated foundation trench to the rear of 2-4 Millgate	3
4	F1 C1001, looking northwest	4
	Appendices	
А	Written Scheme of Investigation	
В	Index to Field File	
С	Summary of contexts	
D	Summary of features	
Е	Ceramic assessment	





#### Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 2-4 Millgate, Selby, by Field Archaeology Specialists (FAS) Ltd on behalf of Mr Phillip Burden, on the 1st February 2007. Remains of medieval to modern date were encountered, represented by layers which produced medieval pottery, sealed by a sequence of occupation and made ground. This was followed by the construction of a brick-built outhouse, which was found to have been associated with backyard midden material. The structure had subsequently been demolished, before the insertion of a number of water pipes, which predated the laying down of rubble spreads across the whole area.

#### Acknowledgements

Field Archaeology Specialists would like to thank Gail Falkingham for her advice prior to fieldwork, and to Phillip Burden for his assistance.



# **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This document reports on an archaeological watching brief carried out to the rear of 2-4 Millgate, Selby, by Field Archaeology Specialists (FAS) Ltd, on behalf of Mr Phillip Burden. The watching brief involved the monitoring of the hand-excavation of a foundation trench for an extension, and was undertaken on the 1st February 2007.

# 1.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

The property lies in close to the centre of Selby, to the south of the River Ouse (Figure 1; NGR SE 6154 3257). The extension was situated in small yard to the rear of 2-4 Millgate (Plate 1), accessed *via* a small alleyway from Millgate. The property, which appears early 19th century in character, is currently disused. The surrounding area is developed with commercial and residential buildings, and the yard is enclosed on all sides by 19th to 20th century buildings.

## 1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the watching brief was to preserve by record any remains of archaeological significance to be impacted by the development. The work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation issued by North Yorkshire County Council (Appendix A).



Plate 1 2-4 Millgate

### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

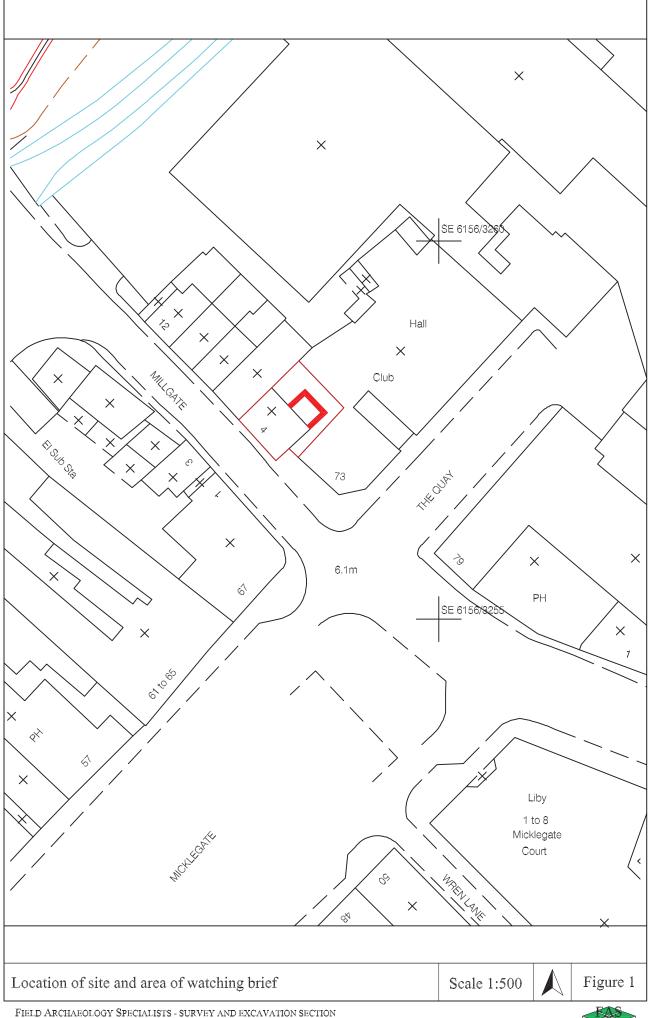
The site at Millgate is situated within the heart of the historic town of Selby, occupying a central location on the southern bank of the River Ouse, to the east of its confluence with a smaller watercourse known as Selby Dam.

The history the area is dominated by that of Selby Abbey, founded in the late 11th century by the monk Benedict, who is recorded in legends to have travelled from Auxerre with a relic of St Germanus, after the saint appeared to him in a dream (Solloway 1925, 14-17; Page 1974, III 95). Benedict settled at the place which later became known as Selby, and was later granted land by William the Conqueror for the construction of the monastery. The original church structure was timber, and is thought to have been located closer to the river bank, on Church Hill; the current site of the abbey, less than 200m to the southwest of Millgate, was occupied from the 12th century, when the abbey was reconstructed in stone.

Millgate, the *gata* name of which indicates a thoroughfare of some antiquity, is likely to have fallen within the wider precinct of the abbey. The riverbank to the east of the site is known to have been the location of the Abbot's Staith, as shown on a plan of Selby by C.C.Hodges (Plate 2), and warehouses along the waterfront would have provided storage and trade for the monastery. A number of stone warehouses are thought to have

1





2

been constructed on the river bank from at least the 15th century. A watching brief carried out in 2003, a short distance to the southeast of the current site, revealed timber piles driven into the silt of the banks of the Ouse, believed to relate to this waterfront activity (FAS 2003).

The waterfront remained the focus of activity throughout the post-medieval period. To the west, a soke mill occupied the southern bank of the Selby Dam from at least the 16th to 17th century (Hodges), and numerous warehouses were in existence by the 18th century. Into

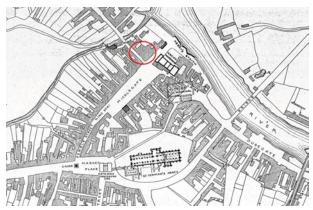


Plate 2 C.C.Hodges' Plan of Selby

the 19th century, Selby was known for the manufacture of Sailcloth, iron and was home to a shipyard, and 18th and 19th century structures attested to continued activity in the area. During the watching brief on the waterfront, the remains of demolished Victorian structures were also encountered (FAS 2003).

### 2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

The watching brief involved of the monitoring of the excavation of a foundation trench for a proposed extension to the rear of 2-4 Millgate (Plate 3). The foundation, which measured  $3.1m \times 2.5m$ , was excavated by hand to a depth of *c*.1.0m, continuing to greater depth deeper where extant ceramic pipes needed to be exposed.

Written, drawn and photographic records were made of all archaeological deposits. All plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:20. A photographic record was compiled, consisting of 35mm colour photography. A



Plate 3 Excavated foundation trench to the rear of 2-4 Millgate

site grid was established, and rectified to the Ordnance Survey grid after fieldwork. All coordinates and alignments in this report refer to the Ordnance Survey National Grid, and all heights are expressed in metres below ground level (BGL).

The excavation and recording system employed during fieldwork is based on a set of principles known as *Field Research Procedure* (Carver 1999), the standard operating system employed by FAS. The procedure structures excavation data in an hierarchical system. Each stratigraphic unit defined during excavation, which is considered to have been formed by a single deposition, is referred to as a 'context', and where appropriate, contexts are grouped during excavation as 'features'; a single index was created for contexts, starting at C1000, and for features, starting at F1. Each unit has a structured *pro forma* recording sheet to be completed using a series of keywords. Indices of photographic recording, samples and drawings have been compiled and cross-referenced with the context and feature indices. An index to the site archive is provided in Appendix B, and

summaries of feature and context records can be found in Appendix C and D.

## 3.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

The watching brief encountered remains of medieval to modern date, including layers, possible occupation debris, and the foundations of an outhouse of 19th century date. The earliest deposit, which extended across the whole area, consisted of a greyish-brown clay which occurred c.0.80m below ground level (C1015)(Figure 2). The layer contained occasional fragments of ceramic which have been identified as Brandsby Ware and Humber Ware, indicating a date in the 14th century (Appendix E). A fragment of claypipe was initially allocated to this layer, in an area of considerable disturbance, and is therefore likely to have been intrusive.

Overlying C1015, a series of layers were identified which appeared to represent occupation and made-ground. The earliest of these, C1014, overlay C1015 directly, and was allocated to a 0.10m deep layer of mixed dark brown clayey sand, containing fragments of slag, charcoal and gravel. The deposit appeared to represent an occupation layer, over the previous ground level represented by C1015. No dating material was recovered, although the single fragment of 17th-century claypipe may have derived from this level.

The occupation layer represented by C1014 had subsequently been sealed by a pack of greyish-brown sandy clay (C1013), 0.45m in depth, and observed across much of the southeastern half of the foundation trench. The layer was homogenous, and rare inclusions consisted of CBM and charcoal flecks; no dating material was recovered. This layer may have been deliberately laid down to make up ground level prior to a programme of drainage works and construction.

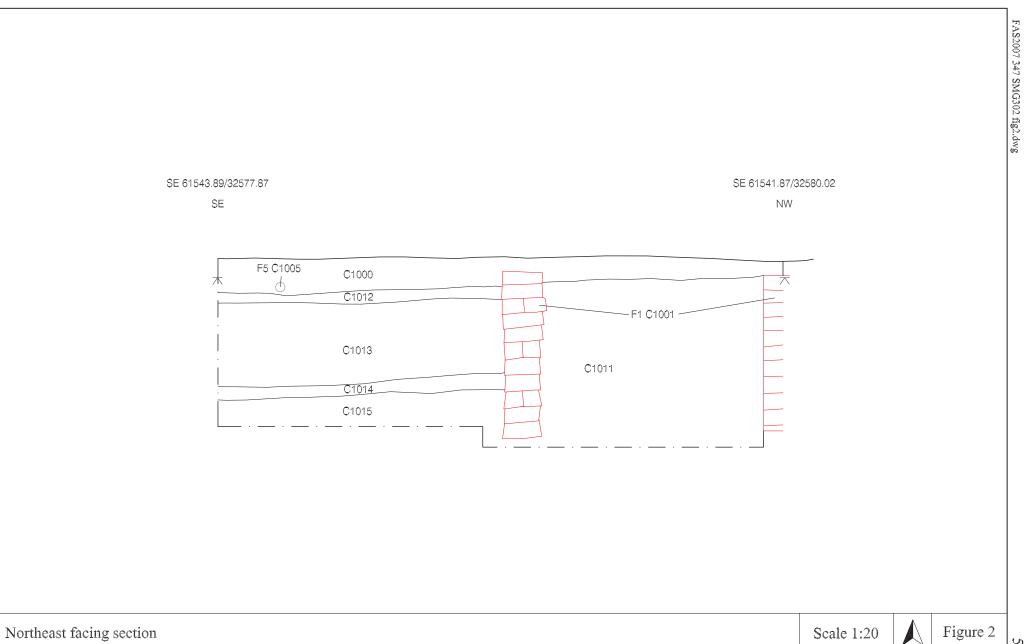
A series of ceramic drainpipes were identified across the foundation trenches, and although their cuts could not be defined, appear to have been inserted from the level of C1013. The main drain ran on a NW-SE alignment, parallel to the upstanding buildings, and was encountered in two places, allocated F4 C1004 and F7 C1007 (Figure 3). A more complex series of pipes (F6 C1006), at a slightly higher level, were found to run NE-SW, and fed brick-built manhole F9 C1009; these appear to have been slightly later in date.

F4=F7 had been laid down prior to the construction of F1 (C1001), a rectilinear, brick-built structure that occupied the northwestern part of the trench (Plate 4). Three wall lines were exposed revealing a narrow structure, *c*. 1.20m wide internally, and *c*.2.40m in length, which appears to have abutted the rear of the property. F1 was constructed with bricks which have been dated to the 19th century (Cecily Spall *pers. comm.*), and were bonded with a firm, white mortar. The bricks appear to have been constructed against the edge of a vertical cut; the internal part of which had been backfilled with a clean, yellowish-brown clay (C1011).



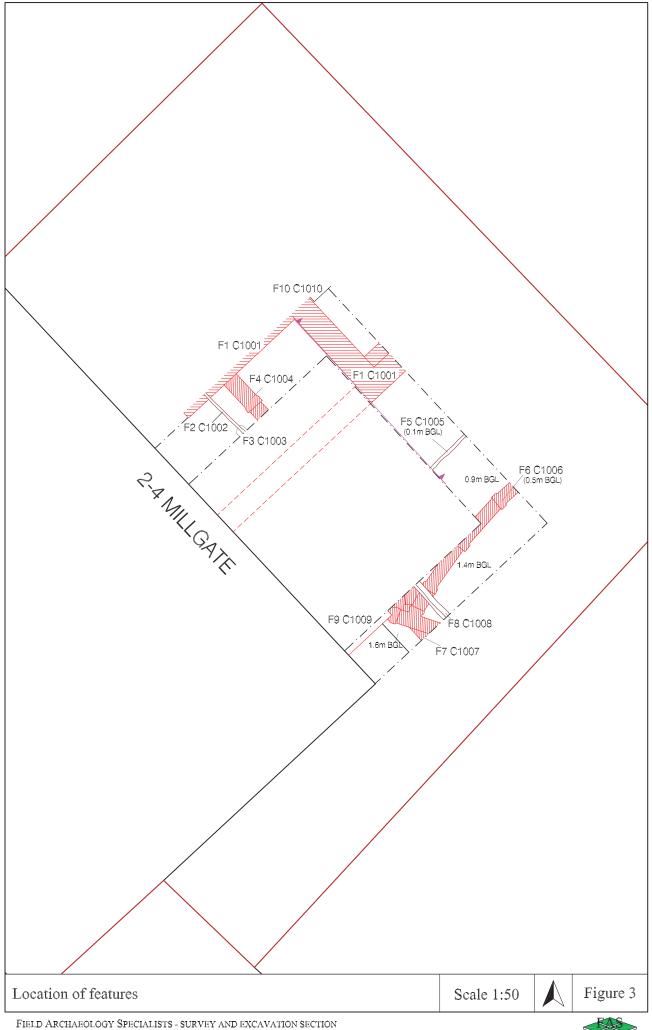
Plate 4 F1 C1001, facing northwest





FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS - SURVEY AND EXCAVATION SECTION

Un.



Abutting the northeastern elevation of the structure represented by F1, a dump of domestic debris was noted in section. A small ceramic assemblage was recovered, comprising the remains of a series of buffware chamberpots of early or mid-19th century date, which appear to represent the remains of a midden.

To the southwest of the structure a well defined layer of yellow sand was encountered, which may have been imported as a preparation for the laying down of a slabbed surface or similar. C1012 measured a maximum 0.10m in depth, and was observed only in the central part of the foundation trench. A 'dirty' interface of clayey silt overlay C1012, before a surface of large stone slabs had been laid down (F10 C1010); in the northern corner of the trench, these slabs abutted the wall of F1, suggesting contemporaneity, and indicating that this surface post-dated the domestic dumping.

A lead pipe, observed running across the trench on a NW-SE alignment appeared to have been inserted following demolition of the brick structure to ground level (F2 C1002). This lead pipe was noted again in the southern part of the trench (F8 C1008), and may have been associated with a perpendicular pipe allocated F5 C1005. These pipes lay less than 0.20m below ground level, and had been sealed by a layer of rubble and mortar which seems likely to have derived from the demolition of the structure represented by F1 (C1000). This had been mixed with more modern material during clearance prior to groundworks.

# 4.0 DISCUSSION

The results of the watching brief were limited in terms of scale and visibility, but add to the wider corpus of evidence for medieval to early modern activity within the waterfront area of Selby. During the medieval period, this area would have fallen within the precinct of the Abbey, and associated activity included stone-built warehouses of 15th century and later date. The ceramic evidence from 2-4 Millgate attests to 14th century activity within this area.

Subsqequent layers of occupation and made-ground did not provide dating evidence which would have allowed a more clear sequence to be outlined; the presence of claypipe hints at 17th century activity, and the structural evidence indicates that the ground was prepared, and drainage inserted, before a brick-built outhouse was constructed to the rear of the property some time in the first half of the 19th century. The evidence represents dumping within the backyard against this structure, before the ground was prepared and a slabbed surface laid down. The brick structure had been demolished prior to the insertion of the lead water pipes across the site.

# 5.0 ARCHIVE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

An assemblage of 22 sherds of pottery was submitted for assessment, and is to be retained. No further work is recommended at this stage, but if further work is carried out at the site which encounters medieval remains, the suggested thin-sectioning and chemical analysis of the medieval ceramic should be considered. No further finds were recovered.



An electronic and paper copy of this report will be deposited with NYCC, and details of the project submitted to OASIS. The findings are of limited significance, and do not merit publication beyond short notes in *Medieval Archaeology* and *Post-Medieval Archaeology*, on the presence of medieval layers and 19th-century structures respectively.



# References

Cartographic sources

Ordnance Survey 1851. First edition

Hodges, C. C. 'A plan of the town of Selby, drawn from the Ordnance Survey with some additions'

Secondary sources

Carver, M.O.H. 1999. 'Field Archaeology', in G. Barker (ed) Companion Encyclopaedia of Archaeology (London): 128-181

FAS. 2003. 'Ousegate Waterfront, Selby, North Yorkshire: Watching Brief' (unpublished archaeological report)

Page, W. 1974. A history of the County of Yorkshire, 3 volumes (London)

Solloway, J. 1925. Selby Abbey: Past and Present (Leeds)



# APPENDIX A STANDARD WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR LIMITED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING ("WATCHING BRIEF") North Yorkshire County Council

The purpose of the work is to record and recover archaeological remains which are:
a) affected by proposed development only to a limited and clearly defined extent,
b) not available or susceptible to standard area excavation techniques,
c) of limited importance or potential.

The work should not require the construction programme or development to be held up while archaeological investigation takes place, although some developers may give such a facility.

- 2 The WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements needed to comply with an archaeological planning condition or obligation. The scheme does **not** comprise a full specification or Bill of Quantities, and the County Council makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. No work on site should commence until the implementation of the scheme is the subject of a standard ICE Conditions of Contract for Archaeological Investigation or similar agreement between the Developer and the Archaeologist.
- 3 The Archaeologist should notify by letter or e-mail the County Archaeology Service (archaeology@northyorks.gov.uk) at least 10 working days in advance of the start of work on site.
- 4 The removal of overburden (that is vegetation, turf, loose stones, rubble, made ground, Tarmac, concrete, hardcore, building debris and topsoil) should be supervised by the Archaeologist contracted to carry out the WSI. The Archaeologist should be informed of the correct timing and schedule of overburden removal.
- 5 Removal of overburden by machine should be undertaken using a back-acting excavator fitted with toothless or ditching bucket only. Where materials are exceptionally difficult to lift, a toothed bucket may be used temporarily. Subsoils (B horizons) or deep, uniform fills of features may also be removed by back-acting excavator but only in areas specified by the Archaeologist on site, and only with archaeological supervision. Bulldozers or wheeled scraper buckets should not be used to remove overburden above archaeological deposits. Where reinstatement is required, topsoil should be kept separate from other soil materials.
- 6 Metal detecting within the development area, including the scanning of topsoil and spoil heaps, should only be permitted subject to archaeological supervision and recording such that metal finds are properly located, identified, and conserved. All metal detection should be carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.
- 7 Where structures, finds, soil features and layers of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by construction works, the Archaeologist should be provided with the opportunity to observe, clean, assess, excavate by hand where appropriate, sample and record these features and finds. If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological remains, they should immediately tell the Archaeologist. The sampling of deposits for palaeo-environmental evidence should be a standard consideration, and arrangements should be made to ensure that specialist advice and analysis are available if appropriate.
- 8 Heavy plant should not be operated in the near vicinity of archaeological remains until they have been recorded, and the Archaeologist on site has allowed operations to recommence at that location. Sterile subsoils (C horizons) and parent materials below archaeological deposits may be removed without archaeological supervision. Where reinstatement is required, subsoils should be backfilled first and topsoil last.



- 9 Upon completion of fieldwork, samples should be processed and evaluated, and all finds identified, assessed, spotdated, properly stored, and subject to investigative conservation as needed. A field archive should be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and photographs. The Archaeologist should arrange for either the County Archaeologist or an independent post-excavation specialist to inspect the archive before making arrangements for the transfer of the archive to an appropriate museum or records office.
- 10 A summary report should be produced following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report should contain planning or administrative details of the project, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, an assessment of the importance of the archaeology including its historical context where appropriate, and catalogues of finds, features, and primary records. All excavated areas should be accurately mapped with respect to nearby buildings, roads and field boundaries. All significant features should be illustrated with conventionally-scaled plans, sections, and photographs. Where few or no finds are made, it may be acceptable to provide the report in the form of a letter with plans attached.
- 11 Copies of the summary report should be provided to the client(s), the County Heritage Section (HER), to the museum accepting the archive, and if the works are on or adjacent to a Scheduled Ancient Monument, to English Heritage. A licence should be granted to the accepting museum and the County Council to use the documentation arising from the work for its statutory functions and to give to third parties as an incidental to those functions.
- 12 Upon completion of the work, the Archaeologist should make their work accessible to the wider research community by submitting digital data and copies of reports online to OASIS (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/). Submission of data to OASIS does not discharge the planning requirements for the Archaeologist to notify the County Archaeology Service of the details of the work and to provide the Historic Environment Record (HER) with a summary report on the work.
- 13 Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR) information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'. Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed. The Archaeologist should inform the client of EIR requirements, and ensure that any information disclosure issues are resolved before completion of the work. Intellectual property rights are not affected by the EIR.
- 14 The County Archaeologist should be informed as soon as possible of the discovery of any unexpected archaeological remains, or changes in the programme of ground works on site. Any significant changes in the archaeological work should be specified in a variation to the WSI to be approved by the planning authority. If there is a need to remove human remains, an exhumation licence should be obtained from the Department for Constitutional Affairs (coroners@dca.gsi.gov.uk), or a faculty obtained where the remains are buried in land consecrated according to the rites of the Church of England.



## APPENDIX B INDEX TO FIELD FILE

CODE		DESCRIPTION	RECORD	FORMAT			
	Indices						
YO1		Index of notebooks	-	-			
YO2		Index of contexts	1	A4			
YO3		Index of features	1	A4			
YO4		Index of structures	-	-			
YO5		Index of drawings	1	A4			
YO6	.0	Index of photographs	1	A4			
	.1	Index of film processing	1	A4			
YO7	.0	Index of finds	1	A4			
	.1	Index of finds by context	-	-			
	.2	Index of finds by grid square	-	-			
	.3	Sample Register	-	-			
	.4	Artefact Register	-	-			
	.5	Finds Storage Register	-	-			
YO8		Index of geophysical data files	-	-			
YO9	.0	Index of survey stations	-	-			
	.1	Index of co-ordinate files	-	-			
	.2	Index of topographic files	-	-			
YO10		Index of interventions	1	A4			
Y1		Notebooks					
		Contexts					
Y2	.0	Context Record	17	A4			
	.1	Skeleton Record	-	-			
	.2	Coffin Record	-	-			
	.3	Masonry Record	-	-			
	.4	Timber Record	-	-			
		Features					
Y3	.0	Feature Record	10	A4			
	.1	Auger Record	-	-			
		Structures					
Y4		Structure Record	-	-			
		Site drawing					
Y5	.0	Legend	-	-			
	.1	Plans	1	A4			
	.2	Maps	-	-			
	.3	Sections	1	A4			
		Photographs					
Y6	.0	Black and white negatives	-	-			
	.1	Colour negatives	20	colour negs			
	.2	Colour slides	-	-			
	.3	Colour enprints	20	6x4"			
	.4	Black and white prints	-	-			
		Finds	L.	ı			
Y7	.0	Finds Location Record	-	-			
	.1	Artefact Record	_	-			
		Survey					
Y8	.0	Record of geophysical data files	_	_			
~	.1	Record of RAW data file		_			
	.2	Record of .FLD data file	<u> </u>	_			
	.3	Surface Reconnaissance Record		_			



# APPENDIX C SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

Context No	Feature No	eature No Description	
1000	Rubble spread over whole area, producing brick, glass, metal and modern debris within a silty sand matrix with a high mortar content		10YR5/2
1001	1	make-up of wall F1, consisting of 8 courses of mortar-bonded bricks	-
1002	2	NW-SE aligned water pipe, identified in the northern part of the trench	-
1003	3	ceramic remains of a toilet which may have been situated within F1	-
1004	4	ceramic pipe representing a drain running NW-SE across the base of the trench	-
1005	5	lead waterpipe running NE-SW across the trench	-
1006	6	ceramic make-up of drain F6, with numerous branches running into manhole F9	-
1007	7	large ceramic pipe in the base of the trench, running NW-SE	-
1008	8	metal pipework running NW-SE across the trench, possibly associated with F2	-
1009	9	brick and metal make-up of manhole F9, abutting the southern corner of the standing building	
1010	10	allocated to the stone make-up of flagstone surface F10	
1011	1	deposit of yellowish-brown sandy clay, abutting the internal brick make-up of F1, and possibly representing backfill of a construction cut, or disuse of the feature after demolition	
1012	-	allocated to a distinctive, well-defined layer of brownish-yellow sand, up to 0.10m deep	
1013	-	pack of greyish-brown silty clay, up to 0.45m deep, containing occasional CBM flecks and fragments of charcoal	
1014	-	allocated to a layer of mixed material, visible over the eastern part of the watching brief area, consisting of a very dark brown clayey sand with a high proportion of charcoal and clinker	
1015	-	the earliest deposit in Int 1, C1015 consisted of a clean, greyish-brown silty clay, with rare CBM flecks and producing a small ceramic assemblage	
1016	-	allocated to a dump of material abutting structure F1, and consisting of a very dark greyish-brown sandy clay, containing oyster shells, pottery, bricks and charcoal flecks	





APPENDIX D SUMMARY OF FEATURE
-------------------------------

Feature No	Contexts	Identity	Description
1	1001 1011	brick wall	rectilinear brick-built structure, identified as an outhouse
2	1002	service	NW-SE aligned pipe, cutting F1, identified as a water pipe
3	1003	toilet?	identified in the NW-facing section as the remains of a possible toilet
4	1004	drain	NW-SE aligned drain, with ceramic pipe
5	1005	service	NE-SW aligned lead pipe, identified as a water pipe
6	1006	drain	ceramic drain running length of foundation trench on a NE-SW alignment, feeding into manhole F9
7	1007	drain	NW-SE aligned drain c.1.10m below ground level, containing ceramic pipe
8	1008	service	NW-SE aligned pipe, possibly same as F2
9	1009	manhole	brick and metal manhole abutting the standing building, and fed by pipe F6
10	1010	surface	flagstone surface across the yard, abutting F1 and partly removed prior to excavation



#### APPENDIX E CERAMIC ASSESSMENT

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

A small collection of pottery from an archaeological watching brief carried out at the rear of 2-4 Millgate, Selby, was submitted for identification and assessment. The finds are of two dates: a later medieval group (later 14th century) and a 19th-century group.

#### 2.0 DESCRIPTION

#### 2.1 CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

A single stem from a clay pipe was recovered. The bore diameter suggests a 17th-century date.

#### 2.2 POTTERY

#### 2.2.1 Medieval

A sherd of a North Yorkshire whiteware jug, of Brandsby-type ware, was present (BRAN). This type was produced at centres in the Hambleton Hills from the later 13th to the 15th centuries.

Sherds of three Humberware jugs were present (HUM). Humberware was produced at several centres in the Humber basin, and in the Vale of York (Hayfield 1992). Centres are known at West Cowick (Alan Vince 2004), Holme-upon-Spalding Moor (Mayes and Hayfield 1980; Humber Archaeology Partnership 2001; Alan Vince 2004) and York (Vince and Steane 2005) and thin section and chemical analysis indicates production to the east of the Wolds, in the Beverley area and on the south side of the Humber, supplying Barton-upon-Humber (Alan Vince 2004; Vince 2005). Of these, West Cowick is the closest (8 miles to the south, compared with 18 miles to the northeast for Holme and 14 miles north for York). This would suggest a West Cowick source whilst the texture of the fabric is slightly finer to the touch than the York Humberware (aka Walmgate ware). One had an inturned rim, a typologically early feature (*ie.* 14th rather than 15th/16th century) and all appear similar in fabric and treatment.

#### 2.2.2 Early Modern

A body sherd from a Nottingham Stoneware jar (NOTS) and sherds of three buffware chamber pots and a plate or dish (NCBW) were recovered. The chamber pots were all decorated with wheel-applied slip bands of white, light blue or dark brown slip and all three have different patterns. One of the vessels has a complete profile and is decorated with six white lines bounded top and bottom by slightly wider light blue lines. The handle was either moulded or cast and has a foliage moulding at the body joins. Buffware chamberpots are, in the author's experience, rare. Examples have only been recorded at Hall Garth Farm, Birkin, and Toft Green, York. Together with the Selby pieces, these account for only 1.63% of the 372 buffware vessels recorded by the author since 1997.

#### 3.0 ASSESSMENT

#### 3.1 DATING AND INTERPRETATION

The finds from C1015, a silty clay layer, consist of the medieval pottery and the clay pipe stem, which is thought to be intrusive. As a group, the pottery dates to the 14th century and the typologically early rim suggests that these vessels may



belong to the early years of the West Cowick industry, which is mentioned in documentary sources from the 1320s onwards (Le Patourel 1979, 92).

The finds from C1016, dumping abutting an outhouse, date to the early 19th century or later. By the middle of the 19th century, however, transfer printed whiteware chamberpots are much more common than buffware vessels and this suggests the earlier date is close to the date of deposition. The predominance of chamber pots suggests that a midden was situated nearby.

#### 3.2 FURTHER WORK

It would be possible to confirm or refute a West Cowick origin for the Humberware vessels though the use of chemical analysis.

#### Bibliography

- Hayfield, C. 1992. 'Humberware: the development of a later medieval pottery tradition.' in D. Gaimster and M. Redknap (eds.) *Everyday and Exotic Pottery from Europe: Studies in honour of John G. Hurst* (Oxford): 38-44
- Humber Archaeology Partnership (2001) Humber Archaeology Partnership Newsletter: Issue 3. http://www.hullcc.gov.uk/archaeology/newsletter\_03.pdf
- Le Patourel, J. (1979) 'Medieval Pottery.' in D. D. Andrews and G. Milne (eds.) Wharram: a study of settlement on the Yorkshire wolds. Vol 1, Domestic settlement, 1: Areas 10 and 6, Soc Medieval Archaeol Monogr Ser 8: 74-107
- Mayes, P. and Hayfield, C. (1980) 'A Late Medieval Kiln at Holme-upon-Spalding Moor, North Humberside.' *East Riding* Archaeologist 6: 99-113
- Vince, A. 2004. Characterisation studies of the Humber wares from Wawne, East Yorkshire. AVAC Reports 2004/7 Lincoln, Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy
- Vince, A. 2005. Characterisation Studies of Humberware from Wetherby, West Yorkshire. AVAC Reports 2004/31 Lincoln, Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy
- Vince, A. and Steane, K. 2005. Blue Bridge Lane and Fishergate House: Artefacts & Environmental Evidence: The Humberware Pottery. http://www.archaeologicalplanningconsultancy.co.uk/mono/001/rep\_ceramics\_humber.html



#### APPENDIX 1

Context	Cname	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
1015	HUM	6-GROOVE OVAL HANDLE	JUG	Н	1	1	204
1015	BRAN	STRAP HANDLE WITH THUMB IMPRINT AT B/H:EXT PLAIN REDUCED GL	JUG	H:BS	1	1	49
1015	HUM	PLAIN EXT GL	JUG	BS	1	1	57
1015	HUM	INTURNED RIM; RIBBED NECK; OVAL HANDLE WITH THUMB IMPR AT R/H; 3-GROOVE OVAL HANDLE; PLAIN EXT GLAZE	JUG	R;H	2	1	258
1015	PIPECL AY	C17TH BORE DIAM	PIPE	BS	1	1	5
1016	NCBW	BAND OF SIX HORIZ WHITE LINES WITH LIGHT BLUE LINES ABOVE AND BELOW; MOULDED HANDLE	СНР	PROF	12	1	747
1016	NCBW	RIM WITH BROWN LINE AROUND RIM AND 3 BROWN HORIZ LINES ON SHOULDER	СНР	R	1	1	76
1016	NCBW	LOWER PART OF BODY WITH THREE WHITE SLIP HORIZ LINES WITH LIGHT BLUE LINE ABOVE	CHP?	BS	1	1	13
1016	NCBW	WIDE BASE ANGLE POSSIBLY A DISH BUT TOO WIDE AN ANGLE FOR A BOWL	PLAT E?	В	1	1	30
1016	NOTS	CYLINDRICAL; LARGER THAN BLACKLEADING BOTTLE	JAR	BS	1	1	26





# FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS LTD

Unit A3 Parkside Centre Terry Avenue York YO23 1JP 
 TELEPHONE
 (01904) 652000

 FASCIMILE
 (01904) 656222

 fas@fieldarchaeologyspecialists.co.uk