



# MARRIOTT HOTEL

TADCASTER ROAD

YORK

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

REPORT

OCTOBER 2007

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION SECTION





## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

MARRIOTT HOTEL  
TADCASTER ROAD  
YORK

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## **REPORT**

October 2007



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## Summary

A watching brief was undertaken by Field Archaeology Specialists (FAS) Ltd at the Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road, York (NGR SE 5886 4981) on behalf of All Facility Services Plc for Marriot Hotels. The watching brief involved the monitoring of foundation trenches, prior to the construction of a pump house and water storage tank, and associated pipe trenches adjacent to the existing hotel and management suite.

The foundations for the pump house and water storage tank involved the excavation of a shallow trench to receive a concrete raft, with a single trench leading from the pump house to the management suite and hotel complex, which divided into two *c.* 1.1m northeast of the pump house in order to feed the main hotel building and the detached Coach House management suite. This work was carried out to facilitate a new emergency sprinkler system within the hotel complex.

The earliest feature encountered at the site was a truncated ditch, aligned broadly north-south, *c.* 0.85m below ground level (BGL). Pottery recovered from the ditch included decorated Samian and provided a date of the late 2nd to mid-3rd century AD. A series of modern services was also encountered, largely contemporary with the construction and development of the hotel.

## Acknowledgements

Field Archaeology Specialists would like to thank Craig Unthank, Project Engineer for All Facility Services Plc, for his assistance. FAS are also grateful to John Oxley, Principal Archaeologist for the City of York for advice during fieldwork, and the Marriott Hotel (York) for their cooperation.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document reports on an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd at Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road, York on behalf of All Facility Services Plc for Marriot Hotels (York), Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, York (NGR: SE 5886 4981; Figure 1). The watching brief involved the monitoring of groundworks for a concrete raft foundation and associated pipe trenches, prior to the construction of a pump house and water storage tank to feed a new emergency sprinkler system in the hotel complex and management suite. Fieldwork was undertaken between 29th January 2007 and 6th March 2007.

### 1.1 LOCATION AND LAND USE

Marriott Hotel lies *c.*3km to the southwest of the centre of York, bounded to the east and north by Micklegate Stray, to the west by Tadcaster Road, and to the south by private properties fronting onto Tadcaster Road. The area of investigation was situated within the grounds of the hotel, *c.*40m from the road. The location of the pump house was adjacent to hotel car-parking areas, and was occupied by a flowerbed prior to the onset of works (Plate 1). Trenches excavated for the pipes leading to the main hotel complex and management suite to the northeast and north of the pump house respectively, were excavated through the roadway access to further car parks to the southeast.

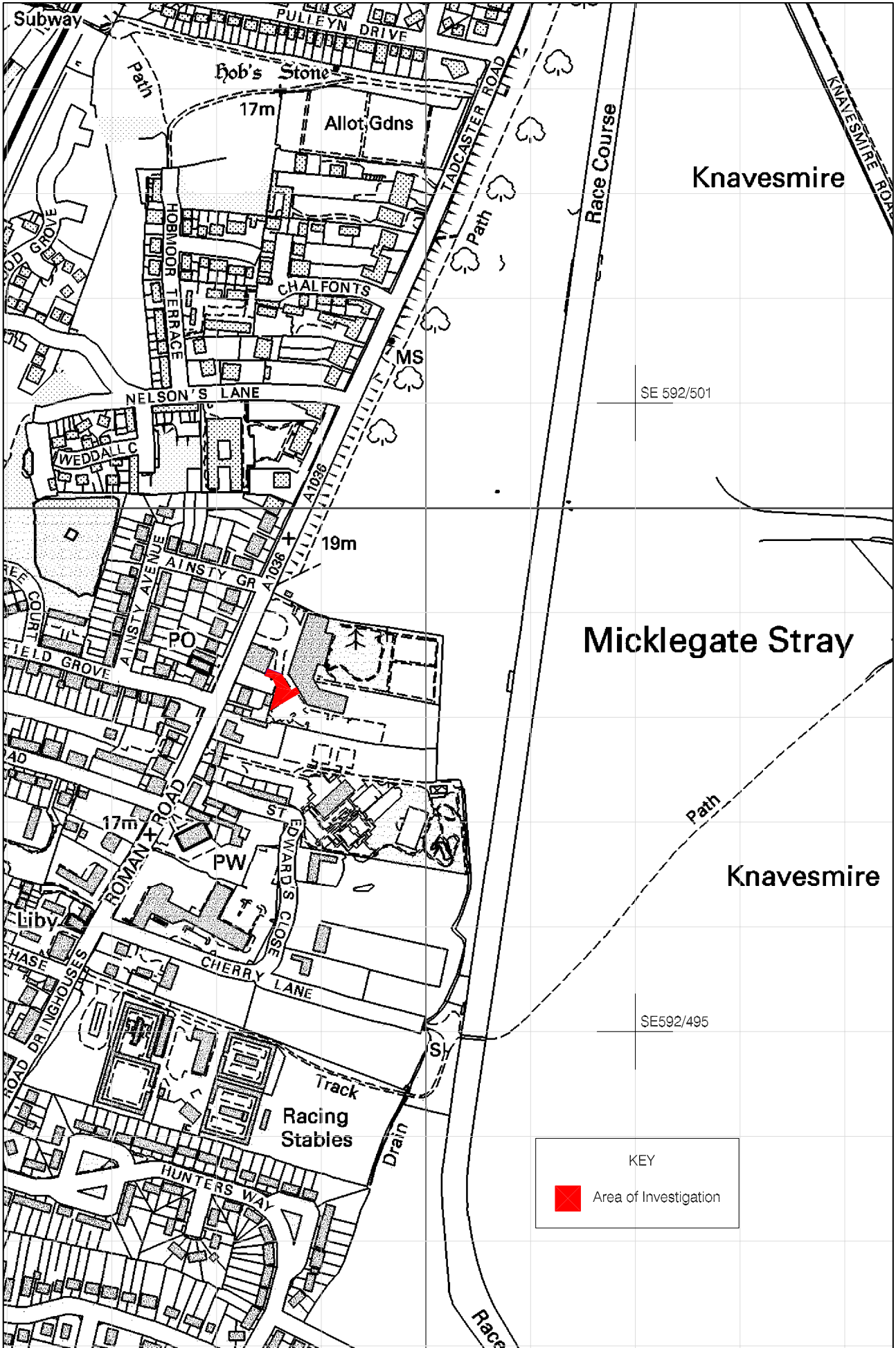


**Plate 1** Area of investigation

### 1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The watching brief aimed to monitor all groundworks associated with the construction of the new pump house, water storage area and associated pipe trenches, in order to characterise and record any archaeological remains impacted by the development. The potential for archaeological remains was anticipated to be relatively high, based on previous excavations in the vicinity that produced stratified Roman deposits. Notably these include evidence of large Roman buildings, courtyards, and the arterial Roman road from York to Tadcaster, in addition to a number of Roman sarcophagi discovered during the 19th century near the St Helens Road/Tadcaster Road junction.

The watching brief was undertaken as part of the planning permission granted for the development by the City of York Council (Planning reference number: 06/02246/FUL). All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the specification prepared by the City of York Council (Appendix A).



Location map

Scale 1:5000



Figure 1





### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 1.3.1 Prehistoric

The area of interest lies to the southwest of the city, on a ridge of glacial moraine that forms the western side of the Knavesmire. The natural 'bowl' that is the Knavesmire was originally a glacial lake and through the prehistoric period would have been a wet marshy area, drained for the first time during the Roman period.

Little is known of prehistoric activity in this area, although it is likely to have been restricted to the elevated ground on the periphery of the 'lake'. Five Neolithic stone axes have been recovered from the vicinity, and fragments of Iron Age pottery were recovered during excavations at the Fox Public House (now the Fox and Roman)(McComish 2007). A crouched inhumation burial was encountered during recent investigations at the Starting Gate Public House, and was found to be beneath layers dated by ceramic to AD150-200, suggesting a possible prehistoric or Iron Age date.

#### 1.3.2 Roman

The Roman period is well represented by archaeological remains in the surrounding area. The site lies close to the line of the Roman road leading from York (*Eburacum*) to Tadcaster (*Calcaria*), which is thought to be reflected in the route of The Mount and Tadcaster Road (RCHM 1962, 3). The road, represented by an early ditch and a later metalled surface, was encountered during excavations at the Starting Gate (McComish 2007). As with the major approach roads to many Roman cities, this route became the focus for extramural cemeteries, and Roman burials found over the last few centuries have taken many forms, including cremations, inhumations, coffined burials and stone tombs. A series of cemeteries extends across a wide area extending from the city walls as far as Dringhouses, and also extends from the road both east and west. The closest recorded area of burial is situated at the junction of St Helen's Road and Tadcaster Road, where a small cemetery was recorded in 1903 (RCHM 1962, 107). The carved tombstone-relief of a smith was recovered at this point, to the southeast of Tadcaster Road. More recently, Roman burials were encountered at the Fox public house by York Archaeological Trust (McNab 1997, 29).

Roman remains in the surrounding area have primarily represented ditches and paths indicative of agricultural activity. Recent investigations at the Starting Gate, however, produced evidence for substantial buildings of Roman date, constructed using similar methods to the military buildings within the fortress, and interpreted as a possible *mansio*.

#### 1.3.3 Medieval and post-medieval

Little is recorded of the area during the early medieval and medieval period. The site falls within the village of Dringhouses; the place-name may contain the Old English element *dreng*, relating to a form of land tenure, or Old Norse *dreng*, meaning young man or servant; either origin would suggest some degree of early medieval settlement in the area. From the Norman period onwards, land in the village was held by the manors of Dringhouses and Bustardthorpe (McComish 2007). The village is likely to have taken a typical medieval form; linear tofts are shown clearly on maps into the 19th century, and many are preserved in land boundaries today.

Surrounding land would have been given over to common land.

Throughout the medieval period, part of the Knavesmire, with Scarcroft and Hob Moor, was used for pasturage by the citizens of York. From the 16th century, however, records suggest that grazing was restricted to the freemen of Micklegate Ward. The land would have been used for a variety of common purposes: troops were gathered there before marching out on expeditions, and documents record the upkeep of a watering place at the gates of the Knavesmire from at least 1501 (Raine 1955, 301; Tillott 1961, 70). More famously, in 1379, a gibbet was constructed on the verge of the Knavesmire, opposite the path to Hob Moor. Execution continued at the site until 1802, when it was replaced by one outside York Castle.

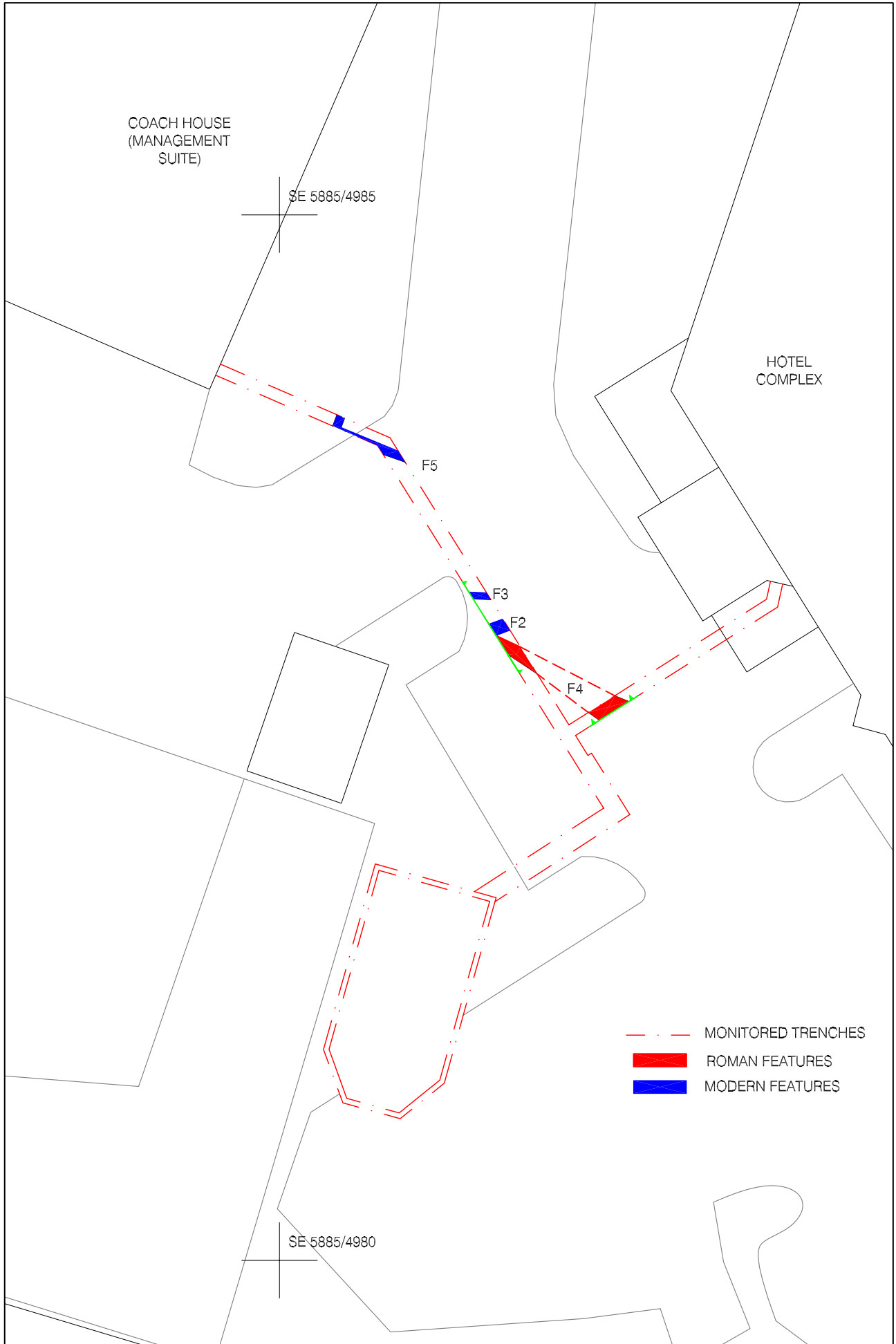
#### 1.3.4 Modern

Dringhouses retained separate status from the city until 1937; the Marriott Hotel site is located at the northwestern limit of the village. Documentary evidence dating to the 18th century continues to record the use of the Knavesmire and environ as common pasture, documenting the allowance of livestock permitted per freeman (Tillott 1961, 499). Recent aerial photographs taken when the Knavesmire was covered in a light dusting of snow, recorded a complex series of shallow earthworks, including clear ridge and furrow immediately to the north of the site. In 1730, however, wardens of Micklegate were ordered to drain the Knavesmire, and in the following spring, pasture masters were told to spend £100 levelling, spreading and rolling the ground. The first race meet was transferred to the Knavesmire from Clifton Ings that summer (Tillott 1961, 245). A Grand Stand designed by John Carr was erected in 1753, and further development of the racecourse buildings continued throughout the 18th century.

During the 19th century, there was an increasing segregation of the social classes in York, and large numbers of Rowntree's 'servant keeping' class chose to live apart from the poorer and working classes. As the city centre became more densely populated, these people moved out of the city, along Blossom Street, The Mount and towards Dringhouses (Tillott 1961, 324). Buildings are depicted at the Marriott Hotel site on the earliest Ordnance Survey map of the city, situated at the western corner of the property (OS 1853); more extensive structures and associated gardens are depicted on the edition of 1892, and by 1909, a large building occupies the a central location on the site, labelled 'The Hollies'. From 1910 onwards, the L-shaped configuration of the current site can be traced on cartographic sources, and from the 1930s, the site is clearly described as an hotel.

## 2.0 FIELDWORK PROCEDURE

Fieldwork took place between 29th January 2007 and 6th March 2007. This work was allocated Intervention 2, following a watching brief undertaken by FAS at the eastern end of the hotel in advance of a 38-room extension (Intervention 1)(FAS 2005). Groundworks were undertaken using a tracked mini-digger, fitted with a toothless bucket, under strict archaeological supervision. The foundations for a new pump house and water storage tank were excavated during an initial phase of work in January 2007, which saw the clearance of existing vegetation, and the removal of 0.20m of material from the footprint of the building, in preparation for a concrete raft. After the concrete raft had been constructed for the pump house, associated pipe trenches leading to the main hotel complex and the management suite were excavated (Figure 2). Trenches were excavated to a depth



Location of trenches and features Scale 1:250  Figure 2

of up to 0.90m below ground level (BGL), and measured between 0.60m and 0.90m wide.

A full photographic and written record was made of deposits encountered, supplemented by measured sketches. 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, 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; a summary of records created is provided in Appendix B, and summaries of feature and context records in Appendix C.

### 3.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

#### 3.1 PUMP HOUSE AND WATER STORAGE TANK

Excavation for the foundations of the pump house and water storage tank saw the clearance of vegetation, and the removal of *c.*0.25m of material to create a level platform for the concrete raft. The earliest deposit encountered within this area was allocated C1002, and consisted of a layer of dark greyish-brown clayey silt with patches of a light brown silty sand and a large dump of stock brick and mortar rubble (Figure 3).

Overlying C1002, F1 (C1001) was allocated to structural remains comprising a concrete base, and iron tank, within a cut which had been backfilled with a friable, clayey silt containing fragments of iron, and numerous ceramic building material (CBM) fragments, including a proportion of pan-tile. F1 was sealed by C1000, allocated to the loosely compacted, greyish-brown sandy silt topsoil which was heavily disturbed by roots.

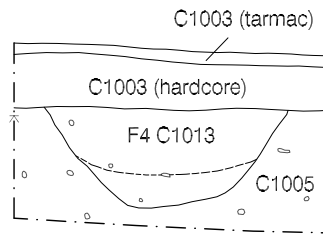
#### 3.2 PIPE TRENCHES

The earliest deposit encountered within the pipe trenches was allocated C1005, and represented natural subsoil encountered as a thick pack of yellowish-brown, sticky, sandy clay with rounded pebbles and cobbles throughout, becoming more sandy towards the northwest end of the trench. It was present throughout the trenches and was excavated to a maximum depth of *c.*0.78 m in the southeast limit of excavation where it was overlain directly by modern hardcore (C1003).

The earliest archaeological feature cut subsoil and was identified as a linear ditch encountered in two places during the watching brief, allocated F4 (Plate 2). The feature was first encountered during excavation of the NW-SE aligned length of pipe trench leading towards the management suite, and was identified initially in the northwest- and southeast-facing sections as a heavily truncated narrow ditch, *c.*0.50m wide x 0.17m deep, on an approximate NW-SE alignment. The backfill, allocated C1010, was characterised as a dark grey sandy silt with inclusions of poorly-preserved animal bone, and occasional sherds of well-preserved Roman pottery, dating to the late 2nd century (Appendix D). Further sherds of Roman pottery, a base sherd of blue-green glass jug

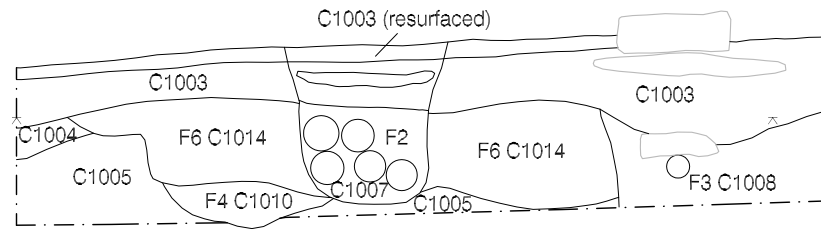
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SE 58866.87/49826.83

SW  
SE 58865.07/49825.67



SE  
SE 58861.45/49828.13

NW  
SE 58858.79/49832.39



F4 northwest and northeast-facing section

Scale 1:50



Figure 3

and a small heat-affected possible transparent unguent sherd, with an assemblage of animal bone (cattle and unidentified) and slag, were recovered from the resulting spoilheap and allocated to a recovery context C1006; this material, which included sherds of three Samian vessels of Central Gaulish origin, also indicated a date in the late 2nd century. F4 was encountered again during the excavation of the perpendicular trench crossing the driveway to the southeast. Again it appeared in both northwest and southeast facing sections, but here it survived to *c.* 1.60m wide x 0.65m deep. Here, the feature had been truncated, and lay directly under hardcore C1003. The backfill of this segment was allocated to C1013, and also produced fragments of Roman ceramic of 1st-century date or later, with poorly-preserved animal bone, a fragment of slag and a small fragment of undiagnostic copper-alloy. C1013 was similar in character to C1010 towards its base, but the upper 0.45m was darker in colour which may suggest a secondary backfilling episode after an initial backfill.



**Plate 2** Location of F4

In the NW-SE aligned trench, subsoil C1005 was overlain by C1004, a thin, undulating deposit of friable, dark grey clayey sand, identified in the northeast-facing section of the pipe trench leading to the management suite (see Figure 3). The deposit measured a maximum 0.25m in depth, and produced a small assemblage of post-medieval and modern ceramic and CBM. Its character suggests that it initially formed as a garden soil, possibly contemporary with 19th-century properties prior to the development of the hotel complex; the relationship with ditch F4 had been removed by later truncation.

Cutting C1004 to the north was F6, identified as a wide U-shaped cut backfilled with a mottled, dark grey deposit of silty sand heavily mixed with mortar, charcoal flecks, pebbles and cobbles throughout (C1014). The purpose of this feature was unclear, and no dating material was recovered. This feature had been truncated by F3, a U-shaped cut measuring *c.* 1.70m wide and at least 1.0m deep. It contained a foul pipe, encased in concrete and bedded in soft sand. F3 was orientated roughly west-east and had been resealed by hardcore and tarmac surface of C1003.

Approximately 1.2m to the south of F3, F2 spanned the excavation on an east-west alignment, identified as a narrow U-shaped cut backfilled with C1007. This contained five plastic pipes housing electric cables, bedded in a pack of clean sand and led from the electricity sub-station *c.* 5.0m to the west. Cutting through the tarmac surface of the driveway (C1003), this was the latest feature encountered at the site and the repair to the tarmac could be seen across the breadth of the driveway.

To the northwest of these features, subsoil C1005 was overlain by a thick layer of loosely compacted, dark brown sandy silt, which produced a small assemblage of late medieval ceramic (Humber ware) and animal bone (C1009). This deposit measured up to 0.70m in depth, and has been identified tentatively as a medieval or post-medieval build up of agricultural or horticultural soil. This lay directly beneath tarmac surface of the driveway and car park, C1003.

At the northern end of the main length of trench, groundworks revealed the foundation of a brick and mortar wall (F5 C1011). It survived to six courses deep; the upper three courses were flush with the sides of the trench, while the lower three were stepped out by *c.*0.06m. This length of foundation ran on the same alignment as the pipe trench, being roughly north-west to south-east. At the northern corner of the excavation, a perpendicular length of wall was identified spanning the width of the trench, and the profile of the wall was seen in the south facing section. F5 therefore occupies the same alignment as the Coach House management suite and Tadcaster road, and can be suggested to relate to 19th-century properties that existed at the site prior to the development of the hotel. The feature had been sealed by C1012, the topsoil and turf of the grassed area outside the management suite.

## 4.0 DISCUSSION

The features encountered during the watching brief can be attributed to three broad phases (Table 1).

PERIOD	DATE	ACTIVITY
1	Roman (late 2nd to mid-3rd century)	Ditch
2	Medieval to post-medieval	Buried soils, construction of property boundaries
3	Modern	Hotel development

### 4.1 ROMAN

Period 1 is represented by ditch F4, dated by pottery to the late 2nd to mid-3rd century. This feature runs roughly perpendicular to the current line of Tadcaster Road, long held to represent the route of Roman road 10, leading from the fortress of *Eburacum* to *Calcaria*. Recent investigations have demonstrated that this area saw relatively intensive activity, with property boundaries of a rural nature. As such, F4 might be interpreted as a property boundary or division. It is noteworthy that archaeology of this date survives at the site despite the impact of later buildings and services.

### 4.2 MEDIEVAL TO POST-MEDIEVAL

Although no features of secure medieval date were encountered during the watching brief, the presence of medieval ceramic within buried soil C1009 attests to activity in the area, as might be expected within the medieval settlement of Dringhouses. C1009 may represent an agricultural or horticultural soil of this period, although such deposits appear to have been truncated across much of the site.

Post-medieval features are represented by buried soils and wall foundations which appear to represent activity at the site during the 19th century. C1004 has been interpreted as a buried garden soil, and F5 has been identified as a 19th-century wall-footing, representing earlier buildings at the site.

C1002, to the west of the site, represented the demolition of structures of this date, possibly in advance of further hotel development during the 20th century.



### 4.3 MODERN

Features and layers of modern date encountered during the watching brief represented service trenches for waste, water and electricity, topsoil imported for landscaping, and hardcore and tarmac relating to the surfacing of car parking areas.

No direct connection can be made between the results of this investigation and the watching brief undertaken by FAS in 2004 at eastern end of the Marriot Hotel (FAS 2005). The features encountered in both phases of work did not extend to, or did not intersect the other area of investigation. It may also be said that the two areas represent potentially very different zones of use in terms of their topographical position. The recent area of interest lies beside the main arterial route to York within the bounds of Dringhouses village on the crest of the ridge, whereas the previous area of investigation lay much further downslope towards the Knavesmire. The latter would therefore have been potentially unuseable land until the works in the 18th century to drain the racecourse area.

### 5.0 ARCHIVE

A small assemblage of ceramic (57 sherds) was recovered and subject to specialist assessment. No further work is recommended, and the material is to be retained. A small assemblage of animal bone was collected and has been subject to in-house identification. Two fragments of Roman glass, a fragment of copper alloy and a single fragment of slag were collected. All material is to be retained.

Paper and electronic copies of this report will be deposited with the City of York Council and made accessible on-line *via* OASIS.



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**APPENDIX A** ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION: WATCHING BRIEF

John Oxley, City of York Council

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 An application to construct a fire pump house and water storage tank, at the Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road, York has been approved by the City of York Council (06/02246/FUL). There is reasonable grounds to suppose that this site may contain archaeological features and deposits. An archaeological watching brief on all groundworks has been made the subject of a condition on the planning consent. This document sets out the details of the archaeological watching brief that the City of York Council considers will be necessary in conjunction with the proposed extension.

**2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**

2.1 This site lies to the east of Tadcaster Road at SE 5886 4981 at approximately 19m AOD. The ground slopes up from Tadcaster Road before falling away to the Knavesmire. The site is located in an area which has produced stratified prehistoric and Roman deposits.

2.2 An archaeological evaluation some 250m away at 28 St Helens Road was carried out by Geoquest in May 1994. This has produced evidence for archaeological deposits preserved at 0.5m below the existing ground surface.

2.3 An archaeological evaluation and excavation at the former Starting Gate on Tadcaster Road some 300m away has produced evidence for a large Roman building, courtyard and the main Roman road from York to Tadcaster.

2.4 In the 19th century a number of Roman stone sarcophagi were discovered close to the St Helens Road Tadcaster Road junction.

**3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRAMME**

3.1 It will be necessary for a watching brief to be kept on all ground disturbances for this development. A professional archaeologist or archaeological unit (the archaeologist) which must be approved in writing by the Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development) must undertake this watching brief.

3.1.1 The watching brief will consist of the archaeologist observing all groundworks across the site as described in 3.1 above. Where it becomes clear during the watching brief that there is no likelihood of archaeological deposits surviving on the site the watching brief may be curtailed with the agreement in writing of the Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development). Where it becomes clear that the extent of surviving archaeology is greater than the archaeologist had allowed for in their costing of the watching brief, the archaeologist must inform their client that this is the case. In this situation the client should consult with the City of York Archaeologist in order to determine what, if any, further archaeological work must be undertaken in order to meet the terms of the planning condition.

3.1.2 The watching brief must be carried out by the archaeologist in a manner that allows the contractor to proceed with their construction programme without unreasonable interference or delay. The contractor must allow the archaeologist reasonable access and resources to implement this archaeological scheme of investigation.

3.1.3 Where archaeological deposits of national importance are revealed during the watching brief, the archaeological contractor must notify the City of York Council's Archaeologist at once. Consultations can then take place to

determine what additional steps, if any, are appropriate in the circumstances relating to the deposits.

3.2 The objective of the watching brief is to establish the following details:

3.2.1 the date and character of any archaeological deposits disturbed by the development

3.3 During the watching brief the following methodologies must be followed:

3.3.1 the archaeologist will be in attendance at such times during the excavation for the groundworks as he or she considers appropriate and necessary; the archaeologist will record the presence or absence of archaeological features and deposits and make all appropriate written, drawn and photographic records of any archaeological deposits which are revealed; all burials must be recorded and removed by the archaeologist; a Home Office burial licence must be obtained for this procedure;

3.3.2 all records must be indexed, ordered, quantified, and checked for consistency;

3.3.3 all artefacts and ecofacts recovered and retained from the watching brief must be fully documented and packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions to ensure that minimal deterioration takes place and that all their associated records are complete;

3.3.4 all artefacts and ecofacts recovered from the watching brief must be assessed, and where appropriate processed analysed drawn and published, by a person or organisation with skills and expertise relating to the artefacts and ecofacts;

3.4 The details and processes outlined in 3.3.1 - 3.3.4 will produce the following output as a concise report:

3.4.1 plan of site showing position of trench;

3.4.2 portfolio of drawn sections, trench plans, and, where appropriate, drawings of artefacts;

3.4.3 an assessment of the artefacts and ecofacts and where produced reports on any further analyses;

3.4.4 a full description of and an interpretation of the archaeological sequence, setting the site into the context of the known archaeology of the area;

3.4.5 an index to and details of the location of the archive. The long term care of the watching brief archive must be provided for. All the original material and paper archive must be prepared for deposition with an approved archaeological depository such as the Yorkshire Museum. These Institutions will normally make a charge to cover the long-term curation of the archaeological archive. The requirements of the receiving Institution must be identified at the time of producing an estimate for this scheme of investigation.

3.4.6 The City of York Council UAD/SMR supports the *Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. If the archaeological contractor does not have internet access a paper copy of the form can be obtained from the City of York UAD/SMR at 9 St Leonard's Place, York YO1 7ET. Contractors are advised to contact the City of York UAD/SMR prior to completing the form. **Four printed copies of the report** must be deposited with City

of York Council. In addition a copy of the report must be supplied in electronic form. This must be done on a CD-ROM or 3.5" PC 1.4mb double sided high density disk, as a PDF file or files. If in doubt about formats please contact John Oxley on 01904 551346 or e-mail to john.oxley@york.gov.uk. Once a report has become a public document by forming part of a planning application, City of York Council will place the information on its WWW. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the Principal Archaeologist.

- 3.4.7 All estimates must include allowance for the preparation and publication of a synopsis of the results of the watching brief in a form such as is used in *Medieval Britain and Ireland* in *Medieval Archaeology*.
- 3.4.8 The Contractor must give at least seven days notice in writing of the start of works on site to Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development) Planning and Sustainable Development, 9 St Leonard's Place, York, YO1 7ET
- 3.4.9 The Contractor will be subject to regular monitoring visits by the City of York Council. Reasonable access must be given at all times to the Principal Archaeologist, City of York Council or his agent to the site and to premises used for the purposes of post-excavation work to allow this monitoring to proceed. This will ensure that the scheme of investigation is being followed and that high professional standards are being maintained. It can be anticipated that the City of York Council will want to inspect a 10% sample of all archaeological records generated by the project.

#### **4.0 SUMMARY**

- 4.1 This document sets out the background to and outlines a programme for the watching brief which the City of York Council considers is reasonable and necessary on this site.

John Oxley

12 December 2006

## APPENDIX B INDEX TO FIELD FILE

CODE	DESCRIPTION	RECORD	FORMAT
<b>Indices</b>			
YO1	Index of notebooks	-	-
YO2	Index of contexts	1	A4
YO3	Index of features	1	A4
YO4	Index of structures	-	-
YO5	Index of drawings	-	-
YO6	.0 Index of photographs	3	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	-	-
Y1			
<b>Notebooks</b>			
<b>Contexts</b>			
Y2	.0 Context Record	14	A4
	.1 Skeleton Record	-	-
	.2 Coffin Record	-	-
	.3 Masonry Record	-	-
	.4 Timber Record	-	-
<b>Features</b>			
Y3	.0 Feature Record	5	A4
	.1 Auger Record	-	-
<b>Structures</b>			
Y4	Structure Record	-	-
<b>Site drawing</b>			
Y5	.0 Legend	-	-
	.1 Plans	5	A4
	.2 Maps	-	-
	.3 Sections	3	A4
<b>Photographs</b>			
Y6	.0 Black and white negatives	-	-
	.1 Colour negatives	40	35mm
	.2 Colour slides	-	-
	.3 Colour enprints	40	6x4
	.4 Black and white prints	-	-
<b>Finds</b>			
Y7	.0 Finds Location Record	-	-
	.1 Artefact Record	-	-
<b>Survey</b>			
Y8	.0 Record of geophysical data files	-	-
	.1 Record of .RAW data file	-	-
	.2 Record of .FLD data file	-	-
	.3 Surface Reconnaissance Record	-	-

## APPENDIX C CONTEXT AND FEATURE SUMMARIES

Table 1 Summary of Contexts

Context	Feature	Identity	Munsell	Description
1000	-	topsoil	10YR 5/2	very loose powdery greyish brown sandy silt topsoil, heavy root disturbance from existing vegetation
1001	1	backfill	10YR 3/2	allocated to concrete base, iron sheet/box and friable clayey silt backfill of probable wall footing associated with existing boundary wall along western edge of pump house and tank area, clay silt had inclusions of brick and tile
1002	-	layer	10YR 4/2	heavily disturbed dark greyish brown clayey silt layer with patches of light brown sand and localised inclusions of brick and mortar debris
1003	-	layer	various	tarmac surface of car park and crushed limestone preparation layer
1004	-	layer	10YR 4/1	thin undulating deposit of friable dark grey clay sand with occasional charcoal flecks, rounded pebbles and CBM fragments
1005	-	layer	10YR 5/6	thick pack of yellowish brown sticky sandy clay layer with rounded pebbles and cobbles throughout
1006	-	recovery context	-	allocated for the recovery of an assemblage of Roman pottery and glass, including well preserved sherds of decorated Samian ware found in small area of spoil heap
1007	2	backfill	10YR 3/1	5x ribbed pipes housing principal electricity cables in sharp sand backfill running from sub-station to hotel complex
1008	3	backfill	7.5YR 5/8	limestone hardcore over concrete cap to pipe which was bedded in soft sand, possible corner of manhole noted in section
1009	-	layer	10YR 3/2	a layer of very loose dark grey silty sand forming a thick pack towards north-west end of trench, contained a number of foil pipes with no visible construction cuts, c. 0.7m maximum deep
1010	4	backfill	10YR 4/1	very soft friable dark grey clay silt, clean and homogenous deposit with fragments of very decomposed animal bone, and roman ceramic
1011	5	make-up	various	brick and mortar make-up of foundation
1012	-	layer	various	topsoil, turf and gravel layer adjacent to management suite, c. 0.17m deep, forming a very modern landscaped surface
1013	4	backfill	10YR 3/1	allocated to backfill in SE portion of F4, a very dark grey silty sand backfill with a narrow lens of dark grey silty sand in base, same as C1010
1014	6	backfill	10YR 3/1	very compact, very dark grey silty sand, very mixed with mortar, charcoal flecks, pebbles and cobbles throughout

Table 2 Summary of features

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Contexts</b>	<b>Identity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Profile</b>
1	1001	foundation	identified as the foundations and construction cut for the existing boundary wall on western edge of pump house/water tank excavation area	(not seen)
2	1007	service trench	identified as a narrow u-shaped cut containing 5x pipes holding electricity cables, bedded in sand	u-shaped
3	1008	service trench	identified as a U-shaped cut for a drain, c.1.7m wide and at least 1m deep, pipe bedded in soft sand and capped with concrete, orientated	u-shaped
4	1010, 1013	ditch	identified as a ditch in two sections, it was a maximum of c.1.6m wide x 0.65m deep with gently sloping sides leading to an uneven base, heavily truncated at its western end	u-shaped
5	1011	wall	identified as the brick and mortar footings of a wall running East-West and seen in north facing section of the length of service trench adjacent to management suite, 6 courses surviving, probable return seen in south facing section	(not seen)
6	1014	cut	identified as a wide U-shaped cut containing dark grey clayey silt	u-shaped

## APPENDIX D CERAMIC ASSESSMENT

Alan Vince, Ian Rowlandson with Barbara Precious and Kate Steane

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological watching brief carried out by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd at the Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road, York, produced a small quantity of pottery which was submitted to the authors for identification and assessment. The finds include three decorated Samian ware vessels which are the subject of a specialist report by Ian Rowlandson with Barbara Precious.

### 2.0 DESCRIPTION

#### 2.1 POTTERY

A total of 57 sherds of pottery was recovered. These represent no more than 28 vessels and weigh in total 725 gm.

##### 2.1.1 Roman

Fifty-one sherds of pottery could be dated to the Roman period. These represent no more than 22 vessels and weigh 575 gm. All were of types which are described by Monaghan (Monaghan 1997) and the codes used are listed in Appendix 1. The pottery is a mixture of locally-produced wares (Ebor 1 ware, Ebor white ware, local mortaria, Dales-type greyware), an unsourced whiteware sherd (YATP00), regional imports such as Nene Valley colour-coated ware, and continental imports such as Dressel 20 amphora and Samian ware.

The range of forms present in the assemblage is limited to common types such as storage/cooking vessels (jars), drinking vessels (beakers), tableware (bowls), a flagon, a mortarium and an amphora. The collection includes no types which are definitely earlier in date than the mid 2nd century and no types which need be later than the mid 3rd century and therefore is probably a collection of the later 2nd to mid-3rd century.

#### **The Decorated Samian**

##### **Ian Rowlandson with Barbara Precious**

The Samian ware has been recorded according to the Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP) guidelines, using codes developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit (CLAU) and correlated with the codes established by Jason Monaghan for the city of York (Monaghan 1997). The moulded decoration is described within the text. The full database in Appendix 2.

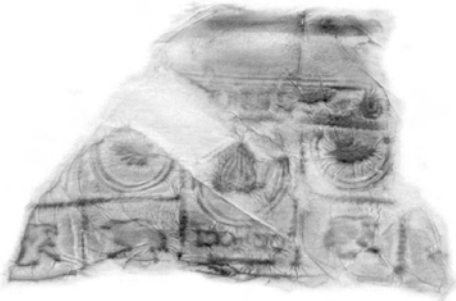
Three decorated Samian vessels (10 sherds, weighing 121g) were presented for report by the authors. All the sherds were from context 1006 which was attributed to Roman pottery and glass retrieved from a spoil heap following excavation through ditch F4. An archive of the sherds was made with a brief discussion of the decoration presented in text below. Rubbings of the sherds are presented with this report at a scale of 1:1, record photos of the vessels taken by the author are also provided.

#### *Central Gaulish Samian (SAMCG=CGS)*

*Vessel 1:* Form 30, Central Gaulish (Lezoux), with DO(V)ECCVS stamp (S&S Pl.150.38-39). The square double bordered ovolo, set beneath three grooves, is one of the potter's less common ovolos (S&S Fig.40.2) also known from a 37 bowl found at Wellington Row, York (Dickinson 1998, Fig.375, 3420). The repeated panels contain hare sitting to the left (O.2117) and hare sitting to the right (O.2117) twice. Neither of these hares is listed by Oswald as being used by the potter but the design also contains his leaf (S&S Fig. 44.27) within a festoon (twice) and his leaf (S&S Fig. 44.32) within a clumsily finished double grooved



medallion. The bowl is in the distinctive high crisp relief with large beaded borders and packed panel content typical of the potter. The medallion also appears to have been squeezed into the panel. The sherd is in good condition with no evidence of wear. (8 sherds, 7 joining, 67g). The date range given by Stanfield and Simpson for the potter is from AD150-190.



**Plate 1**



**Plate 2**

*Vessel 2 :*

Form 30, Central Gaulish (Lezoux), in the style of PATERNVS of Lezoux. The ovolo is a slightly squared, double-bordered ovolo with a straight plain tongue ending in a swollen tip with a central hole (S&S Fig 30.1). Two panthers in a double medallion, with panther springing to the right (O. 1518) and panther crouching to left (O.1566), are both known to have been used by the potter on form 37 bowls. The rosette (S&S Fig. 30.1) and the neat wavy line border (S&S border No. 1, Pl 104.4) are also used by the potter. The sherd is broken just below the rim and has slight finger marks internally. The sherd is in good condition with no signs of ware evident (1 sherd, 20g). The date range given for the potter by Stanfield and Simpson is AD150- 190.



**Plate 3**



**Plate 4**

*Vessel 3:*

Form 37, Central Gaul, Rim and Ovolo fragment. The ovolo is short and squat, the closest parallel found by the authors is that of IANVARIS II (S&S Fig 34.2, p1119). Stanfield and Simpson also suggest mould

makers AVITVS and VEGETVS (S&S Pl. 63. 12 & 14) but these further examples lack the broad spacing of this example. The identification of the potter is therefore not secure, but an Antonine date would fit with the broad plain band between rim and ovolo (Webster 1996, Fig. 70). A date of 150-180 is given for the potter IANVARIS (S&S p214).

The fabric does not have the mixed appearance of the typical Lezoux fabric, although it is granular in texture with noticeable large, irregular quartz inclusions ( $A < 1.2\text{mm}$ ). Although the fabric and slip is described as red in colour (2.5YR 5/8 and 2.5YR 4/6 respectively – Munsell 1969), it has a more orange appearance than Nos 1 and 2, above. The clay is poorly mixed with moderate amounts of rounded and elongated chalk inclusions (01 – 0.5mm), sparse red, iron ore (R, 01.-0.2mm) and moderate amounts of mica. The rubbing is presented below (1Sherd, 34g).

The sherd is noticeably worn on the inside of the rim and on the ovolo in contrast to the relatively good condition of the rest of the surfaces. Studies into wear patterns on Samian vessels are still in their infancy but Willis encountered few example of wear on form 37 bowls during his Samian survey project finding basal wear on cup forms, due to stirring, or plain bowls such as the 38, perhaps from grinding (Willis 2005 8.7). It was noted that the surfaces of most Samian vessels were resilient to cutting, and wear is likely to have been caused by repeated contact with a hard, probably metal object. The wear shown on this 37 could perhaps have been caused by a metal ladle coming in contact with the inside of the rim when serving wine or resting against the rim when not in use. This sherd offers a good addition to the developing study of Samian use.



**Plate 5**



**Plate 6**

### *Discussion*

Monaghan noted that Hadrianic and early Antonine Samian is only found in modest quantities on most sites, but Samian dating to after 160 is abundant at York (1998, 949). This is largely to do with the greatest period of Samian supply to the city being in the later 2nd to 3rd century, probably corresponding to one of its most prosperous periods (Willis 2005). This small group of decorated Samian vessels represents this high point in Samian supply to York. The date of the deposit, on the basis of the decorated Samian alone, ought to be considered to be Antonine or later as vessels were often curated for some time before their deposition. Vessels 1 and 2 are interesting in that they are both of the more unusual decorated bowl form 30 and that in colour of gloss and the use of medallion decoration schemes the two vessels could have formed a pair. Whilst it is difficult on the basis of such a small assemblage from a watching brief to be deemed to be a 'structured deposit' these three decorated Samian vessels certainly represent a significant deposit. The relative rarity of stamped bowls of form 30 makes vessel 1 an important find with vessel 2 also of significance as a good example of a decorative scheme. Vessel 3 provides an interesting example of how Samian may have been used in York.

## Abbreviations

O.= Oswald, F., 1936-7 *Index of Figure-Types on Terra Sigillata ('Samian Ware')*, University Press of Liverpool.

O&P= Oswald, F. and Pryce T.D., 1920 *An Introduction to the Study of Terra Sigillata*, Longmans, London.

S&S= Stanfield, J.A. and Simpson, G., 1958 *Central Gaulish Potters*, Oxford University Press, London.

### 2.1.2 Late Medieval

Two sherds of Humberware were recovered. This ware dates to the later medieval and early post-medieval period and these particular sherds have no typological features which would allow a closer date.

### 2.1.3 Early Modern

Three sherds of later 18th century or later date were recovered. These consist of a sherd of Creamware plate; a London stoneware vessel and a Nottingham stoneware bowl. All three are common types in York.

## 3.0 ASSESSMENT

The pottery comes from 5 contexts. The *termini post quem* for these assemblages is as follows:

1004 – late 18th century

1006 – late 2nd century

1009 – late medieval

1010 – late 2nd century

1013 – late 1st century

It should be noted, however, that the actual deposition date might be considerably later than the *terminus post quem*.

### 3.1 Further Work

No further work is recommended on this collection

### 3.2 RETENTION

All of the pottery was recovered from stratified deposits and therefore should be retained for future re-examination.

## References

Dickinson, B. M. 1998. 'Samian.' in J. Monaghan, ed., *Roman Pottery from York*, The Archaeology of York 16/8 (York): 943-66

Monaghan, J. 1997. *Roman Pottery from York*, The Archaeology of York 16/8 (York)

Munsell 1969. *Munsell Book of Color*. Baltimore, Maryland

Webster, P. 1996. *Roman samian pottery in Britain*. Practical Handbook in Archaeology 13 (York)

Willis, S. 2005. 'Samian Pottery, a Resource for the Study of Roman Britain and Beyond: the results of the English Heritage funded Samian Project. An e-monograph.' *Internet Archaeology*, 17

## APPENDIX 1

cname	full name	period	earliest date	latest date	Sherds	Vessels	Wt(gm)
CREA	Creamware	emod	1765	1830	1	1	13
HUM	Humberware	lmed	1250	1500	2	2	49
LONS	London Stoneware	pmed	1670	1800	1	1	43
NOTS	Nottingham stoneware	pmed	1690	1900	1	1	9
PMTIL	Post-medieval ceramic building material	pmed	1550	2000	1	1	36
SAMCG	Central Gaulish Samian Ware	rom	100	200	10	3	121
YATAP25	DR20	rom	40	400	1	1	75
YATC01	NVCC	rom	40	400	1	1	2
YATE01	Ebor 1	rom	40	400	11	4	60
YATG01	Dales-type greyware	rom	40	400	18	10	271
YATM03	Eboracum and local mortaria	rom	40	400	2	1	28
YATP00	White	rom	40	400	7	1	13
YATW01	Ebor white	rom	40	400	1	1	5

## APPENDIX 2

Find No	Context	Cname	Descr	Form	Part	NoSh	NoV	Wt (g)	Condition	Use
2	1004	CREA	MOULDED RIM DEC	PLATE	R	1	1	13		
2	1004	LONS	FLATTENED ROD HANDLE	JUG/DJ	4	1	1	43		
2	1004	NOTS		BOWL	BS	1	1	9		
3	1006	SAMCG	RIM; OVOLO; USE WEAR FROM LADLE?	37	BS	1	1	34	ABBR	Wear int rim
3	1006	SAMCG	NR RIM; OVOLO; PANTHER; MEDALLION	30	BS	1	1	20		
3	1006	SAMCG	RIM; OVOLO; HARE; LEAF; MEDALLION; FESTOON; STAMP DOVCCI? RET; 7 JOIN 1 OVOLO MATCH	30	BS	8	1	67		
3	1006	YATE01		BOWL	R	1	1	14		Sooted under rim
3	1006	YATE01		JAR	BS	8	1	38		
3	1006	YATE01	ROUNDED RIM; DEVOLVED CORNICE M2	BEAKER	R	1	1	7		
3	1006	YATG01		JAR	B	1	1	175		
3	1006	YATG01	GROOVES EXT	JAR	BS	1	1	1		
3	1006	YATG01		JAR	BS	1	1	13		
3	1006	YATG01		JAR	BS	2	2	8		
3	1006	YATG01		JAR	BS	9	1	34		

Find No	Context	Cname	Descr	Form	Part	NoSh	NoV	Wt (g)	Condition	Use
3	1006	YATM03		MORT	BS	2	1	28		
3	1006	YATP00		FLAGON	BS	7	1	13	FRESH BREAKS	
4	1009	HUM		JUG/JAR	B	1	1	46		
4	1009	HUM		JUG/JAR	BS	1	1	3		
5	1010	YATC01	BARBOTINE DEC	BEAKER	BS	1	1	2		
5	1010	YATG01		JAR	BS	1	1	12		Sooted ext
5	1010	YATG01		JAR	BS	1	1	11		Sooted ext; black dep int
5	1010	YATG01		JAR	BS	1	1	3		
6	1013	YATAP25		AMPH	BS	1	1	75		
6	1013	YATE01		JAR	BS	1	1	1	ABRA	
6	1013	YATG01	ROUNDED INTO A GAMING COUNTER	JAR	BS	1	1	14		
6	1013	POTTERY	YATW01	JAR/ FLAGON	BS	1	1	5		



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