

60 LAWRENCE STREET

YORK

NORTH YORKSHIRE

**A REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

by

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Cover Illustration:

Trench 1, looking south, at start of excavation

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Abbreviations

BGL	Below Ground Level
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum
YAT	York Archaeological Trust
YORYM	Yorkshire Museum
CBM	Ceramic Building Material

SUMMARY

Between 11th and 20th July 2005 York Archaeological Trust undertook an evaluation excavation at 60 Lawrence Street, York. This was in advance of a proposal to demolish the existing retail property and redevelop the site by erecting new flats and garages.

In the three trenches excavated evidence was recovered for activity of an agricultural nature during the Roman period followed by disuse in the subsequent Anglian period. Activity, and possibly occupation of the site, recommenced in the Anglo-Scandinavian period and there was some evidence to suggest that this may have been continuous up to the present day. This site has produced valuable evidence for understanding the origins and development of this suburban area of York



Fig 1 Site location

1. INTRODUCTION

Between 11th and 20th July 2005 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) undertook an evaluation excavation within a disused property at 60 Lawrence Street, York (NGR SE61265132, Figure 1). It was commissioned by Moorside Developments Ltd of Strensall in advance of a planning application for the demolition of the existing retail premises and the construction of twelve new flats and garages on the site. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of three trenches (Figure 2), each measuring nominally 5m x 3m, to a maximum depth of 1.5m. All records pertaining to this site are currently held by York Archaeological Trust under the Yorkshire Museum accession code YORYM:2005.2212.

In the archaeological and historical background, sites in York are normally referred to in the form YAT 1997, site 1990.111. Further details of these sites are available from the YAT online archive gazetteer which can be found at www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk/gaz/index.htm.

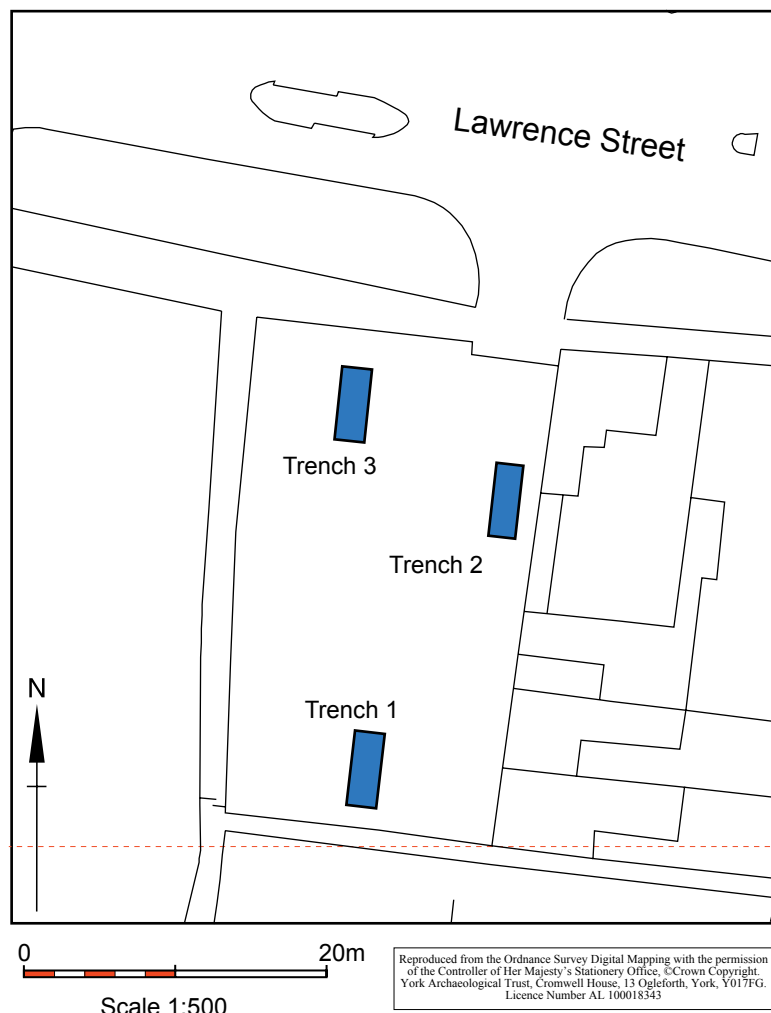


Fig 2 Trench location

2. METHOD STATEMENT

Prior to the commencement of the evaluation the exterior of the site was visited and a limited photographic survey undertaken. A risk assessment was also compiled prior to work commencing and the trench locations being decided.

The evaluation was undertaken to a specification drawn up by City of York Council's Principal Archaeologist, John Oxley. The initial clearance of the trenches was by a mini mechanical excavator. All obviously modern deposits were removed by machine after which the trenches were cleaned and excavation by hand began. In each trench the first number in the context

sequence, i.e; 1000, was used for finds from the machine clearance and initial cleaning of the trench.

Recording followed the procedure laid down in the York Archaeological Trust *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2004). At least one standing section of each trench was drawn at a scale of 1:10. Any significant features, deposits or structures were recorded on single context plans at a scale of 1:20. Where relevant, colour photographs were taken of standing sections and features and a number of general record photographs were also taken. All trenches were photographed after initial clearance and cleaning, and after excavation had been completed.

A provisional programme of environmental sampling was drawn up prior to the commencement of the work but was subject to modification dependent on the nature of the deposits encountered.

3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site lay immediately south of Lawrence Street, some 200m east-south-east of Walmgate Bar and the city walls east of the River Foss. West of the site was the churchyard and church of St Lawrence and to the east domestic dwellings fronting onto Lawrence Street. The land to the south of the site was occupied by a number of prefabricated domestic dwellings.

Geologically the subsoil in this area of York is generally alluvium although pockets of boulder clay and sand and gravel are known to exist in the area (Geological Survey, 1967) particularly in proximity to the line of Lawrence Street.

The land in the immediately vicinity of the site slopes up gently from Lawrence Street to the south but the northern two thirds of the present structure has been cut into this slope creating a step or terrace. The lower part of this, at the street front lies at c.13.7m OD and the upper part, to the south, lies at c.14.4m OD. All parts of the site examined were found to be covered with concrete, some of it reinforced, which in the main showroom area was covered with glazed ceramic floor tiles or a form of linoleum.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This evaluation was deemed necessary since the site lies within an Area of Archaeological Importance as defined by City of York Council. The area has in the past produced archaeological remains from the Roman period to the Modern era. This background to the site has been compiled from the results of previous archaeological investigations and observations, easily accessible historical sources, and from cartographic evidence. There have been quite a number of archaeological investigations (Figure 3) in the general area of the site including watching briefs, excavations and evaluation excavations. Evidence from these investigations and an examination of the documentary and cartographic evidence for the site is discussed below, period by period.

4.1 Prehistoric and Roman periods (pre 1st century – 5th centuries AD)

No finds or activity dating the prehistoric period have been found in the immediate vicinity of the development site. The site lies c.50m south of the line of the main Roman approach road from the east (RCHMY 1, Road 2). This road was seen, 1.8m down, in 1954 approximately 90m east of Walmgate Bar (RCHMY 1, 1). A trench dug in the south-east corner of the garden of 127 Lawrence Street (Brinklow. et al, 1986, 89) seemed to confirm the course of this road. A Roman carved tombstone, drawn by Francis Drake, is known to have been built into the wall of St Lawrence's churchyard in the 18th century and probably came from a nearby burial. In 1906 a tile tomb covering a skeleton and accompanied by a vessel described as Samian was discovered on premises belonging to Shafto's Brickworks in James Street (RCHMY 1, 70). More recent discoveries include a Roman pit and ditch at 17-23 Lawrence Street (YAT 1989.8), and a possible Roman drain at 148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1993.9). Evidence from the former D.C.Cook site (Evans, 2004) c.330m to the east of the present site, included four ditches dated to the Roman period, a quantity of Roman pottery and a number of features of uncertain function.

4.2 Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian periods (5th – 11th centuries)

Evidence for both these periods is not common in the immediate area but a number of sherds of Anglian pottery were recovered during the investigations at the former D.C.Cook site. An Anglian inhumation cemetery, first investigated in the 19th century (Thurnam 1849) is known from Lamel Hill (YAT 1983.31), c.300m to the south-east of the present site. A probable palisade of Anglo-Scandinavian date was located at 17-23 Lawrence Street in 1989 and pottery, possible features and possible structures of the 9th – 11th centuries were recorded at the former D.C.Cook site.

4.3 Medieval period (11th – 16th centuries)

Evidence for this period is relatively common in the area of Lawrence Street and includes medieval pottery from a site at the junction of Lawrence Street and James Street (YAT 1979.1021), the remains of timber structures at 17-23 Lawrence Street, stone and timber structures associated with the hospital of St Nicholas at 130 – 148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1992.13 and 1993.11), and agricultural soils at the frontage of 148 Lawrence Street (1993.9). An investigation at the Rose and Crown pub, 13 Lawrence Street (YAT 1995.0361) produced two inhumation burials believed to be medieval and medieval features including post-holes, a quarry pit, a large ditch, a barrel-well, and an oven / furnace were excavated at the former D.C.Cook site. Many features of the period, ditches, rubbish pits, hearths, post-holes and an isolated inhumation burial were found during work at 127 Lawrence Street (YAT YORYM: 2002.451).

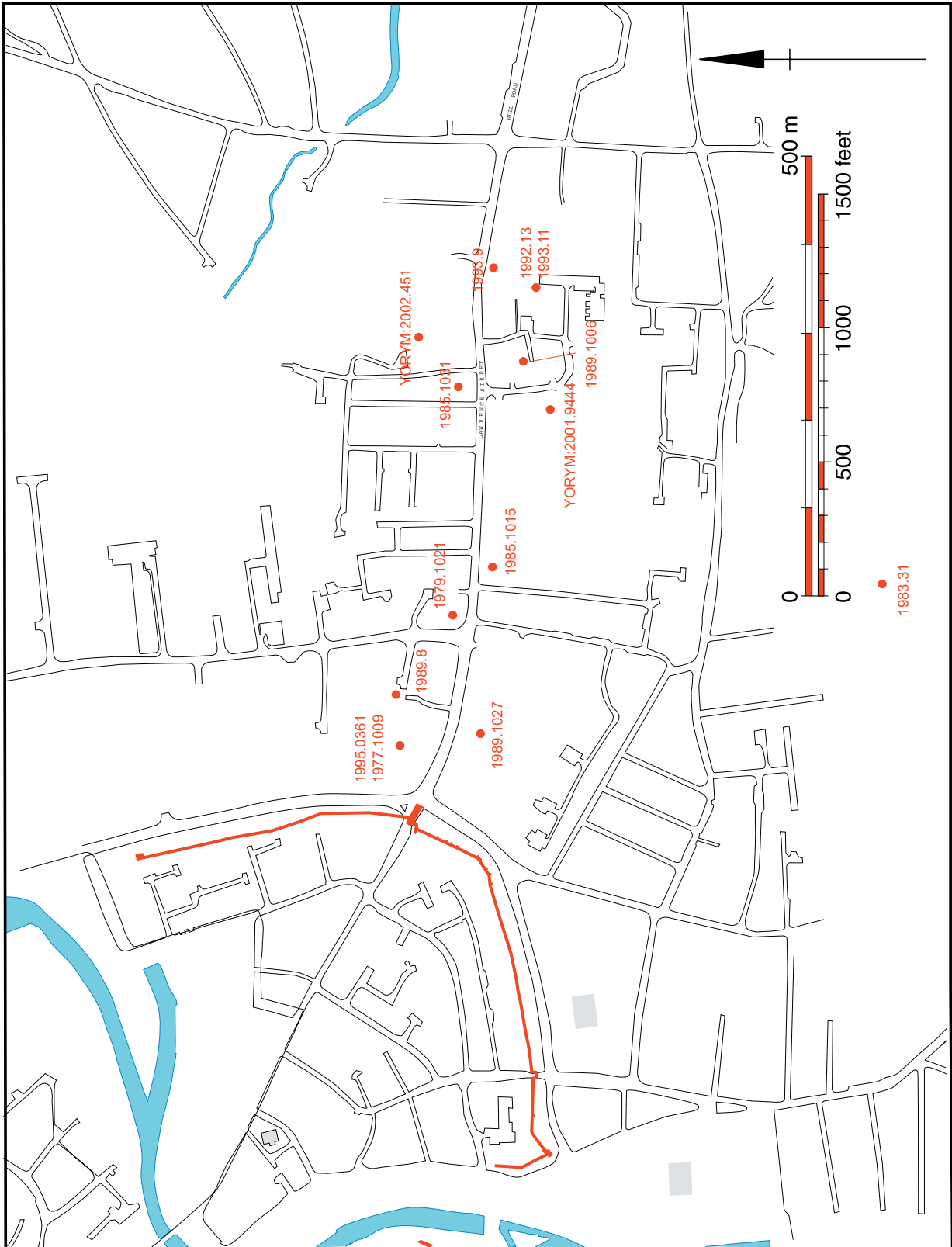


Fig 3 Archaeological evidence in the vicinity, mentioned in text

4.4 Post-medieval period (16th – 19th centuries)

There is a large amount of archaeological evidence for this period in the area. This includes an inhumation burial, possibly a Civil War victim, from the Rose and Crown, 13 Lawrence Street (YAT 1979.1009), deposits of uncertain function, but probably agricultural, from 132 Lawrence Street (YAT 1989.1006), accumulation deposits at 130 – 148 Lawrence Street and a pit and demolition deposits at 148 Lawrence Street. At the frontage of 148 Lawrence Street demolition deposits, a pit and a cobble surface have been recorded, and at the former D.C.Cook site a ditch, a possible drain and agricultural deposits were excavated.

4.5 Modern period (19th – 21st centuries)

Buried modern remains are common in the immediate area. Undefined deposits have been identified at 68 Lawrence Street (YAT 1985.1015), 19th and 20th century construction deposits recorded at 115 Lawrence Street (YAT 1985.1031) and a wall and drain seen at St Lawrence's Church Hall (YAT 1989.1027). Also, agricultural deposits and undefined building remains were located at 17-23 Lawrence Street, accumulation and demolition deposits and a yard recorded at 148 Lawrence Street, deposits of uncertain function seen at 127 Lawrence Street and surfaces, walls, drains, and levelling and demolition deposits identified at the former D.C.Cook site.

4.6 Cartographic and Historical Background

The earliest map of the area is one drawn by John Speed and published in 1610. This shows quite clearly that the street frontage in the area of the present site was built up. South of the site, away from Lawrence Street this map shows open ground. The old St Lawrence's Church is clearly depicted on this map, as is Lawrence Lane, immediately to the west of 60 Lawrence Street. Richard's map of 1685 seems to show both sides of Lawrence Street, including the present site, built up for some distance to the east of Walmgate Bar. Later maps, of the 18th and early 19th century either do not show the present site or confirm that the street frontage was built up, with open land, probably gardens and orchards, to the south. The Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition 6" to the mile map of 1853 shows the site well developed with buildings occupying a similar area to the present premises. A later OS map, of 1963, depicts the site as a 'depot' as does another OS map of 1981.

It appears that Lawrence Street, named after the church of St Lawrence, originally sited c.10m to the west of the south-west corner of the present site, was in the medieval period normally referred to as Walmgate or 'Walmgate without the bar' (Wilson and Mee, 1998, 93). The area was the location of four churches, those of St Lawrence, St Michael, St Edward, and St Nicholas.

The earliest documentary evidence for St Lawrence is dated c.1194, a date supported by

architectural evidence. It underwent repairs and rebuilding in the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries but was subsequently badly damaged, as was much of the surrounding area, during the siege of York in 1644. It was repaired in 1669 but dismantled, except for the tower, when it was replaced by the present church in 1881-3. A view of the church before demolition exists (Wilson and Mee 1998, 93).

Development of the western part of Lawrence Street is attested by documents dating to the 14th century (RCHMY 4, xxxviii) but extra-mural settlement may have begun along this part of Lawrence Street as early as the Anglo-Scandinavian period on the evidence of finds from the immediate area. Development to the east of the present site did not begin in earnest until the middle of the 19th century (Pevsner and Neave 1995, 249) when terraced housing began to occupy much of the area to the north-east of the site and Lawrence Street. An examination of the City of York Online Photographic Archive (www.imagineyork.co.uk) revealed a photograph of c.1890 which very clearly shows the present site occupied by domestic dwellings. A later photograph, c.1933, appears to show that these had been demolished at about that time and it is therefore possible that the present structure dates from the 1930s. Recent uses of the current structure have been car showroom, tile warehouse and until very recently, a rug showroom.

5. THE EVALUATION

5.1 Trench 1

5.1.1 *Natural*

In this trench the earliest deposit encountered was a soft, mid yellow, medium-grained sand (1001). This was first seen at c.0.9m BGL and was still present in the base of the trench at c.1.4m BGL and in the base of at least one feature at c.2.2m BGL. This sand was believed to be the natural subsoil in the immediate vicinity of the trench.

5.1.2 *Medieval – Post-Medieval*

Three features were identified cut into the natural and sealed by a later deposit. Towards the north-west corner of the trench, in the east-facing section, was a cut (1002) of uncertain function but possibly a post-hole, beam slot or pit base. It was at least 0.4m across and 0.25m deep with quite steeply sloping sides leading into a concave base. It had been backfilled with a mid-dark greyish-brown sandy silt containing occasional flecks of tile and mortar and very occasional charcoal flecks (1003).

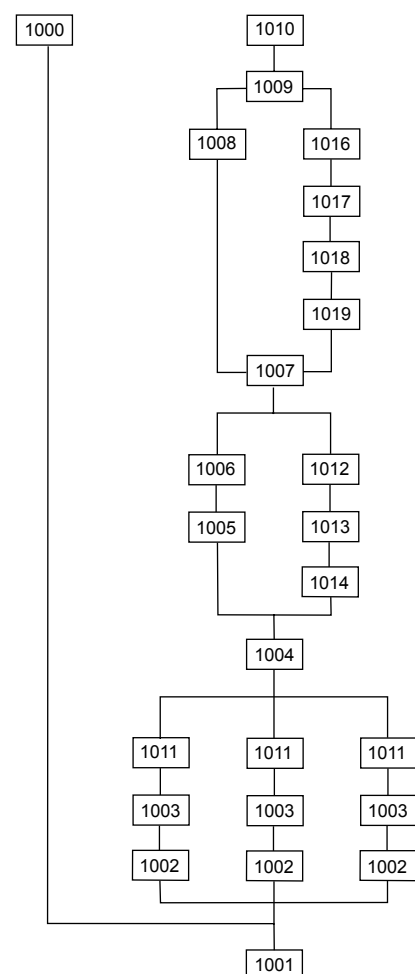


Fig 4 Trench 1 matrix

Overlying 1003, and probably acting as a capping deposit, was a layer of firm, mid brown clayey sand (1011). The second feature, which lay towards the north-east corner of the trench in the west-facing section, was also a cut (1023) of uncertain function but possibly a pit base. It was at least 0.95m across and 0.3m deep. The sides sloped steeply down to a flat base which sloped gently down from south to north. This feature had a backfill of soft, slightly orange, dark brown very sandy silt with moderate charcoal and patches of mid orange sand and occasional lumps of mortar (1022). The third feature lay c.0.2m north of the north edge of 1023, in the west facing section and again was a cut (1021) of uncertain function, but may have been a pit base. An unknown amount of this feature had been truncated by a later feature to the north. As it survived Context 1021 was c.0.35m across and 0.11m deep with a steeply sloping south edge leading into a flattish base. It had a backfill of soft, slightly orange, mid brown very sandy silt with frequent patches of mid orange sand, occasional to moderate charcoal flecks and very occasional flecks of brick / tile (1020).

Features 1002, 1021, and 1023 had been sealed by a probable accumulation deposit of firm, dark greyish-brown sandy silt with very occasional pebbles, charcoal, brick / tile and mortar (1004).



Plate 1 Trench 1, looking east, showing feature 1014

Two features were identified as being cut into 1004 and sealed by an immediately later deposit. The first of these features lay towards the south-west corner. Much of this cut (1005) lay beyond the limit of excavation but the north-east quadrant was fully excavated. This suggested a roughly circular, in plan, feature, very probably a pit, with a diameter of c.1.3m and a depth of at least 0.75m. It had a steeply sloping north-eastern edge leading into a gently concave base. A single backfill was recorded. It was a moderate to firm, very dark greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt containing frequent, c.30%, moderate to large tile fragments, moderate pebbles and small cobbles and occasional flecks and small fragments of limestone

(1006). Pottery from 1006 was possibly of the 17th century and brick / tile of the 13th – 16th centuries was recovered from 1006. The second feature was situated c.0.6m south of the north-east corner of the trench.

This cut (1014) extended beyond the east end of the trench but had a fairly regular, sub-rectangular in plan, western terminal within the trench. The excavated portion of 1014 was c.1.1m long and the maximum depth was determined as c.1.6m. The profile was unusual with the width being c.1.1m towards the top, narrowing to c.0.5m wide half way down and then widening again to at least 0.7m wide within c.0.5m of the base. The original function of this feature remains uncertain although the backfill may suggest that it was eventually used as a rubbish pit. The only backfill identified was a soft, mid greyish-brown very sandy silt containing frequent tile, charcoal and animal bone, moderate lumps of creamy white mortar, occasional to moderate quantities of pottery and very occasional to occasional slag fragments (1013). The pottery was mainly of the 15th century and the brick / tile of the 13th – 16th centuries. Above 1013 was a probable capping or levelling deposit composed of compact, orange-brown very slightly silty sand (1012).

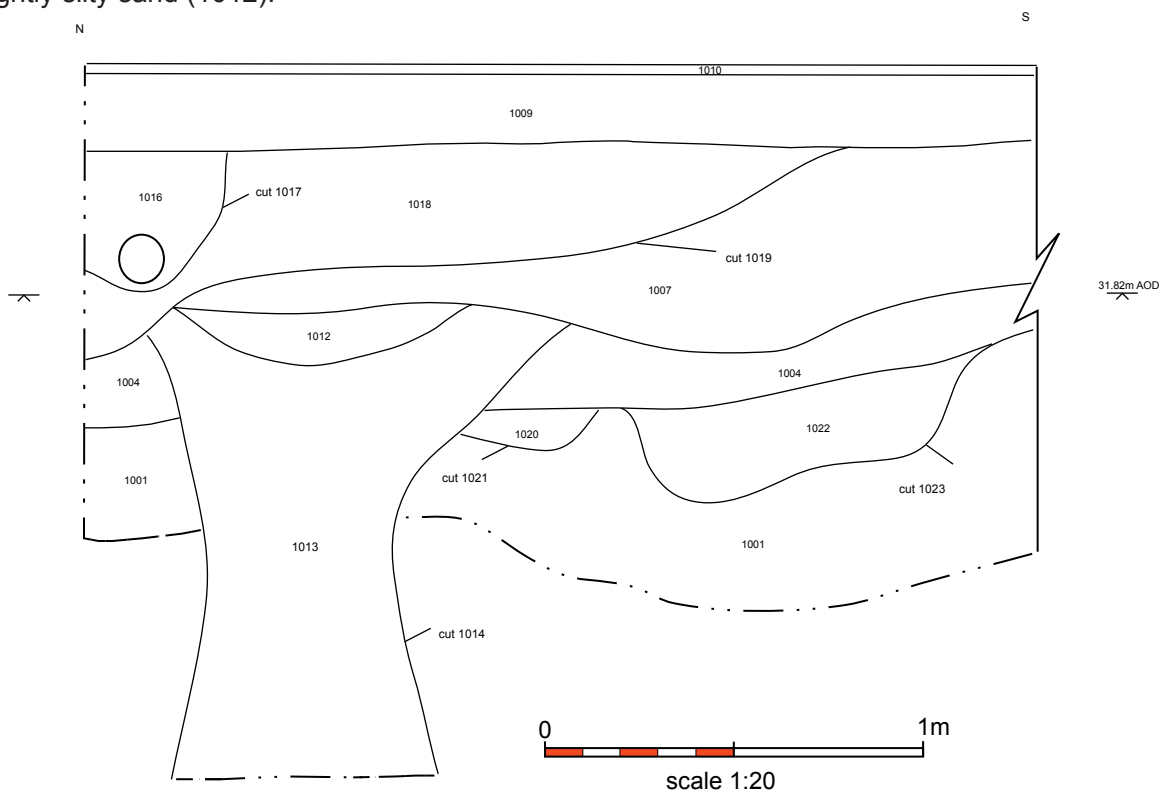


Fig 5 Trench 1, west facing section (north end)

Features 1005 and 1014 were both overlain by a probable accumulation deposit of compact, very dark greyish-brown slightly sandy silt with occasional to moderate flecks and small fragments of limestone, occasional flecks and small fragments of brick / tile, very occasional pebbles and very occasional flecks of charcoal (1007). The brick / tile was broadly datable to the 13th – 16th centuries.

5.1.3 Modern

In the north-eastern corner of the trench 1007 appeared to have been truncated by a clearance cut (1019) of uncertain size. It was at least 2m long and 0.55m deep with a gently sloping south edge leading to a generally flat but gently undulating base. The only backfill recognised was a compact, but friable, mid brown silty sand with moderate to frequent charcoal, brick / tile flecks, mortar, moderate amounts of tile fragments and occasional lumps of mortar (1018). In the north-east corner of the trench, cutting 1018 was a clearly modern drain cut (1017) of uncertain alignment but probably roughly east-west. The northern edge of this drain cut lay beyond the limit of excavation but the drain was at least 0.4m wide. It was c.0.37m deep and had a steeply sloping southern edge leading to a moderately concave base. Towards the base of the cut was a circular ceramic drain pipe of c.0.12m diameter covered by the backfill, a compact, friable, dark greyish-brown silty sand with frequent mortar flecks and moderate mortar fragments, brick / tile fragments and charcoal flecks (1016). Possibly roughly contemporary with drain 1017, and seen towards the centre of the east-facing section, was a rather decayed wooden peg at least 0.1m across and 0.3m long. Sealing 1007 and 1008 was a pale grey concrete floor (1009) on top of which was the modern showroom floor covering (1010) which lay at c.14.4m OD.

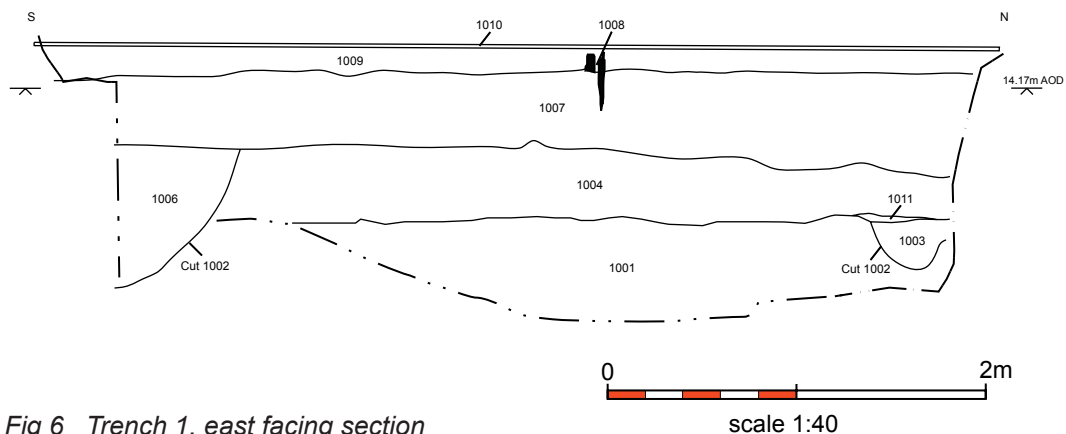


Fig 6 Trench 1, east facing section

5.2 Trench 2

5.2.1 Natural

In this trench the earliest deposit recorded was a moderately soft, light yellowish-brown, fine to medium grained sand with very occasional small rounded pebbles (2032). It was felt that this was the natural subsoil in this part of the site. In the southern part of the trench this deposit lay at c.0.6m BGL but to the north it was encountered at a slightly greater depth, up to 0.8m BGL.

5.2.2 Anglo-Scandinavian

Cut directly into 2032 was a large feature (2044), probably a pit although it may have been a ditch. Part of this feature lay beyond the western limit of excavation and to the east it had been truncated by a later cut so that its full dimensions are not available. A full profile across the feature was excavated showing it to be c.1.9m wide and probably c.1.2m deep with very steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Three backfills were identified within this feature. The lowest was a very soft, mid orange-brown very sandy silt with frequent patches of orange sand (2043). This deposit was probably the result of weathering of the sides of the feature rather than a true backfill. Above it there was a very soft, light grey sandy silt which contained moderate quantities of charcoal, ten pieces of pottery, all dated to the mid 10th / 11th century, and occasional animal bone (2042). Overlying 2042 was the uppermost fill, a soft, light greyish-brown sandy silt (2041) with occasional animal bone (2041).

5.2.3 Medieval

Cut into 2041 was a feature (2040) of very similar width, c.2m, to the underlying feature 2044 but 2040 was only c.0.5m deep with moderately sloping sides leading into a gently concave base. During excavation the profile suggested that it may have been a ditch and if so, then it would have been aligned approximately east-west, running parallel to Lawrence Street. A single definite

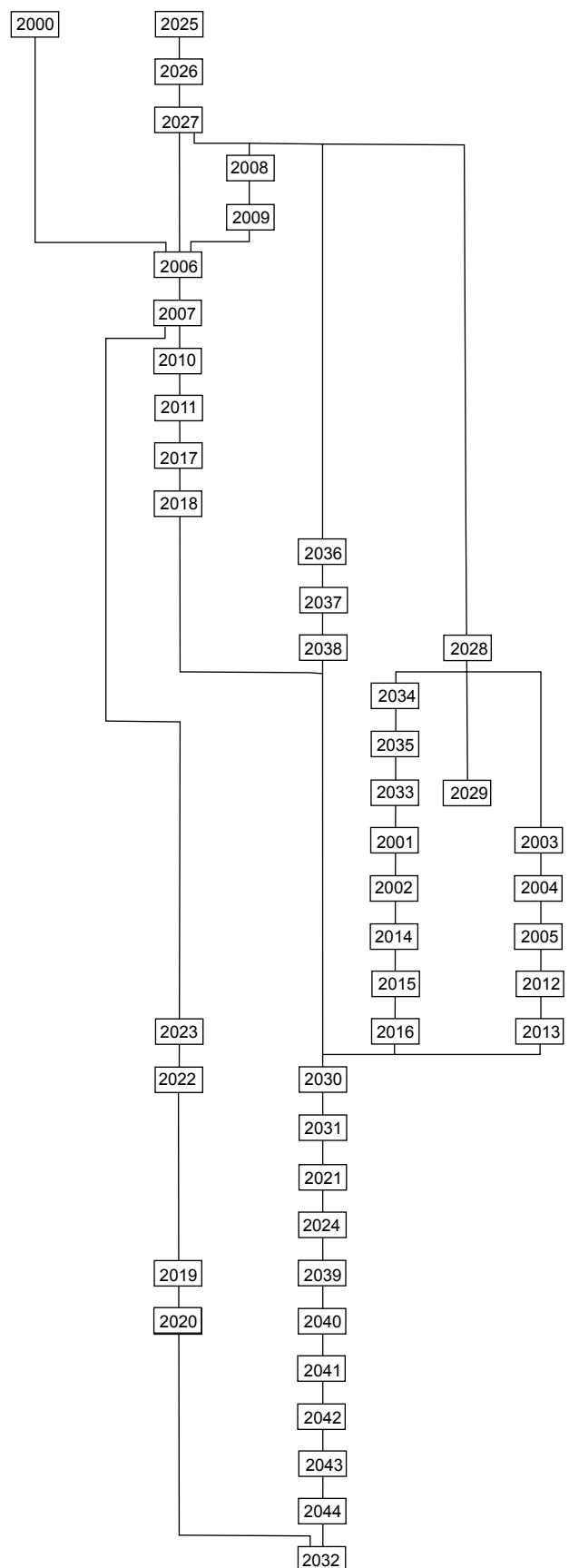


Fig 7 Trench 2 matrix

backfill was identified, a fairly soft, dark greyish-brown sandy silt with patches of orange sand, frequent charcoal flecks, moderate animal bone, occasional to moderate flecks of brick / tile, and occasional mortar fragments (2039). The brick / tile from 2039 was dated to the 13th – 16th centuries. A layer of pale brown clay (2024) immediately above 2039 may have been a backfill, capping deposit or an overlying layer that had subsided into feature 2040. Overlying 2024 there was a moderately compact, mid to dark brown slightly clayey sandy silt mixed with light yellowish-brown clay and brownish-grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles (2021). Brick / tile from 2021 was dated to the 13th – 16th centuries. If 2024 was subsidence into feature 2040 then 2021 was very probably a levelling deposit to fill the hollow left by the subsidence. Possibly contemporary with 2040 was a very shallow feature (2020) of uncertain shape, size and function since it had been truncated to north and south by modern drains. It was, however, at least 0.64m x 0.4m and a maximum of 50mm deep. It had a backfill of soft, mottled orange-brown sandy silt with moderate to frequent mortar flecks, moderate charcoal flecks and moderate flecks of brick / tile (2019).

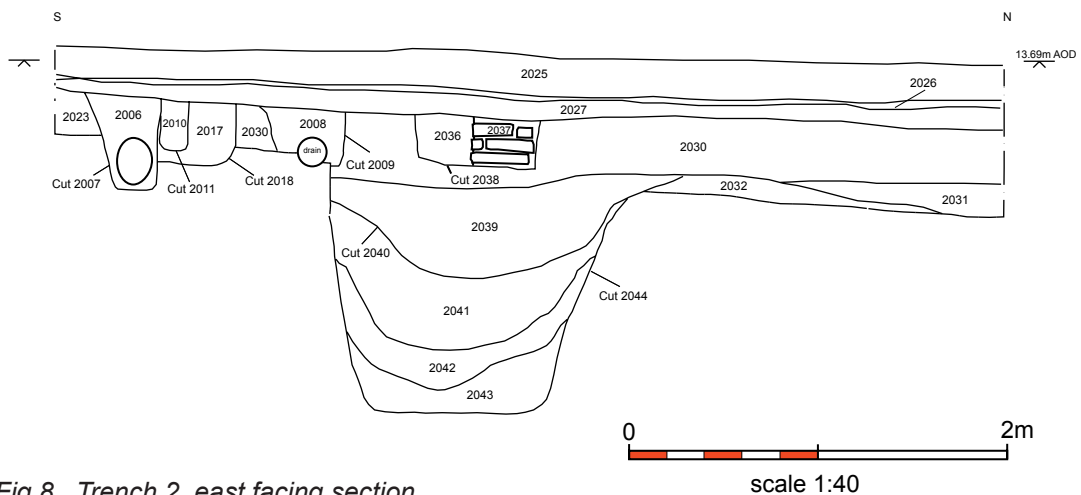


Fig 8 Trench 2, east facing section

Probably later than features 2040 and 2020 was a probable accumulation deposit of mid to dark greyish-brown very slightly clayey sandy silt with frequent flecks of mortar, occasional flecks of charcoal, and very occasional small patches of orange sand and a very few flecks of brick / tile (2031). This deposit was only seen in the northern part of the east-facing section. Sealing 2031 there was an extensive accumulation deposit of mid brown very slightly clayey sandy silt containing moderate flecks of mortar, occasional small fragments and flecks of brick / tile, occasional flecks of charcoal and very occasional small cobbles (2030).

5.2.4 Post-medieval

Probably later than 2030 was a soft, mid greyish-brown sandy silt with moderate brick / tile fragments and mortar lumps (2023). The function of this deposit was uncertain since it was not excavated but it may have been a backfill in the construction cut for a brick culvert (2022) aligned approximately north-east / south-west and situated close to the south-west corner of

the trench. Much of this culvert had been destroyed by later drains but enough survived to establish an external width of 0.36m with an interior channel 0.14m wide. The side walls were one brick wide, sat on a brick floor and were three courses high. No evidence for the roof was recovered due to the later truncation. The culvert used bricks with dimensions of 230mm x 110mm x 70mm.

Possibly roughly contemporary with culvert 2022 were two features neither of which could be fully excavated due to later truncation. The first of these features lay in the north-east corner of the trench. The construction cut (2013) for this feature, a pit of some type, was at least 1m long, 0.4m wide and 0.7m deep with a nearly vertical west edge and an irregular flattish base. In the base of this cut was a roughly level bed of tightly packed cobbles, c.80mm to 0.24m across, bonded with mid brown slightly silty clay (2012), one and sometimes two courses deep. A small amount of brick / tile from 2012 was dated to the 14th – 16th centuries. A single piece of glazed sewer pipe, dating to 1850 or later, recovered from this context was almost certainly an intrusive piece. Sitting on the outer edge of this base, and forming a lining to the pit, were cobbles, a small amount of brick / tile and blocks of limestone, up to 0.26m across and set into a matrix of stiff, pale grey clay (2005). The brick / tile from 2005 was broadly datable to the 13th – 16th centuries. Above the base and butting the lining was a deposit comprising some 90% compact, creamy-white mortar with very occasional patches of pale grey sandy silt and very occasional pebbles (2004).



Plate 2 Trench 2 looking north after initial clean, showing natural subsoil 2032 in background, unexcavated features 2016 and 2044 in mid ground and modern drains in foreground

This is more likely to be a use deposit than a deliberate backfill and may indicate the primary use of the feature as a mortar mixing pit. Overlying 2004 was the only surviving true backfill, a soft, mid greyish-brown clayey sandy silt with occasional small cobbles, mortar flecks and fragments of brick / tile of the 13th – 16th centuries and very occasional charcoal flecks and small patches of pale grey clay (2003).

Approximately 2m south of 2013, centre to centre, was a virtually identical feature (2016). Although truncated to the south and east by modern drains more of this survived than of 2013. It was not fully excavated but was at least 1.7m long and 1m wide and probably of a similar depth as 2013. The earliest part of this pit examined was the base which was composed of cobbles, 80mm to 0.19m across, set into a stiff greyish-brown silty clay (2015). Above and around the outer edges of the base was a lining made of cobbles and limestone blocks, up to 0.26m across bonded with a stiff, very pale grey pure clay (2014). Above the base and butting the lining was a primary use deposit. The lower half of this was a compact, creamy white lime mortar and the upper half the same but much softer (2002). Sealing 2002 was the only true backfill, a soft, mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy silt (2001) containing frequent cobbles, moderate brick and tile, dated to the 16th – 18th centuries, and occasional mortar flecks, charcoal flecks, patches of pale grey clay and small patches of lime (2001).

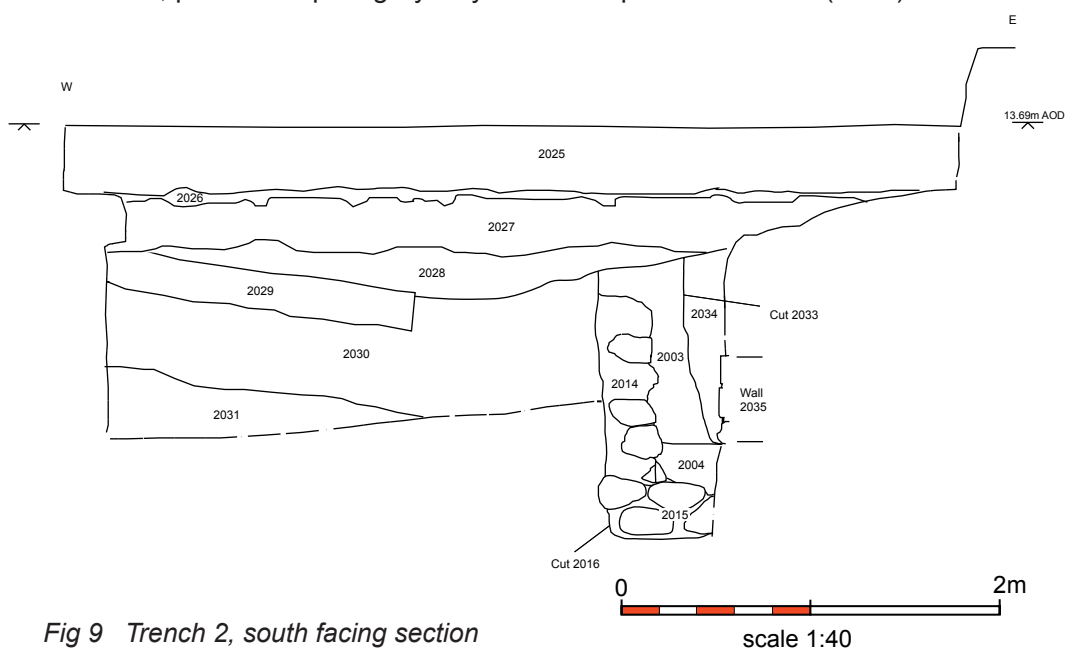


Fig 9 Trench 2, south facing section

Cut into 2001 was a linear construction cut (2033) aligned north-south. It was at least 0.1m wide and 0.5m deep with a nearly vertical west edge. Within it was a short, c.1.2m, stretch of brick walling (2035), two courses high and of unknown width since it formed part of the eastern limit of excavation. The bricks were laid stretcher fashion and bonded with a hard white mortar. The individual bricks measured c.210 x 95 x 80mm and the walling appeared to be sat on a single rough foundation course of bricks laid at 90° to the wall itself. The space between construction cut 2033 and wall 2035 had been backfilled with a firm, dark greyish-brown clayey sandy silt which contained moderate mortar fragments, occasional cobbles and small

fragments of brick / tile, and very occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles (2034). Possibly at a similar stratigraphic horizon, and only seen in the south-facing section of the trench, was a line of roughly horizontal unmortared bricks (2029) of uncertain function.

Sealing 2029 and pit fill 2003 was a levelling deposit composed of dark brown slightly clayey, slightly sandy silt which contained occasional flecks of mortar, brick / tile, charcoal and small patches of clay (2028). Probably later than this, and seen only in the east-facing section, was a construction cut (2038) aligned east-west. It was c.0.6m wide, 0.25m deep and had vertical sides leading to a flat base. Within it was a brick wall (2037) three courses, c.0.25m, high and 0.32m wide bonded with a soft off-white mortar. The bricks measured c.230mm x 80mm x 70mm. The construction cut had been backfilled with a soft, very dark greyish-brown sandy silt containing moderate fragments of brick / tile, moderate charcoal and mortar flecks and occasional patches of light brown clay (2036).

Probably later than 2038 was a feature (2018) of uncertain size, shape and function although it may have been a post-pit. It had been truncated to the south but was at least 0.4m wide and 0.33m deep with a vertical north edge sharply curving into a flat base. It had a backfill of slightly compact, mid brownish-grey sandy silt containing frequent fragments of brick / tile and patches of sand, moderate fragments of slag and occasional lumps of mortar (2017). Feature 2018 had been partly cut away by a probable post-hole (2011) which was c.0.15m across and at least 0.25m deep with vertical sides curving sharply into a flat base. It had been backfilled with a loose, light brown silty sand containing frequent flecks and fragments of brick / tile and mortar (2010).

5.2.5 *Modern*

Both 2018 and 2011 had been partly cut away by relatively modern drain trench (2007) aligned roughly north-east / south-west. This trench was generally around 0.3m wide and 0.5m deep with very steep to near-vertical sides meeting a flat base. In the base was a circular ceramic drain pipe, c.0.15m in diameter. The trench had been backfilled with a loose, friable, mid greyish-brown sandy silt containing moderate flecks and fragments of brick / tile and mortar and occasional patches of plastic pinkish-brown clay (2006). The brick / tile from 2006 was dated c.1850 or later.

Drain trench 2007 had in turn been cut by a later drain complex (2009). This was composed of two drains, one aligned approximately north-east / south-west and the other east-west. Towards the eastern limit of excavation these both turned to the north and joined to form a single drain which ran along the eastern limit of excavation before disappearing behind wall 2035. These drains were not fully excavated but contained a backfill of soft, mid greyish-brown sandy silt containing moderate fragments of brick / tile and flecks of mortar (2008). These drains were sealed by levelling deposit of brick rubble with small amounts of mortar and mid greyish-brown sandy silt (2027). Above this was another levelling deposit, a thin, c.20mm, one

composed of partly crushed clinker (2026). The uppermost deposit in this trench, forming the existing modern ground level, was a slab of reinforced concrete (2025). This lay at between c.13.8m OD at the south end of the trench and c.13.7m OD at the north end.

Context 2000, used for finds from the machine clearance and initial cleaning, produced pottery of the 19th century and brick / tile of the 17th century and later.



Plate 3 Trench 2 looking south, showing natural subsoil 2032 in foreground, excavated pit 2016 and 2044 in mid ground and modern drains in background

5.3 Trench 3

5.3.1 Natural

The earliest, and lowest, deposit seen in this trench was a soft, clean, light to mid orange-yellow sand (3005). This was believed to be undisturbed natural subsoil and was only seen in the side of a later feature. The top of this sand lay at c.1.05m BGL, c.12.7m OD. It was overlain by a mid orange-brown slightly clayey silty sand with very occasional charcoal (3004). This was probably slightly disturbed and weathered natural subsoil and the top of it lay at c.0.65m BGL.

5.3.2 Medieval

Cut into 3004 was a feature (3019) of uncertain shape, size and function but possibly a pit. Much of this feature lay beyond the eastern limit of excavation but it was at least 0.85m long, 0.25m wide and 0.25m deep. It had a steeply sloping west edge and a moderately sloping north edge. The base was not observed within the trench. Only one backfill was noted and

this was a mid brown silt containing frequent small, c.10mm or less, limestone chips and occasional tile (3018).

Backfill 3018 was sealed by an accumulation deposit of firm, dark greyish-brown silt with moderate patches of mid brown silty clay and occasional charcoal and mortar flecks (3001). Brick / tile from 3001 was broadly dated to the 13th – 16th centuries. Into 3001 there was cut a feature (3003) of uncertain shape and size but very probably a pit. It was at least 1.3m across and 0.8m deep with a steeply sloping east edge and an irregular flattish base. Two backfills were recorded. The lower was a mid brown silt containing a moderate number of cobbles and occasional tile (3011). Overlying this was a firm, mid brown silt with many tile fragments (3002) datable to the 13th – 16th centuries.

5.3.3 Post-medieval

Later than 3003 were three brick walls forming part of a cellar which had removed completely any archaeology from the northern two-thirds of this trench. The first wall (3022) was aligned north-south and lay under the eastern edge of the trench. The width and height were not ascertained but this wall was still going down in the northern part of the trench at c.1.5m BGL. It was bonded with a hard, pale brown mortar and the individual bricks measured c.240mm x 120mm x 50mm. and were thought to date to the 14th – 16th centuries. Traces of whitewash were observed on the exposed face of this wall. The south end of 3022 was keyed into a stretch of wall (3012) aligned east-west. This section of wall was c.0.44m wide and bonded with a hard, pale brown mortar. The bricks measured c.240mm x 120mm x 50mm, probably datable to the 16th – 18th centuries, and traces of whitewash or a thin rendering were observed on the internal face of this wall. The third component of this cellar was noted protruding from the western edge of the trench. It was a brick wall (3023), one course, c.120mm, wide running parallel to, and c.0.9m north of, 3012. The bricks were again bonded with a hard, brown mortar and again whitewash or a thin rendering was observed, this time on both faces of the wall. A brick from this wall was believed to date to the 16th – 18th centuries. It was most likely a dividing wall or possibly a staircase wall within the cellar.

5.3.4 Modern

The cellar had been deliberately backfilled with demolition rubble consisting of coarse brick rubble with moderate amounts of pale grey plaster (3024). Above the cellar backfill was a deposit of

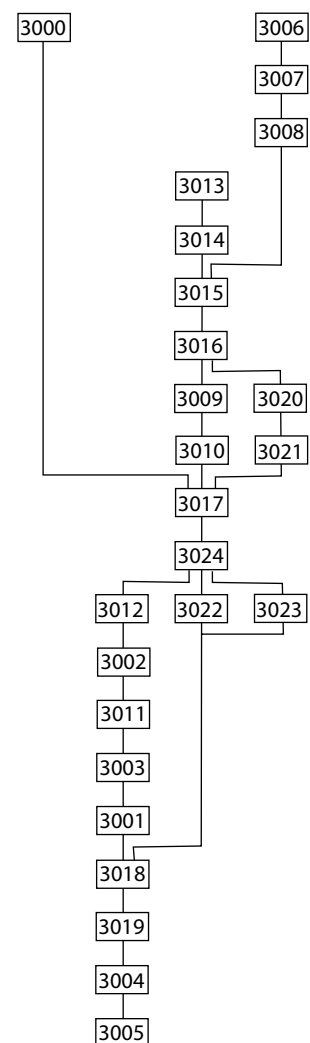


Fig 10 Trench 3 matrix

uncertain function. It was a firm, mid greyish-brown silt with moderate charcoal (3017). This was partly sealed by another deposit of uncertain function, a compact, dark brown silt with moderate charcoal (3010). Also overlying 3017 was a levelling deposit which was a mixture of crushed brick and clinker (3021).

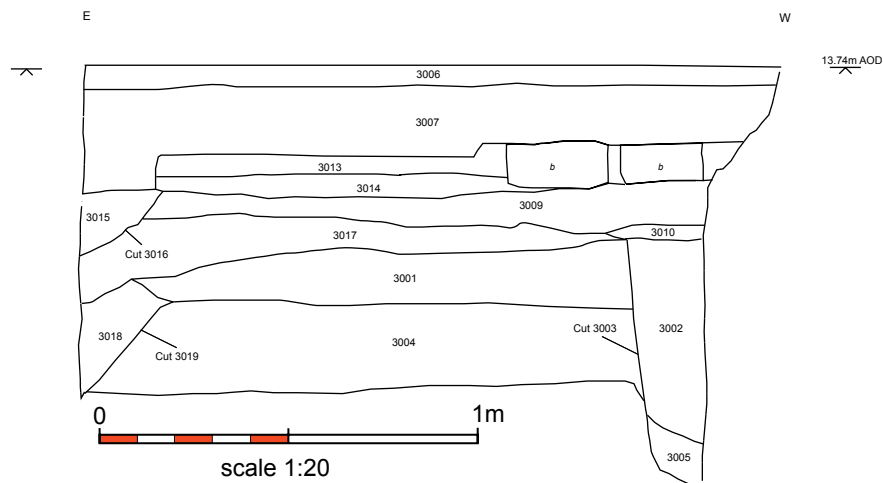


Fig 11 Trench 3, north facing section

Above 3021 was another levelling deposit, of crushed brick fragments (3020) up to c.50mm across. Overlying 3010 was a deposit of crushed brick fragments (3009), c.50mm or less, almost certainly a levelling deposit and very possibly the same as 3020. Cutting 3009 and 3020 was a small feature (3016) of uncertain shape, size and function. It was at least 0.2m wide and 0.2m deep with a very steeply sloping north edge and a moderately sloping west edge. It had a single backfill of mid brown silt with occasional charcoal (3015). It was sealed by a levelling deposit of clean mid brown sand (3014) above which was a mixture of dark grey silt, fine, less than 20mm, gravel and small, less than c.50mm, brick fragments (3013). This was also considered to be a levelling deposit. Thought to be later than 3013 was a mixture of large cobbles and concrete fragments (3008) again a levelling deposit.

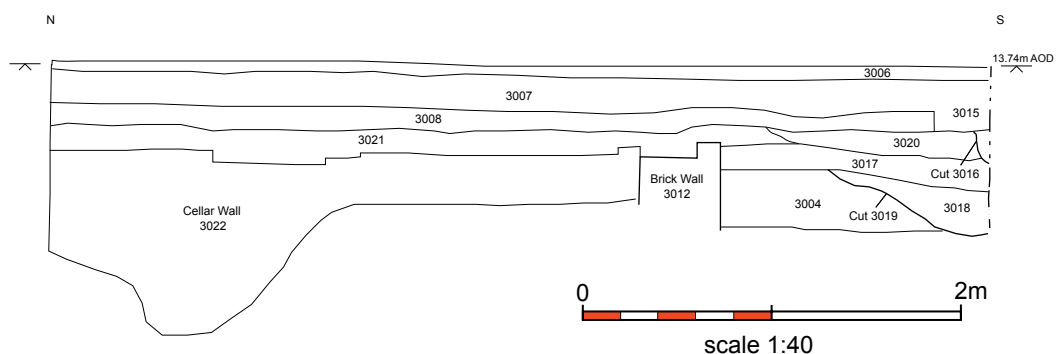


Fig 12 Trench 3, west facing section

Overlying 3008 across the entire trench was a slab of soft, off-white concrete (3007) which formed the bedding for the uppermost context, the current showroom floor of polished red ceramic tiles (3006). This was perfectly level in the immediate vicinity of the trench and lay at c.13.74m OD.



Plate 4 Trench 3 looking south, showing pit 3003 and natural subsoil 3004

6. FINDS ASSESSMENT

6.1 Ceramic Building Materials by Jane McComish

A total of 27.794kg of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) was examined from the site. The material ranged in date from medieval to modern, though the overwhelming bulk consisted of medieval roofing material. The CBM was recorded following standard YAT procedures.

The medieval material consisted of roofing material (plain tiles, peg tile and crested ridge tiles) of 13-16th century date and of 14-16th century brick. There were 5 examples of peg tiles each with a square peg hole of typical size. One of the peg tiles was 303x203mm in size. There were numerous examples of plain tiles ranging from 13-18mm in thickness, which is typical for York. There were two fragments of crested ridge tiles; as one crest had broken off it is impossible to know if these fragments originated from a single roofing scheme. In addition to the ceramic roofing tiles there was a micaceous sandstone peg tile which was probably also of medieval date.

There were a small number of fragments of medieval brick of 14-16th century date. They were manufactured using both slop moulding and sanded moulds. One example was underfired and

a second example had rain marks on the upper surface showing it had been dried in the open air rather than in a tile shed (hackstead).

The post-medieval material on the site largely consisted of slop moulded brick of 16-18th century date. There were a number of fragments of pan tile which was used from the 17th century onwards, and some fragments of brown glazed sewer pipes of 19th century or later date.

6.1.1 Conclusions

The CBM is of use in providing dating evidence for the various contexts on site, and these are listed in Table 1 above. No features of note were present; the collection was typical in terms of both the forms and fabrics used. The collection does not merit any further research.

CONTEXT	DATE RANGE	FORMS
1006	13th -16th century	Plain, Peg
1007	13th -16th century	Plain
1013	14th -16th century	Plain, Brick, Stone Tile
1013	13th -16th century	Plain
2000	17th century +	Plain, Pan
2001	16th -18th century	Plain, Brick, Peg
2003	13th -16th century	Peg
2005	13th -16th century	Plain
2006	1850 +	Plain, Brick, Sewer
2012	14th -16th century	Brick
2012	1850 +	Plain, Sewer
2021	13th -16th century	Plain
2039	13th -16th century	Plain
3001	13th -16th century	Plain
3002	13th -16th century	Plain, Crested
3012	16th -18th century	Brick
3022	14th -16th century	Brick
3023	16th -18th century	Brick

Table 1 Ceramic Building Material by context

6.2 The Pottery by Anne Jenner

6.2.1 Introduction

One hundred and fifteen sherds were retrieved from ten contexts (see Table 2). The sequence begins with three residual Roman sherds. There are no types dated from the early 4th to the early 9th centuries. The earliest Anglo-Scandinavian pottery is Torksey-type ware (2042) which

is 10/11th century. The record includes 12th to 16th century wares and then little until the 18/19th century. The latest wares include 19th century red earthen ware garden furniture and transfer printed ware (2000]) and modern table ware (2006).

6.2.2 *Selected Pottery Types*

6.2.2.1 *Roman*

Only three abraded, residual Roman sherds were found (1013), (2000), (2042).

6.2.2.2 *Anglo-Scandinavian*

An Anglo-Scandinavian Shelly ware body sherd was the only pottery from feature backfill 2039 which also contained ceramic building material dated from the 13th to 16th centuries. It is most probably from Lincolnshire, but may also have emanated from Oxford or London. However, a very abraded sherd with calcareous material in it (2042) may have been part of a different shelly ware vessel but is too worn to be certain.

Shelly wares appear in small quantities in the 9th century in the York area but are more common from the 10th century (Mainman 1990, 415-421). They also continue into the post-conquest period. Elsewhere, in London, Sandy shelly ware is found in 11th to late 12th century contexts. Here the Shelly ware from 2039 may have worked its way up from the context immediately below it (2042) or be residual / re-deposited in a feature dated no earlier than the 13th century by ceramic building material.

A number of sherds of Torksey-type ware, possibly from three separate jars, one of which was probably used for cooking as it was heavily sooted, were found in a deposit (2042) near the bottom of a large pit (2044], immediately below the context that the Shelly ware sherd came from. They have short, everted rims; one is plain and one has thumb impressions around the edge. Similar rims can be seen from Coppergate where decorated forms are more common in mid-10th rather than late 10th/11th century contexts (Mainman 1990 432). These might be seen to provide a terminus post quem of the 11th century for the feature as they are not abraded, unlike the Roman sherd from the same context.

The small amount of Anglo-Scandinavian pottery may be a by-product of a low level of occupation along the fringes of the conjectured Roman approach road from the east, roughly along the line of the present Hull Road, from Brough and the Humber crossing (RCHMY 1962, 1), spilling outside the contemporary city boundary at Walmgate Bar.

6.2.2.3 *Medieval*

Gritty ware jars (1006), (1007), (1013), (3000), (3001) are at the earliest mid-11th century but

are mostly 12th century. However they may still be used throughout the 13th century, until the late 13th century when Brandsby-types take over (Mainman 1993, 585-6). Some sherds are unusual in that they are oxidised to a reddish colour, such as from 1007 and 3001, and these resemble that of the 13th century Humber wares and may be related.

One might expect occupation around St Lawrence church, the earliest documentary and architectural evidence for which is late 12th century (Wilson and Mee 1998, 93).

A type known as Early York Glazed ware (EYGW) and York Glazed ware (YGW) are present in small quantities (1000), (1007), (1013) (3001) are of a late 12th/13th century date. Late 13th/14th century Brandsby-type wares are also present in small numbers (1013), (2000).

Humber wares do exist here and could be of late 13th to 15th century (1000), (1006), (1007), (1013), (2000).

Evidence from watching briefs in the area around St Edmunds' church of 14th century burials attests to occupation in the vicinity at this time (YORYM 1984.2).

6.2.2.4 Post medieval

One probable Reversed Cistercian ware and Purple glazed ware (1013) are probably of a 16th century date.

There are no obvious 17th century wares. This is surprising given the known activity in the area in this Civil war period. Depopulation and economic recession and parishes like that of St Lawrence and St Nicholas combining (Galley 1998, 57) may be relevant. However, the lack of finds may simply be a reflection of the sample size.

Black glazed wares (2000) may be 18th century. A few green glazed sherds of Hambleton (1013), (2000) and possibly Ryedale ware (1000) may reflect the use of green glazed pottery from the medieval period through to the late 15th or even up to the early 18th centuries.

One sherd of Reversed Cistercian ware (3000) and one Purple Glazed ware (1000) may be classed as 16th century along with Low Countries ware (1013).

In the 19th century red earthenware (2000) predominates, though transfer printed and other table wares also exist.

6.2.2.5 Imports

French imports are suggested by very small sherds from Context 1000 and a mottled green glazed ware (1013]but these may simply be particularly fine York Glazed wares.

Two red earthenware sherds are almost certainly of Low Countries origin (1013). Though this type of pottery was first found in Britain in the late 14th century it is more common in the 16th and residual by the 17th century.

6.2.3 Further research

The Grey ware might warrant a more detailed fabric analysis, along with other variants from the region which are similar but different to Torksey-type ware, in order to ascertain their origins and affinities.

The Shelly wares could also be submitted for more detailed fabric analysis as part of a larger project to look at the provenance of the Shelly wares found in the region. This might help to ascertain whether the pottery was from Lincoln, London or Oxford and also shed light on the date of its currency.

However, the sample is too small to make this worthwhile from this site alone and therefore no further work is recommended unless to contribute towards a thematic research paper.

CONTEXT	QUANTITY	SPOTDATE	DETAILS
1000	16	19th century	5 Humber ware 5 Later red earthenware 1 ?Splashed glazed ware with gritty fabric and incised line decoration 2 Purple glazed ware. Burnt 1 YGW base 1 White ware strap handle (possibly French) 1 Hambleton-type ware with green glaze on both surfaces
1006	7	18/19th century + medieval	1 Red earthenware with brown internal glaze and soot externally 1 Red earthenware very hard fired with white deposit 2 Gritty ware 1 Humber purple glazed handle 1 Oxidised gritty ware 1 Gritty ware base with reduced core and oxidised surfaces
1007	4	Late 13th century	1 YGW 2 Humber 1 oxidised ?Gritty ware
1013	36	Late 15/16th century + medieval	1 ?Roman very abraded 2 Humber inc base with thumb indent 1 Oxidised Humber 1 Brandsby-type 3 Walmgate 1 Brandsby base. Lightly sooted gritty fabric (continued).....

			<p>1 Low Countries red ware 1 White ware, possibly Saintonge, with mottled green glaze 1 Humber/Walmgate bung hole 1 gritty oxidised jar rim with thick walls and chestnut glaze on external surface 5 York Glazed Ware 2 Brandsby including strap handle with incised line decoration and roller stamp decoration. *draw 2 Humber 1 Purple glazed ware with incised wavy line decoration 1 Low Countries red ware rim 5 Gritty Ware 1 ?Hambleton overfired 4 Humber 1 ?Roman. Fine walled Grey ware 1 Late Humber ware. Burnt inside</p>
2000	28	19th century	<p>2 Black glazed red earthenware 1 Transfer printed ware 1 Black glaze on coarse white fabric and rouletting. ?Roman 2 Brandsby inc incised line decoration 1 Hambleton/late Brandsby with shiny glaze and band of horizontal incised lines 1 Hambleton 1 later red earthenware garden furniture/bowl 19 later red earthenware with brown and yellow glaze and horizontal rib. Garden furniture/bowl</p>
2001	1	19th century	<p>1 Later red earthenware garden bowl similar to [2000]</p>
2006	3	20th century	<p>1 Modern striped earthenware 1 later red earthenware with brown internal glaze 1 part of drain</p>
2039	1	10th/11th century	<p>1 Shelly ware body sherd</p>
2042	13	mid10/11th century	<p>10 Torksey-type jars with thumbled everted rim and coarse hard fabric. Wheel thrown. One sherd is heavily sooted with deposit inside Possibly from three separate vessels. 1 Roman Ebor ware strap handle. Abraded. 2 Very abraded sherds with calcareous inclusions.</p>

3000	5	late 12th century	1 '75. Grey ware with thumbbed rim. (Similar period to Torksey ware but different fabric) 1 Splash ware. ?FRED. 1 Reversed Cistercian or Staffordshire slipware (intrusive) 1 Gritty ware body sherd 1 Splash ware base with Gritty ware fabric
3001	2	late 12/13th century	1 Early YGW 1 GW bowl rim (oxidised)

Table 2 Pottery by context

6.2.4 Conclusion

This small assemblage gives insights into activity on the site from the 2nd / 3rd century through to the 19th century with a gap from the early 4th to early 9th century and at least very low level of activity suggested by the scarcity of pottery from the 17th century.

6.3 The Small Finds by Nicky Rogers

Eight objects from the evaluation were assessed. These comprised nails, an iron bar, two lumps of slag, two tobacco pipe stems, a vessel glass fragment and a concretion that was not an artefact.

This collection of finds appears to be mainly post-medieval but does not otherwise contribute useful information about activity at the site.

CONTEXT	SMALL FIND NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
1000	3	Iron bar
1006	1	Iron nail
1013	2	3 Iron nails
1013	6	Slag
2000	4	Concretion
2000	7	2 Tobacco pipe stems
2000	8	Vessel glass fragment
2017	5	3 Fragments of slag

Table 3 Small finds by context

7. ANIMAL BONE by Juliet Mint and Deborah Jaques (Palaeoecology Research Services)

7.1 Summary

A very small assemblage of vertebrate remains was recovered from deposits of medieval and post-medieval date during excavations at 60 Lawrence Street, York. This material was submitted to PRS for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

The remains mostly represented butchery waste with a small component of domestic refuse. Identified species included the three main domesticates (cattle, caprovid and pig) as well as hare, chicken, goose, duck and rook/crow. A few fish fragments were also recovered, including a gadid vertebra.

The small size of the assemblage and broad dating of deposits renders this material of little zooarchaeological value. However, the remains are fairly well preserved and it is likely that any future excavations would recover further bone, perhaps in larger quantities and of more interpretable value.

7.2 Introduction

An evaluation excavation was undertaken at 60 Lawrence Street, York (NGR SE 6126 5132), by York Archaeological Trust from the 11th to the 20th of July 2005.

The excavation took place ahead of redevelopment and consisted of three trenches, each 5 m by 2 m and approximately 1.5 m deep. Occupation on the site did not appear to be intensive, however, evidence of human activity dated to the Roman, possibly Anglo-Scandinavian, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods was identified. A number of features across the site were only partially uncovered by the excavation and it was not always possible to distinguish large pits from ditches and other linear features. Part of Trench 3 included a cellar, probably of pre-modern construction. At present, only preliminary dating evidence is available.

A small amount of hand-collected bone was submitted to Palaeoecology Research Services Limited (PRS), County Durham, for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

7.3 Methods

For the hand-collected vertebrate remains, subjective records were made of the state of preservation, colour of the fragments, and the appearance of broken surfaces ('angularity'). Other information, such as fragment size, dog gnawing, burning, butchery and fresh breaks, was noted, where applicable.

	mid 10th/11th century	13th-16th century	Post medieval	? 16th century	? 17th century	TOTAL
<i>Lepus</i> sp. (Hare)		1				1
<i>Sus f. domestic</i> (pig)		1				1
<i>Bos f. domestic</i> (cattle)		19			9	20
Caprovid (sheep/goat)	1	11	2	1	3	18
<i>Anser</i> sp. (goose)		2				2
<i>Anas</i> sp. (duck)		2				2
<i>Gallus f. domestic</i> (chicken)		4				4
<i>Corvus corone</i> L./ <i>Corvus frugilegus</i> L. (rook/crow)		1				1
Fish		2				2
Unidentified	19	130	1	2	5	157
TOTAL	20	173	3	3	9	208

Table 4 Hand collected vertebrate remains by species

Fragments were identified to species or species group using the PRS modern comparative reference collection. The bones which could not be identified species were described as the 'unidentified' fraction. Within this fraction,

Fragments were grouped into a number of categories: large mammal (assumed to be cattle, horse or large cervid), medium-sized mammal (assumed to be caprovid, pig or small cervid) and completely unidentifiable. These remains are shown as 'Unidentified' in Table 4.

7.4 Results

A small assemblage of vertebrate remains was recovered from ten deposits investigated during these excavations. The 208 fragments included two mandibles with teeth *in situ* and five measurable bones, of use for providing age-at-death and biometrical information. Bone was recovered from deposits of medieval and post-medieval date, the largest group being recovered from four deposits dated to the 13th to 16th centuries. The largest quantity of material (158 fragments) came from Context 1013, a linear feature that was interpreted as a rubbish pit. Remains recovered from two fills within Pit 2016 (Contexts 2001 and 2002) showed evidence of lime concretions; this feature was described as a lime mixing pit by the excavators. Generally, the bone was of good preservation and fawn in colour, with occasional evidence of dog gnawing. Fresh breakage, which had occurred during the excavation and post-excavation processes, was noted throughout.

Cattle and caprovid were the most common species identified, however, only caprovid was present in all periods. A single pig bone was recovered (Context 2039), whilst Context 1013 (the fill of rubbish Pit 1014) produced remains from a range of species, including hare (*Lepus* sp.), duck (*Anas* sp.), goose (*Anser* sp.), chicken and rook/crow (*Corvus corone* L./*Corvus frugilegus* L.), together with fragments of fish including a gadid vertebra. The presence of bird and fish remains suggests a component of domestic refuse within the pit, however, the cattle remains recovered were all skeletal elements from the head and feet (i.e. a maxilla fragment, mandibles, teeth, metapodials, an astragalus and phalanges), which are typically interpreted as waste from initial carcass preparation. A high proportion of large and medium-sized mammal ribs and vertebrae were included in the unidentified fraction; these skeletal elements also tend to represent butchery waste.

Evidence of butchery was mostly noted on the cattle bones and included chopped metapodials (Contexts 1013, 2039 and 3001) and a split astragalus (Context 1006). A single pig femur (Context 2039) had also been butchered.

7.5 Discussion and statement of potential

The vertebrate assemblage recovered from this site was mostly well preserved but was rather small and broadly dated. Additionally, there were only a few fragments recovered that could provide biometrical and age-at-death information. However, material from the fill of rubbish Pit 1014 clearly included butchery waste and a small component of kitchen/household refuse.

Whilst the current assemblage has little potential for further analysis, it does demonstrate that the survival of bone in this area is good, as has been seen elsewhere in the vicinity of Lawrence Street (e.g. Jaques 2002a; 2002b and Kenward *et al.* 2004).

7.6 Recommendations

The current vertebrate assemblage does not warrant further consideration, however, the potential for the survival of bone at this site is good. Further interventions in the area are likely to produce additional well preserved vertebrate remains, perhaps in greater quantities and of more interpretative value; an eventuality which should be considered.

7.7 Retention and disposal

All of the material should be retained for the present.

7.8 Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

No features of Roman date, and only three abraded sherds of pottery, were found during the evaluation. Since the site lies immediately south of the principal Roman approach road from the Humber estuary some Roman activity might be expected. The relatively small size of the trenches may have meant that any such activity may have been missed. The small quantity of Roman pottery recovered, and the fact that it was all well-abraded may indicate the area was devoted to agricultural use during the Roman period.

The complete absence of any evidence for Anglian activity is not surprising given the rarity of such activity in York although finds of the period have been recovered from the nearby D.C.Cook site. Evidence for the Anglo-Scandinavian era was forthcoming from this evaluation in the form of a feature of uncertain shape, size and function. This feature was securely dated by the recovery of Torksey-type wares from one of its lower fills. Interpretation of this feature was not possible due to the limited size of the trench in which it was found and by truncation by later features but it was felt that it was either a pit or a linear ditch running parallel to Lawrence Street. If it was a pit then the soot-blackened pottery from it very likely indicates occupation in the immediate area during the 10th – 11th centuries and thus helps to confirm that ribbon development along Lawrence Street may be Pre-Conquest in origin. If it was a ditch, then this is also significant since it indicates activity of the period, possibly agricultural, in this area.

Although no definite structural remains of the medieval period were located during the evaluation, a number of pits and deposits could be confidently dated to the period. Such activity should be expected on this site due to its proximity to the old church of St Lawrence, which dated back to at least the later 12th century.

Post-medieval evidence from the site was quite abundant and included accumulation and levelling deposits, a brick culvert, two lime-mixing pits and various features including possible pit bases and post-holes. The brick cellar partly within Trench 3, unless built entirely of re-used bricks, also belonged to this period as did some short stretches of brick wall in Trench 2.

Modern remains were abundant and included levelling deposits, a clearance cut, drains, floors and an unknown feature.

The evidence from this site can help our understanding of the origin and development of this area of York. It appears that after agricultural activity in the Roman period this part of Lawrence Street was next utilised during the Anglo-Scandinavian period, possibly as a settlement area which continued to grow and flourish during the medieval period although no certain structural remains were identified during the present evaluation. Occupation continued during the Post-medieval period although it is likely that there was a short period of abandonment during and after the Civil War in the 17th century. The brick cellar may indicate rebuilding after the Civil War and since then the site appears to have been more or less permanently occupied. It would

therefore seem that the site has seen near-continuous occupation and activity for 1000 years or more.

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APPENDIX: List of Site Drawings

Trench 1

- 1 Composite plan at end of excavation
- 2 East-facing section of west side of trench, south half
- 3 East-facing section of west side of trench, north half
- 4 Northern part of west facing section of east side of trench

Trench 2

- 1 Composite plan at end of excavation
- 2 Composite plan of pit 2016
- 3 Composite plan of drains 2007 and 2008
- 4 South facing section of north end of trench
- 5 East-facing section of west side of trench, south half
- 6 East-facing section of west side of trench, north half

plus single context plans of context numbers

2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Trench 3

- 1 Composite plan at end of excavation
- 2 East-facing section of west side of trench, south half
- 5 North facing section of south side of trench
- 6 West facing section of east side of trench, north half
- 5 West facing section of east side of trench, south half

plus single context plans of context numbers

3003, 3004