



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT
104 MICKLEGATE, YORK.**

By Mark Whyman

EVALUATION REPORT

Report Number 2015/15 March 2015



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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Figure 1: Location map of 104 Micklegate and plan of location of cellar within property.

Figure 2: Excavated areas, deposits and features withi cellar of 104 Micklegate.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An evaluation excavation, comprising two small trenches, was undertaken in the cellar of 104 Micklegate, York, between 21-23 May 2014. The excavation revealed what appear to be Roman-period deposits immediately beneath the brick floor of the seemingly 18th-century cellar, including what may be make-up for a road, associated with pottery ranging in date from the mid-/late 2nd to later 4th centuries. The end of what appears to be a stone coffin or sarcophagus was observed, built into the north-eastern end of the south-west wall of the cellar.

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	104 Micklegate, York.
YAT Project No.	5786
Report status	Final
Type of Project	Evaluation
Client	Skelton Consultancy
NGR	SE 59834 51582
Museum Accession No.	YORYM:2014.332
OASIS Identifier	yorkarch1-207652

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1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In May 2014 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) was approached by Dean Starkey of Skelton Consultancy, York, on behalf of their client Clarissa O’Callaghan, to excavate a trial pit in the cellar of the above property, a measure requested by John Oxley, City of York Council’s (CoYC’s) Archaeologist. The work comprised a rapid evaluation—to establish the presence, depth, date and complexity of any archaeological strata which might survive beneath the floor of the cellar, a space which had only been discovered and emptied of infill earlier in 2014. This information was required to establish the archaeological impact of lowering the floor of the cellar by up to 1.50 m.

The property is located on the raised ground to the south-west of the river Ouse, where Micklegate runs between the areas of York known as Bishophill and Toft Green, c.115 m north-east of Micklegate Bar, opposite the medieval Holy Trinity Priory, and within the area of the city known to have been the heart of the Roman *colonia* (civil town). The National Grid Reference (NGR) for the site is SE 459834 451582.

Examination of the records from archaeological investigations in the near vicinity, in particular from the excavation of two sewer access shafts in the Micklegate thoroughfare itself, each c.75 m to the south-west and north-east of the property respectively (Ottaway 1992, fig.1 p.8), suggested that Roman-period deposits, relating to structures adjacent to the main road or roads into Roman York (*Eboracum*) from the south-west, or possibly to the road itself, might be expected at a depth close to that of the cellar floor within the property.

The cellar

The initial impression of the cellar itself, based on the bricks used in its walls, the presence of a series of arched alcoves in its south-western and north-western walls and a badly-deteriorated timber upright incorporated within the central dividing wall, was that it dated from the 17th or 18th centuries. Since the Micklegate street frontage is known to have been built up since at least the 15th century, and probably for four centuries or more before that, the cellar is almost certain to have been constructed within an existing property on the site, parts of which will have survived within the superstructure which stands today. The construction characteristics and structural history of the cellar were clearly interesting and complex, but fell outside the remit of the work YAT was commissioned to undertake.

The excavation

The excavation was undertaken by Mark Whyman and Bryan Antoni of YAT between Wed 21 and Fri 23 May 2014. Access to the cellar was severely constrained, with limited headroom in the working area, and the excavation was carried out under floodlighting provided by the building contractors on site. The maximum dimensions of the cellar were c.8.5 m x 5.0 m, this space being divided longitudinally (that is on a NW-SE alignment, orthogonal to Micklegate) by a narrow brick wall, creating two chambers within the overall cellar space. The north-eastern chamber measured c.8.0 m x 3.0 m, the south-western c.5.0 m x 2.7 m, excluding the width of the stair passage which provided ingress to the cellar at its south-eastern end (Fig.1). Before controlled archaeological excavation began on Wed 21 May, two earlier interventions had been made beneath the floor of the cellar by workmen on the site on the initiative of the client. In the north-eastern chamber four of the bricks from the floor of the cellar had been

lifted to expose the loose mortar bedding beneath. In the south-western chamber, immediately adjacent and orthogonal to the south-western wall of the cellar, bricks from the floor had been lifted over an area of c.0.70 m x 0.50 m, and a hole dug into the underlying sediments across this area to a depth of c.0.40 m, in order to investigate the depth of the foundations of the cellar wall (Fig.2: Plate 2; these proved to extend no more than c.0.35 m beneath the brick floor of the cellar.)

In the confined space of the cellar, with its highly restricted and constrained access construction activities continuing throughout the short duration of the project, it was not possible to survey in a temporary benchmark adjacent to the excavated areas. However, direct measurement between the brick floor of the cellar and the upper surface of the concrete ground floor of 104 Micklegate (the floor which also formed the *ceiling* of the cellar) indicated that the upper surface of the brick cellar floor [context 1001/2001] was 1.92 m below that of the concrete ground floor. Since the surface of that ground floor appeared to be at a level very close to the crown (centre) of the Micklegate carriageway immediately outside the property, its level can be estimated at c.20.00 m aOD, the level of the cellar floor itself thus being at c.18.10 m aOD. (Obviously these levels aOD involve a margin of error of up to c.± 300 mms).

2 RESULTS

Trench 1

The first archaeological excavation (Trench 1) initially opened an area measuring 1.50 m x 1.00 m, located centrally at the north-western end of the north-eastern chamber. The individual bricks of the floor, each measuring c.230 mms x 115 mms x 40 mms and manufactured using a technique characteristic of the 16th-18th centuries, were easily prised up from a bed of loose, unconsolidated mortar c.50 mms in depth (together context 1001). The removal of 1001 exposed a deposit of compacted dark grey-brown clayey silt 1003 across the whole of the area, with a concentration of lumps of reddish-brown clay initially being treated as a separate deposit (1002) but proving to be a component of the same layer. 1003/1002 was between 50 and 100 mms thick, and apparently represents material trodden onto the ground surface during the construction of the cellar. Its removal revealed three distinct deposits (Fig.2; Fig.3) which had been planed level by the base of the construction cut for the cellar. 1013 was a deposit of cobbles, pebbles and patches of pure, clean, reddish-brown clay. The north-eastern edge of this layer, which was aligned slightly obliquely to the walls of the cellar, gave way to a thick deposit of almost-pure grey ash, 1014, which included occasional patches of reddish ash and concentrations of charcoal. This deposit was bounded on its north-eastern edge, again aligned slightly obliquely to the cellar, by 1004, a layer of compacted, fine, slightly brownish-yellow sand containing frequent irregular fragments of limestone.

At this stage it appeared likely that 1013 represented the footing for a wall, or possibly the make-up for a road, so on Thursday 22 May the decision was taken to extend the excavation south-westwards by 0.60 m, right up to the foot of the cellar partition wall, in order to try to establish the full extent of 1013. On removal of 1003 from this extension to the trench, 1013 proved to extend beneath the standing partition wall of the cellar, being cut by its shallow construction trench 1009. 1013 was also cut by the (earlier) construction cut 1010 for the limestone post-pad 1011 which supported the (seriously decayed) timber upright in the centre

of the cellar partition wall (Fig.2; Plates 1 and 3; this upright would, when the cellar was originally constructed, have supported the ground floor of 104 Micklegate, but with the construction of the secondary brick partition wall, and the casting of a concrete ground floor over the original floorboards, it had become structurally superfluous.) The upper surface of 1013 was at a depth of c.100 mms below that of the brick floor of the cellar.

The excavation of a narrow, 0.40 m wide section through 1004 at its north-western end revealed that the deposit filled a sloping-sided cut 1008, c.250 mms deep, cut into the grey ash deposit 1014.

Trench 2

As it was evident that the wall footing or road make-up 1013 extended beneath and in all probability to the south-west of the cellar partition wall, a second excavation, Trench 2, was begun in the south-western chamber of the cellar in the afternoon of Thursday 22 May and completed the following morning. Excavated to a maximum depth of c.200 mms, except at its south-western end, where the client's inspection pit (identified as context 2003) reached a depth of 0.57 m below the top of the cellar floor, Trench 2 extended south-westwards from a point 0.47 m south-west of the partition wall (to avoid involvement with the stratigraphic complexities of the partition wall construction cut) to the south-western cellar wall, a total length of 1.78 m. It was 0.46 m wide, expanding to 0.56 m over its south-westernmost 0.70 m to incorporate the client's initial inspection pit 2003 (Fig.2; Plate 2).

The sequence conformed exactly with that encountered in Trench 1. Removal of the individual bricks and mortar bedding of the cellar floor 2001 (= 1001), revealed 2002, a compacted dark grey-brown clayey silt which equated with 1003, trampled sediment created in the course of construction of the cellar. Removal of the full c.90 mms depth of 2002 exposed 2004, a layer of large cobbles and fragments of limestone which, extending south-westwards c.0.70 m from the north-eastern limit of Trench 2, was clearly part of the same footing or foundation recorded as 1013 in Trench 1 (Fig.2; Plate 3). Although determining the alignment of the south-western edge of 2004 was problematic in the narrow, 0.46 m exposure provided by Trench 2, it appeared to conform broadly with that of the north-eastern edge of 1013. Overall, the single foundation or footing represented by 1013 / 2004 has a north-east / south-west dimension of c.2.30 m. Given the small exposure of the deposit in Trenches 1 and 2, it is not clear whether its north-west / south-east axis is *longer* than 2.30 m – its north-western and south-eastern edges could both lie a short distance beyond the limits of the excavation – but it is the interpretation which has been favoured here (Fig.2).

To the south-west of 2004 the removal of 2002 revealed a layer of compacted, mottled dark-brown and brownish-orange silty sand 2005, which appeared, on the basis of the section through the deposit created by the inspection pit 2003, to extend to a minimum depth of c.0.40 m, with two tip-lines of light buff-brown silty sand sloping shallowly downwards towards the south-west (Plate 3). Since excavation stopped at the level of the upper surfaces of 2004 and 2005 it was not possible to establish definitively the relationship between the two deposits, but it seems most likely that 2004 overlies, and is set into, 2005.

Dating

Overall the ceramic assemblage of 27 sherds spanned the 1st-19th centuries AD. Of the excavated deposits only 1004 produced a wholly Roman assemblage (2 sherds), a sherd of

black-burnished ware giving a *terminus post-quem* (TPQ) for this layer of the mid-/late 2nd century. The layers 1003 and 2002, interpreted as ‘trample’ created in the course of the excavation and construction of the cellar, contained Roman sherds but are provided with a TPQ of the late-15th century by a sherd of German stoneware. In the mortar bedding of 2001 a white-glaze fineware cup handle provides a TPQ for the floor of the later-18th / early-19th century. Context 2000, unstratified material above the cellar floor, largely comprised upcast from the excavation of the client’s inspection pit (2003), and produced a large sherd of Crambeck parchment ware hammerhead mortarium rim, dateable to the 4th century. This is very likely to have derived from 2005, but having been re-deposited as a result of the inspection pit this association is obviously not certain.

3 INTERPRETATION

1003/2002 is interpreted as ‘trample’ created in the course of the excavation and construction of the cellar. All indications are that the deposits underlying and revealed by the removal of this layer, illustrated on Fig.2, are of Roman date, the one excavated deposit (1004) having a ceramic TPQ of the mid-/late 2nd century. The presence of a Crambeck parchment-ware hammerhead mortarium of the 4th century indicates Roman activity of later date in the vicinity.

The cobble, stone and clay surface or footing 1013/2004 is interpreted as the make-up / bedding (*not* the surface) of a road, c.2.4 m wide, aligned broadly north-west / south-east. It is important to emphasise when proposing this interpretation that this deposit (or structure), and those exposed to the north-east and south-west of it by the removal of the ‘trample’ 1003/2002, would have been *truncated* horizontally by the excavation of the cellar, and that the surfaces of the deposits observed and recorded in the archaeological excavation therefore represent a ‘horizontal section’ through them. The interface between these deposits and the ‘trample’ 1003/2002 would, therefore, never itself have been an ‘active’ surface. The ashy layer 1014, to the north-east of 1013/2004, and 2005, to the south-west, seem most likely to be overlain by 1013/2004, although this was not definitively confirmed, and it is just possible that 2005 represents the backfill of a large feature cut through 2004. 1004 is the backfill of cut feature 1008, of uncertain overall form and extent, and function.

If the interpretation of 1013/2004 as Roman road make-up is correct, its apparent alignment would suggest a second-order thoroughfare running orthogonally to the alignment of the main, north-east / south-west aligned road (or roads) through the Roman *colonia*. Whether this runs to the north-west of the 104 Micklegate excavation, or to the south-east, or both, is seemingly subject to confusion and uncertainty in the published literature. There are clear indications of a major Roman road underlying the modern thoroughfare of Micklegate (Ottaway 1992, fig.2, p.10), but this appears to be completely ignored in the most recent publication to consider the Roman urban topography in this area (Ottaway 2011, fig.193, p.272) in favour of the line through Toft Green accepted in most discussions of the past fifty years (e.g. YAT 1988). Given the limited extent of the excavation reported here, and the consequent uncertainties of its interpretation, further speculation here in relation to the Roman road layout seems fruitless.

The possible stone coffin built into the south-west wall of the cellar

In the course of clearing away debris and soil from the client's inspection pit in the area of the cellar to the north-west of Trench 2, the excavators observed, incorporated into the south-west wall of the cellar at its extreme north-western end a block of limestone whose shape, dimensions (c.0.80 m x c.0.45 m) and detailing suggest that it may be the end of a stone coffin or sarcophagus (Plate 4; Fig.2). Although geological identification of the stone was not possible, its superficial appearance suggests that it is limestone. Either a Roman or medieval date could be entertained for such an object.

Archaeological investigation post-May 2014

The archaeological deposits in the cellar of 104 Micklegate were apparently further investigated at the invitation of the Client by students from the Dept of Archaeology, University of York. Their results and conclusions are not included here, and are (presumably) detailed in a separate report.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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 Ottaway, P.J. 2011, *Archaeology in the Environs of Roman York: Excavations 1976-2005*, The Archaeology of York 6/2.
 YAT 1988, *York Archaeological Trust / Ordnance Survey Map of Roman and Anglian York*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

York Archaeological Trust wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Dean Starkey of Skelton Consultancy, Ms Clarissa O'Callaghan, Mr John Oxley of City of York Council, and in particular Mr Lee Bullock and other site personnel of Cooper Westgate Ltd for their invaluable assistance in the undertaking of this work.

Appendix 1 – Index to Archive

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	19
Levels register	n/a
Photographic register	n/a
Sample register	n/a
Drawing register	n/a
Original drawings	7
B/W photographs (films/contact sheets)	n/a
Colour slides (films)	n/a
Digital photographs	50
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

Appendix 2 – Context list

Trench	Context no.	Description
1	1001	Brick floor & mortar 'bedding' in NE chamber of cellar.
1	1002	Sub-component of cellar construction 'trample' in NE chamber of cellar.
1	1003	Main body of cellar construction 'trample' in NE chamber of cellar.
1	1004	Bright yellow silt backfill of cut 1008.
1	1005	Backfill of ?post-hole in N corner of Trench 1.
1	1006	?Post-hole in N corner of Trench 1.
1	1007	Large irregular frags of limestone, backfill of cut 1008.
1	1008	NW-SE aligned ?linear cut at N end of Trench 1.
1	1009	Constr. cut for secondary [existing] partition wall of cellar.
1	1010	Constr. cut for limestone padstone in centre of cellar partition wall.
1	1011	Limestone padstone in centre of cellar partition wall.
1	1012	Backfill of unexcavated feature running E-W beneath cellar partition wall.
1	1013	Footing / make-up deposit for ?road.
1	1014	Deposit of grey ash between 1013 & cut 1008.
2	2000	Unstratified material, mainly spoil from client's inspection pit.
2	2001	Brick floor & mortar 'bedding' in SW chamber of cellar.
2	2002	Cellar construction 'trample' in SW chamber of cellar.
2	2003	Cut of client's inspection pit.
2	2004	Footing / make-up deposit for ?road.
2	2005	Deposit visible in side of cut 2003 - ?pre-dating ?road make-up ?

Appendix 3 – Written Scheme of Investigation

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT 104 MICKLEGATE, YORK.

Site Location:	104 Micklegate, York
NGR:	SE 459834 451582
Proposal:	Lowering of cellar floor as part of refurbishment of premises
Planning ref:	–
Prepared for:	Cooper & Westgate Ltd by York Archaeological Trust [20/05/2-14]
Status of WSI:	Advisory for Cooper & Westgate Ltd

1 SUMMARY

1.1 Planning permission has been granted for the redevelopment of the property 104 Micklegate

1.2 The following archaeological condition has been imposed:

City of York Council’s City Archaeologist, John Oxley, has requested that a small test pit, 1.5 m x 1.0 m be excavated in the cellar of the property to a maximum depth of 1.2 m, to establish the extent of survival of archaeological strata and the consequent impact of a proposed lowering of the cellar floor on those strata.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to the City Archaeologist’s request detailed in 1.2, above. The work will be carried out in accordance with the Brief and this WSI, and according to the principles of the Institute for Archaeology (IfA) Code of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

2 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

2.1 The site is located within a property on Micklegate, one of York’s main thoroughfares in the medieval and Anglo-Scandinavian (Viking Age) periods, about 150 m north-east of Micklegate Bar. The properties lining Micklegate today originate in the high medieval period (13th-14th centuries) at the latest, and are very likely to have been established a long time before this, perhaps as early as the Anglo-Scandinavian period.

The solid geology which underlies York is Bunter Sandstone dating from the Triassic period, c.225 million years ago, but across the entire city, including this site, the rock is covered by a thickness of up to c.26 m of glacial and peri-glacial clays, silts and sands, and it is these which comprise the ‘natural’ ground surface upon which ancient settlement at York was first established. The modern ground surface in this area is at a level of c.21 m AOD.

3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 The site lies within the York Area of Archaeological Importance, designated under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (english-heritage.org.uk). Access to the working area is restricted to a narrow former stairwell accessed by ladder, but as all of the work will be undertaken using hand tools this does not pose a significant difficulty in undertaking the work.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

4.1 The site lies on, or close to, the line of the main Roman road into York (*Eboracum*) from the south-west, an axis which the line of medieval and modern Micklegate also follows in this area. The site therefore lies within what would almost certainly have been an important area of settlement throughout the city's entire history, from the foundation of the Roman fortress on the opposite bank of the river Ouse in the late-1st century AD onwards. The potential for the existence and survival of significant and important archaeological deposits is therefore high.

4.2 A number of small archaeological investigations have been undertaken along the line of Micklegate over the past 30 years, the most relevant to this site being watching briefs undertaken during the excavation of two sewer repair shafts on the line of the modern thoroughfare, outside 138 Micklegate (c.100 m to the south-west of number 104) and immediately opposite the south-eastern end of Barker Lane (c.80 m to the north-east), in 1992. The first of these established the presence of successive surfaces of the Roman road at a depth c.2.0 m below the modern ground level, the second stonework and deposits from a probable Roman building at a similar depth. These observations accord broadly with antiquarian records from the area.

On Thursday 15 May 2014 M Whyman of York Archaeological Trust visited the site and exposed a layer of compacted grey-brown soil in an area measuring c.400 mm x 250 mm beneath the mortar bedding of the cellar floor. A sherd of green-glazed pottery, probably of 12th-14th century date was found embedded in the upper surface of this layer. The level AOD of this deposit is likely to be not far above that at which Roman surfaces and structures were encountered in the sewer operations of 1992, and suggest that an archaeological sequence dating from the Roman to medieval periods may survive intact beneath the cellar floor. It is this possibility which the evaluation will investigate.

5 AIMS

5.1 The aims of the evaluation are therefore:

- to determine the extent, condition, character, importance and date of any archaeological remains present
- to provide information that will enable the remains to be placed within their local, regional, and national context and for an assessment of the significance of the archaeology of the proposal area to be made
- to provide information to enable the local authority to decide any requirements for further archaeological mitigation for the site

6 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation will comprise the following elements:

6.2 Test pitting

6.2.1 A single test pit will be excavated, measuring 1.5 m x 1.0 m, to a maximum depth of 1.20 m.

6.2.2 The test pit will be photographed. Any archaeological features will be drawn, following standard conventions (see section 7). Context numbers will be assigned to each identifiable soil layer. Artefacts retrieved from the sieve or the pit will be bagged by context.

6.3 Reporting

6.3.1 Upon completion of the site work, a report will be prepared to include the following:

- a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work.
- b) An introduction which will include the planning reference number, grid reference and dates when the fieldwork took place.
- c) An account of the methodology and detailed results of the operation, describing structural data, archaeological features, associated finds and environmental data, and a conclusion and discussion.
- d) A selection of photographs and drawings, including a detailed plan of the site accurately identifying the areas monitored, trench locations, selected feature drawings and phased feature plans where appropriate.
- e) Specialist artefact reports where undertaken, and a context list/index.
- f) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a context list and catalogue of what is contained in that archive.
- g) A copy of the key OASIS form details
- h) Copies of the Brief and WSI

6.3.2 Three copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body. A bound and digital copy of the report will be submitted direct to the City of York Council's Archaeologist, John Oxley, for planning purposes, and subsequently for inclusion into the HER.

6.3.3 A field archive will be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. Catalogues of contexts, finds, soil samples, plans, sections and photographs will be produced. York Archaeological Trust will liaise with the Yorkshire Museum to establish the detailed curatorial requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer and to complete the relevant museum forms.

6.3.4 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the Local Authority and the

museum accepting the archive to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions. Under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR), such documentation is required to be made available to enquirers if it meets the test of public interest. Any information disclosure issues would be resolved between the client and the archaeological contractor before completion of the work. EIR requirements do not affect IPR.

6.3.5 Upon completion of the project an OASIS form will be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>.

6.3.6 In the event that a subsequent, more extensive stage of archaeological investigation is required by the City Archaeologist in advance of further excavation in the cellar of the property, and the client decides to go ahead with this, YAT will defer the reporting stage described in this section and incorporate within the subsequent stage of work.

Please note that further stages of work or other mitigation measures could be required by the local authority, depending upon the results of the evaluation.

6.4 Excavation methods

6.4.1 One test pit will be excavated, in the north-eastern chamber of the cellar.

No.	Size (m)	Rationale
1	1.5 m x 1.0 m	To establish the presence or absence of surviving archaeological strata beneath the floor of the cellar, to a maximum depth of 1.20 m.

6.4.2 The trench location will be plotted with reference to the cellar walls using direct measurement with tapes. All measurements will be accurate to +/-10cm, and the trenches locatable on a 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map. This is to ensure that the trenches can be independently relocated in the event of future work.

6.4.3 The trench will be sufficiently cleaned by hand to enable potential archaeological features to be identified and recorded; areas without archaeological features will be recorded as sterile and no further work will take place in these areas. The stratigraphy of all trenches will be recorded on trench record sheets even where no archaeological features are identified.

6.4.4 A sufficient sample of any archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to establish the aims of the evaluation.

7 RECORDING METHODOLOGY FOR EXCAVATION

7.1 All archaeological features will be recorded using standardised pro forma record sheets. Plans, sections and elevations will be drawn as appropriate and a comprehensive photographic record will be made where archaeological features are encountered.

7.2 Archaeological deposits will be planned at a basic scale of 1:20, with individual features requiring greater detail being planned at a scale of 1:20. Larger scales will be utilised as appropriate. The vertical soil sections created at the edges of the test pit will be drawn to a basic scale of 1:10 or 1:20. All drawings will be related to Ordnance Datum. Where it aids interpretation, structural remains will also be recorded in elevation.

7.3 Each context will be described in full on a pro forma context record sheet in accordance with the accepted context record conventions. Each context will be given a unique number. These field records will be checked and indexes compiled.

7.4 Photographs of work in progress and post-excavation of individual and groups of features will be taken. This will include general views of entire features and of details such as sections as considered necessary. The photographic record will comprise 35mm format colour slides and black and white film. Digital photography may be used in addition, but will not form any part of the formal site archive. All site photography will adhere to accepted photographic record guidelines.

7.5 All finds will be collected and handled following the guidance set out in the IfA guidance for archaeological materials. Unstratified material will not be kept unless it is of exceptional intrinsic interest. Material discarded as a consequence of this policy will be described and quantified in the field. Finds of particular interest or fragility will be retrieved as Small Finds, and located on plans. Other finds, finds within the topsoil, and dense/discrete deposits of finds will be collected as Bulk Finds, from discrete contexts, bagged by material type. Any dense/discrete deposits will have their limits defined on the appropriate plan.

7.6 All artefacts and ecofacts will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication *First Aid for Finds*, and recording systems must be compatible with the recipient museum. All finds that fall within the purview of the Treasure Act (1996) will be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures outlined in the Act, after discussion with the client and the local authority.

7.7 In the event of human remains being discovered during the evaluation these will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, in the first instance. The removal of human remains will only take place in compliance with environmental health regulations and following discussions with, and with the approval of, the Ministry of Justice. If human remains are identified, the Ministry of Justice and the City Archaeologist, John Oxley, will be informed immediately.

- If **disarticulated** remains are encountered, these will be identified and quantified on site. If trenches are being immediately backfilled, the remains will be left in the ground. If the excavations will remain open for any length of time, disarticulated remains will be removed and boxed, for immediate reburial by the Church.
- If **articulated** remains are encountered, these will be excavated in accordance with recognised guidelines (see 6.12) and retained for assessment.
- Any grave goods or coffin furniture will be retained for further assessment.

7.8 Where a licence is issued, all human skeletal remains must be properly removed in accordance with the terms of that licence. Where a licence is not issued, the treatment of human remains will be in accordance with the requirements of Civil Law, IfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and English Heritage guidance (2005).

8 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT

8.1 The stratigraphic information and artefacts will be assessed. Specialists will undertake a rapid scan of all excavated material. Ceramic spot dates will be given. Appropriately detailed specialist comments will be included in the report.

8.2 All finds will be cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate, prior to assessment. For ceramic assemblages, any recognised local pottery reference collections and relevant fabric codes will be used.

9 HEALTH AND SAFETY

9.1 Health and safety issues will take priority over archaeological matters and all archaeologists will comply with relevant Health and Safety Legislation.

9.2 A Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the start of site works.

10 PRE-START REQUIREMENTS

10.1 The client will be responsible for ensuring site access has been secured prior to the commencement of site works, and that the perimeter of the site is secure.

10.2 The client will provide York Archaeological Trust with up to date service plans and will be responsible for ensuring services have been disconnected, where appropriate.

10.3 The client will be responsible for ensuring that any existing reports (e.g. ground investigation, borehole logs, contamination reports) are made available to York Archaeological Trust prior to the commencement of work on site.

11 REINSTATEMENT

11.1 Following excavation and recording, should reinstatement be required (in the event that no further stage of archaeological investigation is pursued) this will be undertaken by YAT or by the main contractor, according to the most appropriate circumstance.

12 TIMETABLE & STAFFING

12.1 The on-site stage of the evaluation will take place on Wed 21 and Thurs 22 May 2014. The reporting stage will be completed within two weeks of the completion of the on-site stage.

12.2 Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:

- Head of Curatorial Services - Christine McDonnell
- Finds Researcher - Nicky Rogers
- Pottery Researcher - Anne Jenner
- Finds Officers - Geoffrey Krause & Rachel Cubitt

13 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

13.1 The City of York Council's Archaeologist is scheduled to visit the evaluation on Thurs 22 May 2014.

14 COPYRIGHT

14.1 York Archaeological Trust retain the copyright on this document. It has been prepared expressly for the named client, and may not be passed to third parties for use or for the purpose of gathering quotations.

15 KEY REFERENCES

English Heritage. 2005 Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England.

Institute for Archaeologists. 1993. Technical paper No 13 by McKinley, J. I., and C. Roberts. *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains.*

Institute for Archaeologists. 2008. Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation

Figures and Plates

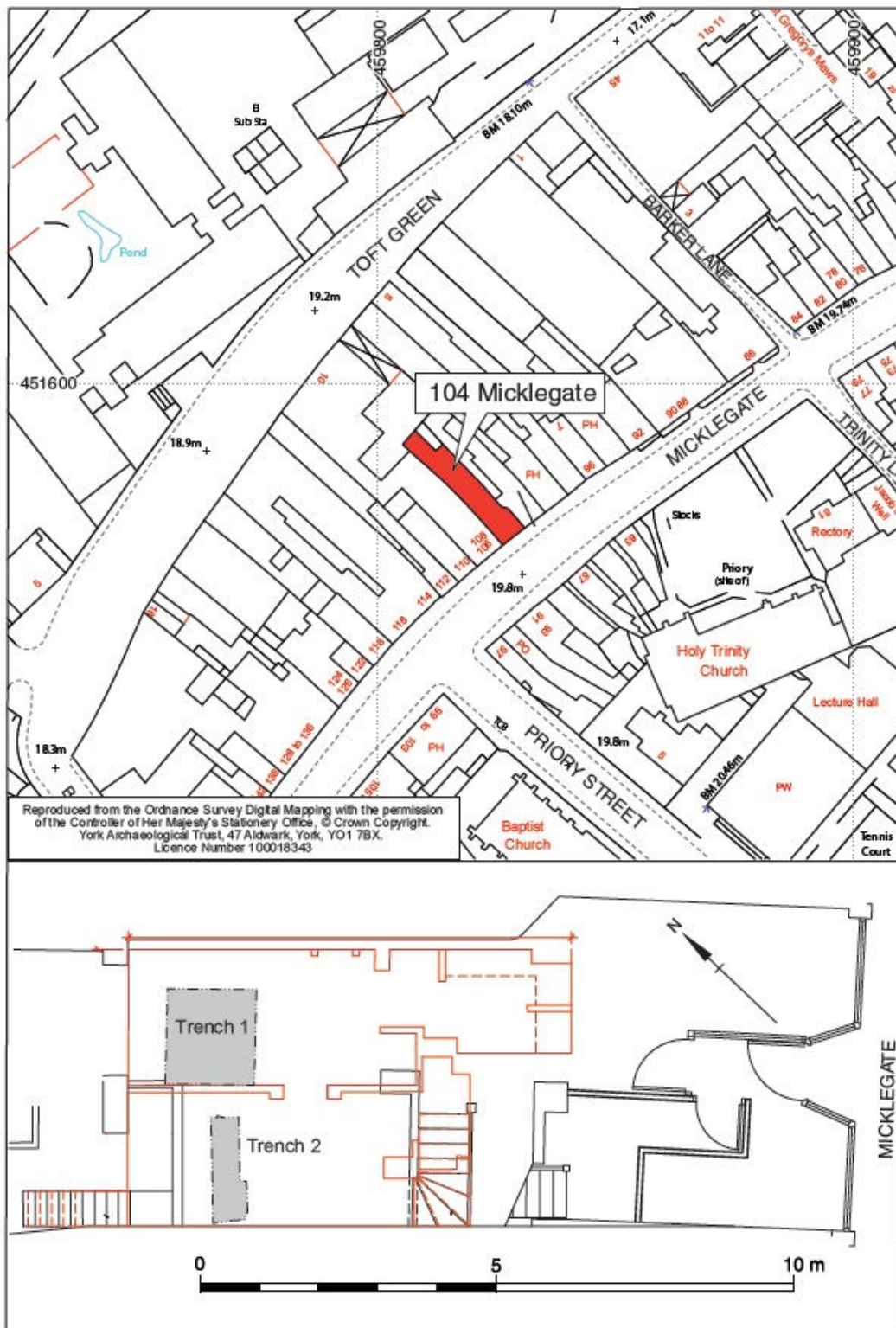


Figure 1 Location map / plan of 104 Micklegate, York, and excavated trenches.

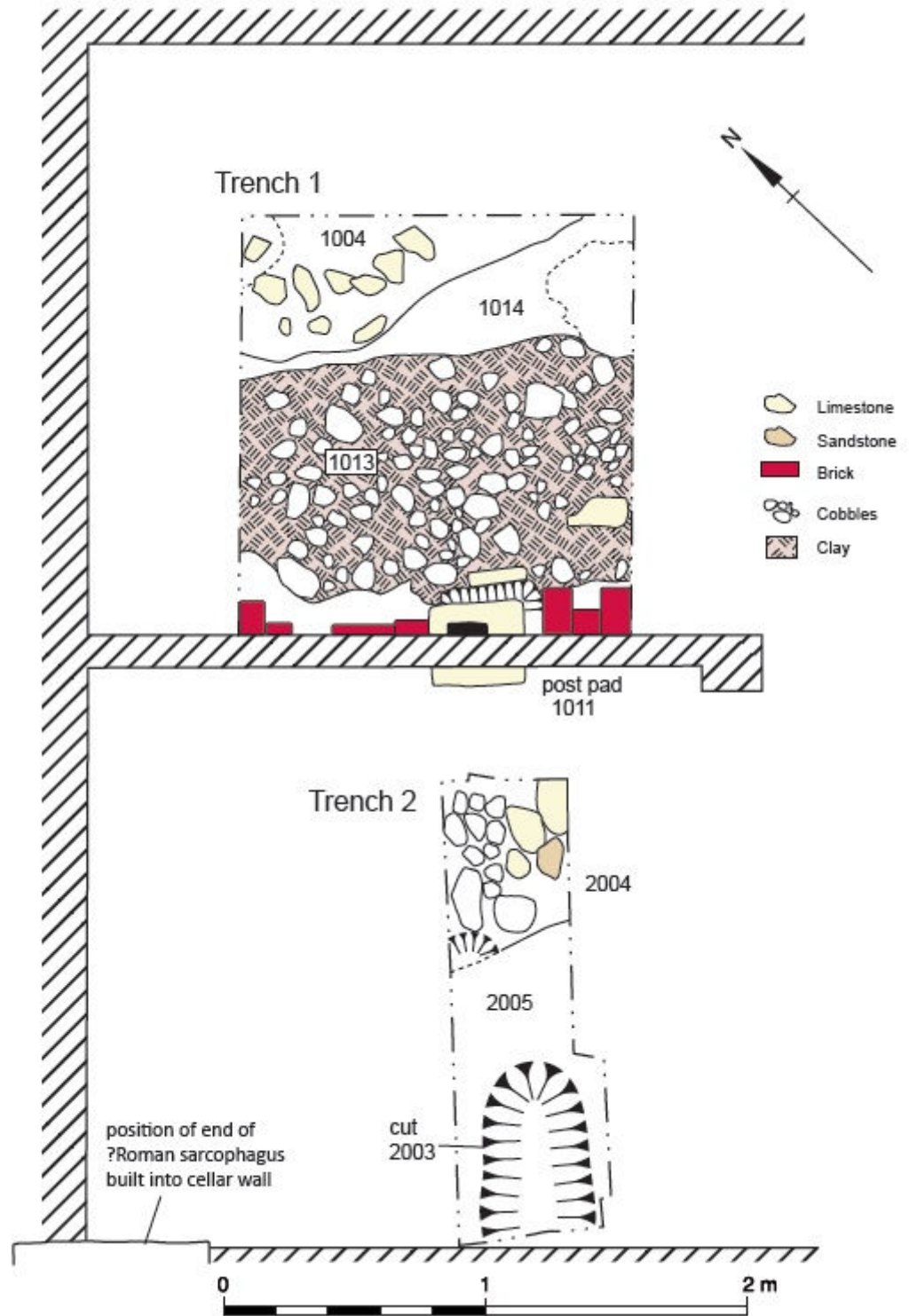


Figure 2 Deposits, structures and features exposed in excavations in cellar of 104 Micklegate.



Plate 1 Trench 1, looking towards the north-west, showing cobble and clay deposit **1013** (beneath scale), grey ash layer **1014** (immediately to right of scale) and yellow sand and limestone **1004**, partially-emptied out of cut **1008**, against the right-hand (north-eastern) limit of the excavation. The north-eastern half of the limestone padstone **1011**, which carried a timber upright supporting the suspended floor above the original cellar, may be seen in the extreme left of the photograph (see also **Plate 3**).



Plate 2 Trench 2, looking towards the south; 2004 in the foreground, 2005 beneath the smaller scale. The larger scale is standing in the client's inspection pit 2003, against the south-wester wall of the cellar.



Plate 3 Trench 2, looking towards the north-east; the scale is resting on layer 2005 with the footing / make-up deposit 2004 beyond. The limestone padstone 1011, which supported a timber upright for the floor suspended above the original cellar can be seen in the background.



Plate 4 End of a ?stone coffin or sarcophagus, possibly of Roman or medieval date, built into the north-eastern end of the south-western wall of the cellar. The exact location of this piece of stonework is indicated on **Figure 2**.

