



ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT THE KNAVESMIRE, TADCASTER ROAD, YORK

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WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Report Number 2016/22 March 2016





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CONTENTS

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	. III
KEY PROJECT INFORMATION	. III
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 METHODOLOGY	1
3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY	2
4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	3
5 RESULTS	4
6 DISCUSSION	7
LIST OF SOURCES	8
REFERENCES	8
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	8
APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE	9
APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT LIST	10
APPENDIX 3 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION	12
APPENDIX 4 – POTTERY ASSESSMENT	24
FIGURES	25
PLATES	31
Plates	
Cover: View of site	
Plate 1 Section 1, looking NW, 0.5m sale units	31
Plate 2 Section 2, looking NE, 0.5m scale units	
Plate 3 Section 3, looking NE, 0.5m scale units	
Plate 4 Linear feature, Context 5008 and 5009, looking NW, 0.1m scale units	
Plate 5 Section 4, looking NE, 0.5m scale units	
Plate 6 Section 5, looking SW, 0.5m scale units	
Plate 7 19 th / 20th century refuse dump in Trench 5, looking SW, 0.5m scale units.	
Plate 8 Trench 5 on approach to electric substation, Looking S	34
Tables	
Table 1 Index to archive	9
Table 2 Context list	
Table 3 Pottery quantification	
→ 1	-

Figures

Figure 1 Site Location

Figure 2 Trench 1 and Trenches 8 -11 locations

Figure 3 Trench 2, 3 and 6 locations

Figure 4 Trench 4, 5 and 7 locations

Figure 5 Sections 6 and 10

Abbreviations

BGL **Below Ground Level**

CBM Ceramic Building Material

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was carried out on the excavation of a utility trench and launch pit for a directional drill rig along the western periphery of the Knavesmire, close to the A1079 Tadcaster Road. This monitoring was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Northern Powergrid.

At the north-east end of the site, opposite Pulleyn Drive (NGR SE 5906 5038), excavation was undertaken to expose existing ducting and cables laid during utility works in 2013. A directional drill launch pit was also opened at this location. Two small trenches associated with the directional drilling were excavated opposite Chalfonts (NGR SE 5898 5019). Test pits designed to locate the route of the existing electicity cable and establish the ground conditions were opened between Chalfonts and an electricity substation located opposite Ainsty Grove (NGR SE 5885 4992), situated at the south-west end of the site. In addition a trench was excavated from Chalfonts linking in to the substation near Ainsty Grove. The postcode for 302 Tadcaster Road, approximately mid-way along the area of works, is YO24 1HE.

The watching brief commenced on 11th February 2016 and continued intermittently, as and when ground works required, up until 10th March 2016. No significant archaeological deposits or features were encountered during the course of these works.

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	Knavesmire Northern Powergrid Utility Trench
YAT Project No.	5890
Report status	Final
Type of Project	Watching Brief
Client	Northern Powergrid
Planning Application No.	N/A
NGR	SE 5906 5038, SE 5998 5019, SE 5885 4992
Museum Accession No.	YORYM:2016.252
OASIS Identifier	yorkarch1-246906

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1 **INTRODUCTION**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on ground works relating to the instillation of an electricity cable for Northern Powergrid. Work commenced on 11th February 2016 and continued intermittently up until 10th March 2016. Excavation was carried out by the main on site contractor MW Maintenance.

The site occupied an area on the north-west periphery of The Knavesmire in a zone between the tree plantation and the fence line on the SE side of the A1079 Tadcaster Road. The ground works were focused in three areas (Figure 1). The north-east end of the site was centred on NGR SE 5906 5038 also included a small intervention on Hob Moor on the north-west side of Tadcaster Road. The midpoint of the site lay opposite Chalfonts (NGR SE 5898 5019), two small trenches set 48m apart were linked by a trench 0.6m wide. A third small trench was positioned 27m further to the south-west. Ground works at the far south-west end of the site covered an area broadly on a line running from opposite Nelson's Lane to Ainsty Grove. Here two small trenches positioned 63m apart were linked with a trench 0.6m wide, this trench continued as far as an electricity substation at NGR SE 5885 4992, adjacent to the Marriott Hotel c.100m further to the south-west. In total an area covering approximately 185m² was excavated.

Monitoring was required as the site was located within York's Area of Archaeological Importance as defined in the Scheduled Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Elements of the excavation at the north-east end of the site came within 10m of a multiple burial uncovered during the previous phase of utility works in 2013. To the south-west of the site evidence for Roman activity has been found in the area of Dringhouses, including the continuation of the south-west approach road, associated settlement and a small cemetery (Macnab, 1997). These factors highlighted the potential for further significant archaeological remains to be encountered during the course of ground works. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the WSI produced by York Archaeological Trust and approved by the Archaeologist of the City of York Council, as well as the Standards and Guidance and Code set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

A small number of deposits and features containing 18th/19th century pottery and CBM were identified. In addition some stony patches tentatively attributed to disturbed earlier phases of the south-west approach road were observed. It is however possible that the concentrations of stones are due to variations in the natural geology. The archaeological significance of the deposits and features encountered was deemed to be low.

2 **METHODOLOGY**

The excavations were focused in three areas. At the north-east end of the site a northeast/south-west aligned trench (Trench 1), measuring 13.5m X 2m, was opened to expose the ducting and cables laid during the previous phase of utility works in 2013. Abutting the southwest side of this trench a launch pit for a directional drilling rig was excavated. This trench aligned north-east/south-west, measured 9m X 1.4m with a dog leg at the south-west end measuring approximately 5m long and up to 2m wide (Figure 2). All excavation was to a depth of 1m.

A small trench, designed to expose cables laid during previous utility works in 2013 on the NW side of Tadcaster Road was also opened (Trench 11). This was positioned south of the footpath close to a gate accessing the footpath on Little Hob Moor from Tadcaster Road (Figure 2).

Approximately 165m south-west of Trench 1 two pits (Trenches 2 and 3), were placed 48m apart, measuring 2m X 2m these ranged from 0.7m to 1m in depth. Trenches 2 and 3 were designed to establish the location of an existing electric cable and the ground conditions in advance of directional drilling, the soft sandy deposits encountered resulted in the drilling being abandoned in favour of a thin trench, measuring 0.6m wide, 48m long which linked the two trenches (Figure 3). Generally it was 0.8m in depth, although existing services required a depth of 1.4m in a small area.

Trench 6 was also excavated for the directional drill rig. Located 27m south-west of Trench 2 it measured 2.65m X 2.4m and 1.2m deep (Figure 3).

Across the south-west half of the site two more test pits (Trenches 4 and 7), measuring approximately 2m X 2m and 0.8m - 0.9m deep, were excavated in conjunction with a trench measuring 165m long, 0.6m wide and with a depth ranging from 0.7m to 1m (Figure 4).

The monitored ground works were undertaken by MW Maintenance and were largely undertaken with the use of a 3 ton tracked mechanical excavator, supplemented with hand excavation when necessary. All works were observed by an archaeologist except where sections of previously excavated trench containing existing ducts and cables was lowered further into natural deposits.

Context numbers were assigned to each of the test pits and launch pits, for example context 1000s for Trench 1, 2000s for Trench 2. Context numbers in the 5000s were assigned to features and deposits in the linear trenches linking both Trenches 2 and 3 and Trenches 4 and 7 further to the south-west.

Archaeological deposits excavated were recorded using the standard YAT single context recording system. All contexts were recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 and in section at 1:10 or 1:20 as deemed appropriate. Digital photographs were taken of each section and general trench views were taken at regular intervals. The site records are currently stored with York Archaeological Trust under the project number 5890.

3 **LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY**

The site is lies approximately 1.5 km south-west of the historic core of the City of York. The north-east end of the site is situated at a point less than 0.5 km south of the high point of a moraine ridge. The moraine was created during the last glaciation and runs across much of the low lying Vale of York (RCHMY 3, xxxviii – xxxviii). The site extends from a point approximately 30m south of the site of the York Tyburn monument, 415m to the south-west it runs up to a substation close to the York Marriott Hotel. It is orientated on a north-east/south-west axis parallel to the A1036, Tadcaster Road. With the exception of Trench 11 the trenches were located on the north-west fringe of the Knavesmire. This narrow corridor lies in a dip between the Knavesmire boundary fence and a linear tree plantation that occupies a slightly elevated position that appears to be a deliberately created bank.

The solid geology of the site is Bunter and Keuper sandstones, overlain by a drift geology that is generally boulder clay over lacustrine clays with deposits of sand and gravel, lying within and over the clay in places (Geographical Survey 1967).

The level of the road rises from c.15.5m aOD at the north-east end of the site to c.19.5m aOD towards the south-west end. The ground level where the works took place lies slightly below that of the road, and although there is some variation that did not appear to exceed 1m.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The north-east end of the site lies approximately 1.5km to the southwest of the city walls, which are thought to correspond to the line of a Roman defensive circuit around the town (Colonia) southwest of the river Ouse (RCHMY, 49). The site also lies close to the line of the main southwest Roman approach road to York from Tadcaster (RCHMY 1, 3; Road 10), which is broadly followed by Blossom Street, The Mount, Mount Vale, and Tadcaster Road.

The principal evidence for Roman activity lies to the north of the site. This is largely in the form of burials in a large cemetery which extended along the line of the approach road from the south-west, from at least as far away from the Roman town as Trentholme Drive, about 0.9km from the city walls. Apart from excavations at Trentholme Drive in 1951-2 and 1957-9 (Wenham 1968), and excavations at 35-41 Blossom Street in 1989-90 (1989.21 and 1990.21), most information about the cemetery comes from chance discoveries made during 19th and early 20th century building work (Hunter-Mann 2005). To the southwest of the site further evidence for Roman activity has been found in the area of Dringhouses, including the continuation of the southwest approach road, associated settlement and a small cemetery (Macnab 1997).

A monument to York Tyburn is situated approximately 30m to the north of the site on the east side of Tadcaster Road. Records of executions in York show that the Tyburn was used as a place of execution by the Crown's justice from 1379 to 1801. These records demonstrate that the scale of executions ranged from that of individual and small groups to larger groups of ten, twenty or more and that not all of these individuals were recovered by their families for burial at their own parish. A watching brief carried out on an earlier phase of utility works, in 2013, uncovered a single inhumation and a multiple burial containing 11 individuals on the southeast side of Tadcaster Road, roughly 30m south of the Tyburn monument. On the north-west side of Tadcaster Road two more graves were encountered, from which parts of five individuals were recovered from one grave and parts of two individuals from the other. Samples taken from two of the skeletons recovered from these trenches produced radio carbon dates of 1467 AD ±30 years and 1516 AD ±30 years (Whyte 2014).

In the mid 17th century during the English Civil War, a sconce, or fort, was situated on the Mount, northeast of the site (Hunter-Mann 2005).

5 **RESULTS**

Results given below are listed from the north-east to south-west end of the site starting with the trenches dug in the vicinity of the 2013 works close to the Tyburn monument. Although the trenches were not necessarily excavated in the order presented, the intention is to establish a cohesive narrative of variations in deposition from one end of the site to the other.

A complete list of contexts observed and their descriptions is detailed in Appendix 2.

5.1 Trenches near Pulleyn Drive - Trench 1 and 11

Trench 1 was positioned to facilitate access to the north-west/south-east aligned cables installed in 2013 while maintaining a distance from the location of a multiple burial uncovered during the previous phase of works, in the eventuality this distance was c.3m from the southeast end of Trench 1. This part of the trench did not extend beyond the footprint of the existing cable trench. It measured 13.5m in length, 2m wide at the north-west end, 1.5m wide at the south-east end, and was excavated to a point where the existing cable ducting could be accessed, a depth of c.0.8m (Figure 2).

Trench 1 was also designed to provide space for a directional drill rig to lay cables on a northeast/south-west alignment along the margins of the Knavesmire. This part of the trench was aligned north-east/south-west measured 9m X 1.4m with a dog leg at the SW end approximately 5m long and up to 2m wide. Excavation was of a depth up to 1.2m BGL.

The sequence of deposits observed consisted of topsoil (context 1000) and two build-up deposits (Contexts 1001 and 1002). There was little variation in the thickness or make-up of these deposits, as such only a single section was recorded to illustrate them (Plate 1). No archaeological features, structures or deposits were encountered within the extent of Trench 1.

A small trench (Trench 11) approximately 0.5m wide and 1m long was opened to enable access to cables extending south of the cable trench excavated in 2013 where it runs across Hob Moor (Figure 2). Particular care was taken when removing the backfill of the existing cable trench not to excavate beyond it. A number of burials had been encountered in this area during the 2013 works and largely remained in situ. A single fragment of human bone was recovered from the disturbed backfill, no in situ remains were encountered.

5.2 Trenches 8, 9 and 10

Three additional pits numbered from north to south Trenches 8, 9 and 10, were positioned evenly between Trenches 1 and 3 (Figure 2). The excavation of was not observed during the watching brief due to their shallow nature, being designed to find the upper surface of existing cables.

There was a difference in height between the plastic-ducts placed in the excavated trenches and the plastic ducting which had been drilled through by the directional drill rig. Further excavation was necessary to allow a resolution of this problem by deepening the trenches at key points to allow the insertion of new jointing.

The first extension to an existing trench was located 16m to the north-east of Trench 3. The existing trench was re-excavated, and it was extended on the north-western and southeastern sides resulting in a rectangular trench 5.5m wide on the north-east to south-west alignment and 2.5m wide on the north-west to south-east alignment. Once excavated the

plastic ducting was removed in this area to enable the insertion of new joints. No new context numbers were allocated as the deposits in this area were identical to contexts 5000-5003.

The second extension was to Trench 8. This was extended by a distance of 2m on the northeastern side in the area directly above the new plastic cable ducts. The extended area was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.3m with the lowest 0.3m of deposits clearly comprising natural sand. No new context numbers were allocated as the deposits had already been recorded in this area.

The third extension was to Trench 9. This trench was not extended in terms of area but rather in terms of depth. The trench was full of water prior to the excavation commencing. The three cable ducts on the south-western side of this trench had been laid in an excavated trench, whereas the cable ducts on the north-eastern side of the trench had been drilled through. The south-eastern most of the drilled cable ducts was only 0.25m below the present ground level. The observed works involved removing the deposits beneath the south-easterly most two drilled cable ducts to a depth of approximately 1.2m below ground level to enable the ducts to be sawn off, ready for the insertion of new joints. The lowest 0.3m of deposits comprised natural sand. It should be noted that the excavated area was constantly filling with water as it was being excavated, making observation of the deposits difficult.

Trenches opposite Chalfonts - Trenches 2 and 3 5.3

Trenches 2 and 3 were situated opposite Chalfonts. Trench 3 was c.165m SW of Trench 1 with Trench 2 48m further to the south-west. Both measured approximately 2m X 2m X 0.8m and were positioned 2m south-east of the fence bounding the perimeter of the Knavesmire. When it became clear that directional drilling would not be appropriate in this area the two trenches were linked by a machine excavated trench 0.6m wide and c. 0.8m deep (Figure 3).

Trench 2 and Trench 3 revealed a sequence of deposits similar to that seen in Trench 1. Topsoil (Contexts 2000 and 3000) was seen to overlie a build-up deposit (Context 2003 and 3004) which in turn overlay natural sands in Trench 2 (context 2004), and pebbly clay natural in Trench 3 (Context 3005). In both cases the natural deposits extended from c.0.6m BGL (Plates 2 and 3). No archaeological features, structures or deposits were observed within the extent of either trench.

The link trench was typically 0.55m wide and 0.8m deep, but the trench had to be taken to a depth of 1.4m (in the area of section 14) to enable the ducting to run underneath a modern drain (Context 5012). Initially the trench was excavated from the north-eastern side of Trench 2 in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 25.8m. The machine then turned round and worked south-westwards form the point at which excavation had stopped on 7/3/2016.

Over much of the observed distance the deposits were identical to those already recorded, namely topsoil (Context 5000), two build-up deposits (Contexts 5001-2) and naturally occurring glacial deposits (Context 5003).

There were some slight variations along the length of the trench, and to illustrate these variations four sections were drawn (Sections 11-14).

The only additional contexts recorded were a dump of sand which contained mid 19th century or later roof slate (Context 5010). This was stratigraphically between Contexts 5001 and 5002. This was only visible in the north-western side of the trench, between 15-20m north-east of

Trench 2.

A modern cut (Context 5013) for a concrete-bedded ceramic sewer pipe (Context 5012) and associated backfill (5100) was present 28.5m north-east of Trench 2. The trench had to be excavated to a depth of 1.4m at this point.

Two modern cables (non live) were visible 0.6m below the present ground level in the northwestern side of the trench at approximately 31m north-east of Trench 2. No context number was allocated to these cables.

A capped-cable was also seen in the north-western half of the trench approximately 26m north-east of Trench 2. No context number was allocated to this cable.

Natural sand was visible at the south-eastern end, but the upper surface of the natural dipped away approximately 6m to the north-east of Trench 2. No natural was visible between 6-20m north-east of Trench 2, but natural clay and cobbles were again visible 28.5m north-east of Trench 2.

5.4 Trench 6

Situated 27m south-west of Trench 2, opposite 304a Tadcaster Road and 2.5m from the Knavesmire fence line (Figure 3), Trench 6 was intended to establish the location of an existing electric cable and assess the ground condition for directional drilling. Trench 6 measured 2.65m X 2.4m X 1.2m. The sequence of topsoil (Context 6000) overlying two distinct build-up deposits (Contexts 6001 and 6002) was observed to continue. No archaeological features, structures or deposits were encountered at this location.

5.5 Trenches between Nelson's Lane and Ainsty Grove - Trenches 4, 5 and 7

Trench 7 was placed 92m south-west of Trench 6 (c.350m from the 2013 cable trench near the Tyburn monument). Trench 4 was positioned a further 63m to the south-west. Trench 5 linked trenches 4 and 7, extending beyond Trench 4 ultimately connecting in to an electricity substation opposite Ainsty Grove (Figure 4).

Trench 7 measured 2.8m X 2m X 0.85m and was positioned c.1m from the Knavesmire boundary fence opposite 310 Tadcaster Road. The existing electricity cable was located as intended. As seen elsewhere the depositional sequence consisted of topsoil (Context 7000), two build-up deposits (Contexts 7001 and 7002) under which was a pebbly natural clay (Context 7003), the top of which was at 0.45m BGL. The lower build-up deposit (Context 7002) was seen to contain fragments of post medieval CBM and 18th/19th century pottery sherds, these were not retained.

To the south of Trench 7 the natural clay (Context 5003) contained a larger quantity of stony fragments. This zone extended from the south-western edge of Trench 7 as far as a narrow linear feature (Context 5009), a distance of c.7.5m. Beyond that feature the natural reverted to less stony sand. The linear feature (5009) had vertical sides, was aligned east/west and contained a single backfill (Context 5008) that consisted of a loose mix of dark brown silt and clay (Figure 5, Plate 4). Fragments of 19th or 20th century tile were visible in section close to the top of context 5008, where a defuse interface with the overlying topsoil was observed. It is unlikely that this feature is particularly old.

In Trench 4 the sequence of topsoil (Context 4000), two build-up deposits (Contexts 4003 and 4004) and natural sandy clay (Context 4005) continued (Plate 5). This reflected the depositional sequence observed in Trench 5 to the north-east.

A little more variation was seen in Trench 5 where it extended to the south-west of Trench 4. From around the point where section 5 was recorded (Plate 6) a higher content of 19th or 20th century refuse was apparent within the subsoil. This included CBM fragments, pottery, fragments of coal and stones. The deposit at the base of the trench in this area (Context 5002), although similar to the natural sandy clays observed elsewhere contained small concentrations of pebbles and flecks of charcoal.

Poorly defined areas of the 18th/19th century refuse material was observed as a layer (Context 5007) directly overlying the natural and recorded in Section 6 (Figure 5). It is likely that this material had accumulated through dumping as no intrusive cut was identifiable (Plate 7).

Emerging 4.5m south-west of Section 6 a sandy deposit (Context 5004) containing occasional pebbles, CBM and charcoal flecks was observed in section below sub soil build-up 5001 and extended over a distance of c.6m. Immediately to the south-west of this and covering a distance of c.5M Context 5005 was evident as a 50/50 mix of sand and pebbles (Figure 4).

The southern end of Trench 5 took a route angling across to the south-east around the east side of an electricity substation occupying a slightly elevated position (Plate 8). The trench then swung around to join in to the back of the substation (Figure 4). To the north-east of the substation the topsoil was 0.2m thick and contained modern bottle glass and a modern bicycle lock, beneath this a 0.25m thick deposit of mid-light brown silty clay, beneath which was a very stony clay that was interpreted as being of natural origin. On the elevated portion of land around the substation the uppermost two deposits were identical, with the underlying clay being noticeably less stony.

Any archaeological deposits in the area to the south-east of the sub-station had been entirely destroyed by cable trenches and their backfills. There were six cable trenches in this area, comprising three covered with plastic matting, one covered with ceramic tiles, and two which had no form of cover. There were so many cables in the area much of the excavation work was undertaken by hand rather than with the machine. The area to the south-west of the substation was similarly disturbed.

6 **DISCUSSION**

No indication of additional burial activity relating to the Tyburn was apparent in either Trenches 1 or 11 where it most reasonably might have been expected. With the exception of a single residual fragment of human bone recovered from the backfill of Trench 11 no further human remains were encountered.

The depositional sequence was for the main part consistent across the site. Turf and topsoil between 0.2m and 0.3m thick was found to overly a build-up of sub soil, usually 0.4m to 0.6m thick, which in places was present in two distinct horizons. A relatively late date for the accumulation or working of that material was evidenced by the occasional presence of 18th/19th century CBM and pottery, it should be noted that a single sherd of Samian pottery, dating to $1^{st} - 3^{rd}$ century, was also recovered from this material, which could be taken as an indication that the sub soil accumulated over a prolonged period.

At the south-west end of the site greater variation was apparent in the natural deposits. Some charcoal was identified in the top of the stonier areas seen at the base of the Trench 5. The edges of these areas were quite defuse and is perhaps an indication of a natural variation. However it is possible that working of the soils here by processes such as ploughing had disturbed and displaced pebbles and cobbles originating as make-up material of the southern approach road.

Little in the way of distinct archaeological deposition could be clearly defined. It is likely that the bank and ditch present along this part of the Knavesmire's periphery has scoured out all but small pockets of 19th/20th century refuse tipping with only the most ephemeral traces of earlier activity being hinted at.

LIST OF SOURCES

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Report text by J. McComish and B. Savine.

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APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	45
Levels register	-
Photographic register	-
Sample register	-
Drawing register	2
Original drawings	24
B/W photographs (films/contact sheets)	-
Colour slides (films)	-
Digital photographs	107
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

Table 1 Index to archive

APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT LIST

1000 1001 1002 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 3000 3001	Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown sandy loam with lots of tree roots. Subsoil. Friable light yellow brown slightly clayey sand, frequent tree roots, moderate small rounded pebbles. Build-up. Light brown slightly clayey sand. Moderate tree roots, moderate small and medium sized pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown sandy loam. Occasional large CBM fragments, occasional large and medium sized pebbles. Cable trench backfill. Loose mixed light browns, dark yellow and mid grey silty sand. Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.35m wide, 0.55m deep. Vertical sides. Sub soil. Light brown grey sand. Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
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2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 3000 3001 3002	small and medium sized pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown sandy loam. Occasional large CBM fragments, occasional large and medium sized pebbles. Cable trench backfill. Loose mixed light browns, dark yellow and mid grey silty sand. Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.35m wide, 0.55m deep. Vertical sides. Sub soil. Light brown grey sand. Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
2001 2002 2003 2004 3000 3001 3002	fragments, occasional large and medium sized pebbles. Cable trench backfill. Loose mixed light browns, dark yellow and mid grey silty sand. Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.35m wide, 0.55m deep. Vertical sides. Sub soil. Light brown grey sand. Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
2002 2003 2004 3000 3001 3002	silty sand. Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.35m wide, 0.55m deep. Vertical sides. Sub soil. Light brown grey sand. Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
2003 2004 3000 3001 3002	Sub soil. Light brown grey sand. Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
2004 3000 3001 3002	Natural. Light orange brown sand. Appears as three horizons differing in colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
3000 3001 3002	colour and compaction. Topsoil and turf. Friable dark brown silty loam. Frequent roots, occasional CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
3001 3002	CBM fragments, occasional pebbles.		
3002	Cable trough healefill Firms weathled become aller and		
	Cable trench backfill. Firm mottled browns, silty sand.		
	Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.21m wide, 0.46m deep. Vertical sides.		
3003	Sub soil. Firm light grey brown slightly silt clayey sand. No inclusions.		
3004	Natural. Firm dark orange sand.		
3005	Natural. Firm light brown streaked with grey, clay.		
4000	Topsoil. Dark grown sandy loam. Moderate roots.		
4001	Cable trench backfill. Loose mottled browns, silty sand. No inclusions.		
4002	Cable trench cut. Aligned NE-SW. 0.8m wide, 0.65m deep. Vertical sides.		
4003	Sub soil. Firm light brown slightly clayey sand. Occasional cobbles and pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks.		
4004	Build-up. Firm mid grey brown slightly silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks.		
4005	Build-up/natural. Firm dark orange sand. Frequent pebbles.		
4006	Natural. Firm mid brown sandy clay. Occasional pebbles.		
5000	Topsoil. Loose to friable dark brown sandy loam. Frequent roots, moderate pebbles, occasional CBM fragments, occasional coal fragments.		
5001	Sub soil. Friable to firm mottled mid brown, light yellow brown and mid orange brown clayey sand. Moderate roots, occasional CBM, coal and pottery fragments, occasional pebbles.		
5002	Build-up/natural. Firm mid red brown slightly sandy clay. Moderate small and medium sized pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks.		
5003	Natural. Firm mid yellow brown sand.		
5004	Build-up. Firm mid brown sand. Occasional pebbles, CBM fragments and charcoal flecks.		
5005	Natural. Firm mixed brown and mid yellow brown sand 50%, pebbles and cobbles 50%.		
5006	Natural. Firm to friable mid yellow brown sand. Moderate pebbles and cobbles.		
5007	Dump. Loose mid to dark brown sand. Frequent CBM fragments, moderate roots and pottery fragments.		
3 4 4 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5	3005 3000 3001 3002 3004 3006 3000 3001 3002 3003 3004 3005 3006		

Trench	Context no.	Description			
5	5008	Backfill of linear feature 5009. Firm dark brown silt. Frequent cobbles and			
		dark pink brown clay, occasional CBM fragments and charcoal flecks.			
5	5009	Linear cut. Aligned E-W. 0.9m wide 0.5m deep. Break of slope at the top is not clear, vertical sides, base not exposed.			
5	5010	Dump. Firm red orange sand. Moderate fragments of roof slate.			
5	5011	Backfill of sewer 5013. Moderately compact mid grey brown sandy clay. No inclusions.			
5	5012	Backfill of sewer 5013. Concrete bedding for ceramic pipe.			
5	5013	Cut of sewer trench. Aligned NE-SW, 0.6m wide, 0.75m deep. Vertical sides.			
5	5014	Dump/natural. Firm mid grey clay. Moderate pebbles and cobbles, occasional CBM flecks.			
5	5015	Natural. Firm mid to dark brown slightly sandy clay. Frequent pebbles and cobbles, occasional sand flecks and CBM flecks.			
6	6000	Topsoil. Friable dark brown sandy loam. Frequent roots.			
6	6001	Sub soil. Firm mid brown sandy loam. Occasional small stones.			
6	6002	Natural. Loose to friable light brown orange sand.			
7	7000	Topsoil. Firm dark brown sandy loam.			
7	7001	Sub soil. Loose to friable mid brown sandy loam. Moderate roots, occasional small stones.			
7	7002	Build-up/dump. Friable mid brown sandy loam. Moderate roots, occasional small stones, CBM fragments and pottery fragments.			
7	7003	Build-up/natural. Firm mid red brown clayey sand. Occasional large stones and charcoal flecks.			
11	8000	Backfill of cable trench.			

Table 2 Context list

APPENDIX 3 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Site Location: The Knavesmire, Tadcaster Road, York

NGR: SE 5906 5038, SE 5898 5018, SE 5885 4992

Planning Application: N/A

Prepared for: Northern Powergrid

Status of WSI: Draft for approval 8^h February 2016

Version	Produced by		Edited by		Approved by	
	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
1	BS	08/02/16	IDM	08/02/16	IDM	08/02/16

1 SUMMARY

1.1 Excavations relating to the laying of an 11 KV electricity cable are required along the northwest periphery of the Knavesmire. Three interventions are required to facilitate directional drilling and are subject to an archaeological watching brief. The three areas are on the east side of the A1036, Tadcaster Road, close to Pulleyn Drive (NGR SE 5906 5038), Chalfonts (NGR SE 5898 5018), and Ainsty Grove (NGR SE 5885 4992) (Figure 1).

The watching brief will commence on 11th February 2016 with the ground works close to Pulleyn Drive and will continue at the other locations as required.

The trench close to Pulleyn Drive is situated approximately 30m south-west of York Tyburn, a former gallows site. Human burials have previously been encountered in the area. It is intended that excavation will be limited as much as possible to ground that has already been disturbed.

1.2 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been approved by the Archaeologist for City of York Council. The work will be carried out in accordance with this WSI and the Standards and Guidance and Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

2 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

2.1 The site is located at The Knavesmire, on the east side of the A 1036 Tadcaster Road, York NGR SE 5914, 5056 (Figure 1).

The programme of works will commence with ground works near Pulleyn Drive, where a trench measuring 10m X 2m on north-east/south-west axis is to be excavated on 11th February 2016 (Figure 2). Following on from this the works will continue with a further trench to be opened opposite Chalfonts (Figure 3), and will conclude with trenches close to Ainsty Grove (Figure 4) further to the south-west. All interventions are to be to a depth of approximately 1m.

3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 The site lies within the York Area of Archaeological Importance. There are no listed buildings or scheduled monuments within the site. The site does not lie within a Registered Historic Park and Garden or Registered Battlefield.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

- 4.1 The principal evidence for Roman activity lies to the north of the site. This is largely in the form of burials in a large cemetery which extended along the line of the approach road from the southwest, from at least as far away from the Roman town as Trentholme Drive, about 0.9km from the city walls. Apart from excavations at Trentholme Drive in 1951-2 and 1957-9 (Wenham 1968), and excavations at 35-41 Blossom Street in 1989-90 (1989.21 and 1990.21), most information about the cemetery comes from chance discoveries made during 19th and early 20th century building work (Hunter-Mann 2005). To the southwest of the site further evidence for Roman activity has been found in the area of Dringhouses, including the continuation of the southwest approach road, associated settlement and a small cemetery (Macnab 1997).
- 4.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out during a previous phase of electric cable instillation in November 2013. Trenching was monitored where it crossed the A1036, Tadcaster Road, from the Knavesmire to Little Hob Moor, a little to the south of the York Tyburn memorial. Burials associated with the Tyburn were encountered on both sides of the road. As a result two small archaeological excavation trenches were opened on the east and west sides of Tadcaster Road to facilitate excavation of the burials. On the east side, in Trench 1, a multiple burial containing 11 individuals was found below that of a single inhumation. On the west side of the road, in Trench 2, two more graves were encountered with five skeletons in one and a further two in the other (Savine 2014).

5. GROUNDWORKS TO BE MONITORED

5.1 This work will comprise a continuous watching brief on the excavation of three interventions along the line of an electrical cable laid by the use of directional drilling.

6 DELAYS TO THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

6.1 It is not intended that the archaeological monitoring should unduly delay site works. However, the archaeologist on site should be given the opportunity to observe, clean, assess and, where appropriate hand excavate, sample and record any exposed features and finds. In

order to fulfil the requirements of this WSI, it may be necessary to halt the earth-moving activity to enable the archaeology to be recorded properly.

7 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 A base plan of intervention areas is available and the areas being monitored will be determined using this information.
- 7.2 Unique context numbers will only be assigned if artefacts are retrieved, or stratigraphic relationships between archaeological deposits are discernible. In archaeologically 'sterile' areas, soil layers will be described, but no context numbers will be assigned. Where assigned, each context will be described in full on a pro forma context record sheet in accordance with the accepted context record conventions.
- 7.3 Archaeological deposits will be planned at a basic scale of 1:50, with individual features requiring greater detail being planned at a scale of 1:20. Larger scales will be utilised as appropriate. Cross-sections of features will be drawn to a basic scale of 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the size of the feature. All drawings will be related to Ordnance Datum. Where it aids interpretation, structural remains will also be recorded in elevation. All drawings will be drawn on inert materials. All drawings will adhere to accepted drawing conventions
- 7.4 Photographs of archaeological deposits and 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 be comprised of digital photos. 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 A soil sampling programme will be undertaken for the recovery and identification of charred and waterlogged remains where suitable deposits are identified. The collection and processing of environmental samples will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2002). Environmental and soil specialists will be consulted during the course of the evaluation with regard to the implementation of this sampling programme. Soil samples of approximately 30 litres for flotation (or 100% of the features if less than this volume) will be removed from selected contexts, using a combination of the judgement and systematic methodologies.
 - Judgement sampling will involve the removal of samples from secure contexts
 which appear to present either good conditions for preservation (e.g. burning or
 waterlogging) or which are significant in terms of archaeological interpretation or
 stratigraphy. (Given the nature of an archaeological watching brief, it is anticipated

that the implementation of a systematic sampling methodology will not be possible).

- 7.8 If industrial activity of any scale is detected, industrial samples and process residues will also be collected. Separate samples (c. 10ml) will be collected for micro-slags (hammer-scale and spherical droplets) (English Heritage 2001).
- 7.9 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with YAT specialists and the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor, as appropriate (e.g. dendrochronology, soil micromorphology, monolith samples, C14, etc.). Samples will be taken for scientific dating where necessary for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies. Material removed from site will be stored in appropriate controlled environments.
- 7.10 In the event of human remains being discovered during the evaluation these will be left *insitu*, 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 curator will be informed immediately. An osteoarchaeologist will be available to give advice on site.
 - 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.
- 7.11 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 REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION

- 8.1 Upon completion of the groundworks, 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 results of the operation, describing structural data, associated finds and environmental data.
 - d) A selection of photographs and drawings, including an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the areas monitored.
 - e) Specialist artefact and environmental reports as necessary.
 - f) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive.
 - g) A copy of the key OASIS form details
 - h) Copies of the Brief and WSI

- i) Additional photographic images may be supplied on a CDROM appended to the report
- 8.2 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body and the HER/SMR (also in PDF format).
- 8.3 The requirements for archive preparation and deposition will be addressed and undertaken in a manner agreed with the recipient museum. In this instance Yorkshire Museum is recommended and an agreed allowance should be made for the curation and storage of this material.
- 8.4 Provision for the publication of results, as outlined in the Brief, will be made.
- 8.5 The owner of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the information and documentation arising from the work, would grant a licence to the County Council 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.

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 TIMETABLE & STAFFING

- 10.1 The watching brief is anticipated to start on 11th February 2016.
- 10.2 Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:
 - Human Remains Ruth Whyte (Dickinson Laboratory for Bioarchaeology)
 - Palaeoenvironemtal remains Dr Jennifer Miller (Dickinson Laboratory for Bioarchaeology)
 - Head of Curatorial Services Christine McDonnell
 - Finds Researcher Nicky Rogers
 - Pottery Researcher Anne Jenner
 - Finds Officers Nienke van Doorn
 - Archaeometallurgy & Industrial Residues –Dr Rod Mackenzie
 - Conservation Ian Panter

11 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

11.1 As a minimum requirement, the curator will be given a minimum of one week's notice of work commencing on site, and will be afforded the opportunity to visit the site during and prior to completion of the on-site works so that the general stratigraphy of the site can be assessed. York Archaeological Trust will notify the curator of any discoveries of archaeological significance so that site visits can be made, as necessary. Any changes to this

agreed WSI will only be made in consultation with the curator.

121 COPYRIGHT

12.1 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.

13 KEY REFERENCES

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See also the **HELM** website for a full list of English Heritage Guidance documents.

http://www.helm.org.uk/server/show/nav.19701



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Fig. 1 Site location

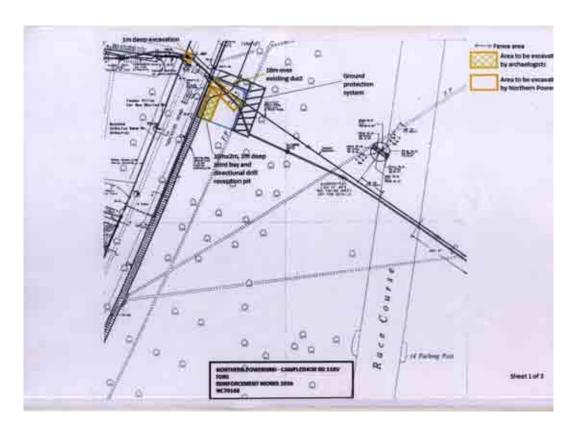


Figure 2 Trench location, opposite Pulleyn Drive ©Crown copyright and database rights 2016 OS 100018343

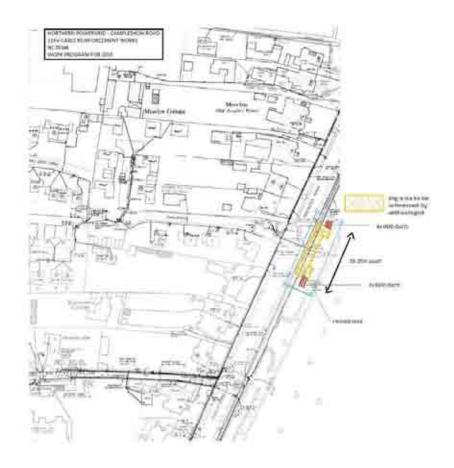


Figure 3 Trench location, opposite Chalfonts ©Crown copyright and database rights 2016 OS 100018343

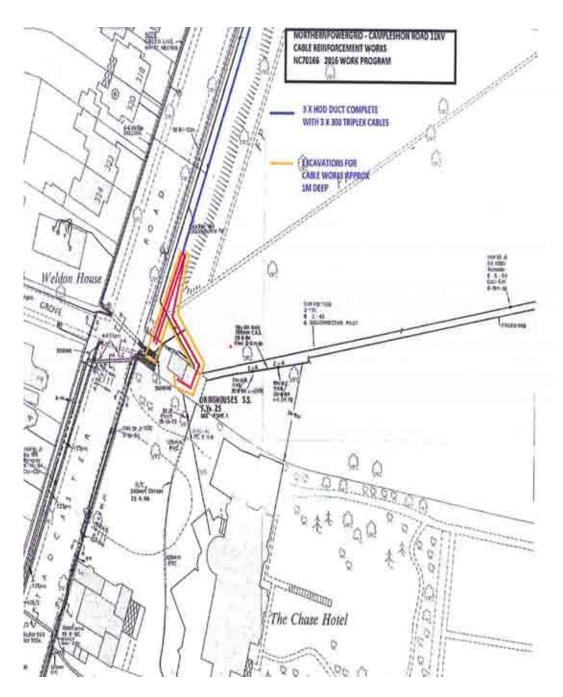


Figure 4 Trench location, opposite Ainsty Grove ©Crown copyright and database rights 2016 OS 100018343

APPENDIX 4 – POTTERY ASSESSMENT

1 The Pottery by Anne Jenner

1.1 Introduction

Twenty-four sherds of domestic pottery were retrieved from two Contexts. They range from Roman to modern in date. Despite a near complete profile, the Roman Samian bowl sherd is the only evidence from this period. The rest of the material is 18th, 19th and perhaps early 20th century.

1.2 Methodology

Visual analysis involved identifying fabrics and forms by date and type. This information is recorded below (see Table 3). Decoration and other significant features are also noted.

1.3 Discussion

Forms include bowls and plates, perhaps for eating at table. The number of cream wares may suggest a modicum of wealth, though the lack of any porcelain or highly decorated wares does not. These wares, along with the stone ware forms are mainly for eating and drinking.

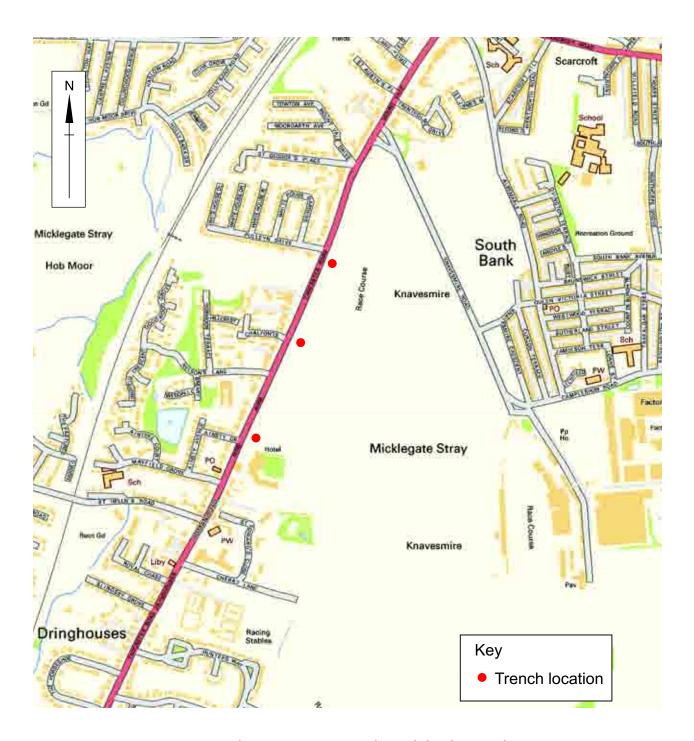
1.4 Recommendations for further work

There are no recommendations for further work.

Context	Quantity	Dating	Details
5001	6	19 th Century	1 Samian bowl, 1 Frechen type stoneware, 1 English stoneware 2 white dipped flanged bowl,1 slip flanged dish with patches of marbling.
5007	18	Late 18 th /19 th century	10 cream bowl with pedestal base and plates including one with a scallop rim and a ribbed rim, 1 pearl plate, 1 pearl bowl, 1 Nottingham type English stoneware, 2 pearl plate with scallop blue grassed rim, 1 terracotta plant pot, 2 black glazed jar or bowl.

Table 3 Pottery quantification

FIGURES



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Fig. 1 Site location

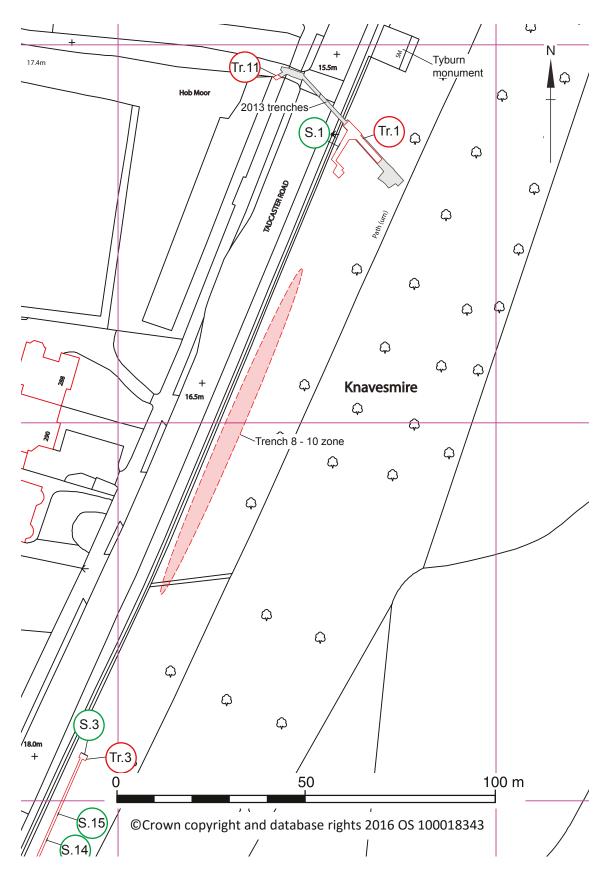


Fig. 2 Trench 1 and 8-11 locations



Fig. 3 Trench 2, 3 and 6 locations

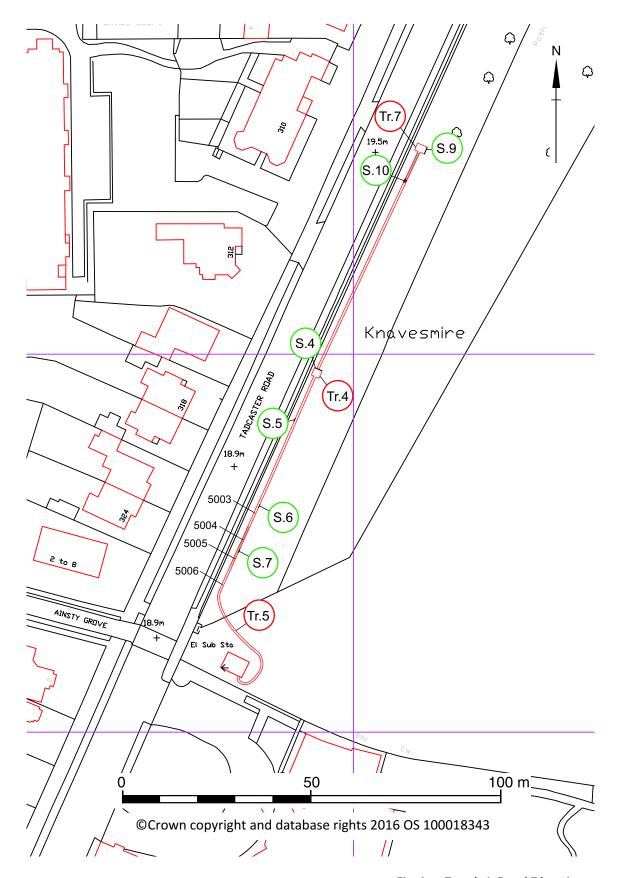
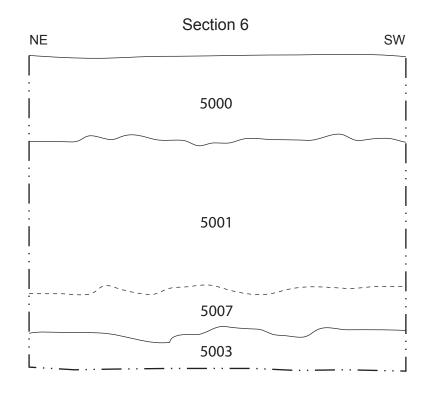


Fig. 4 Trench 4, 5 and 7 locations



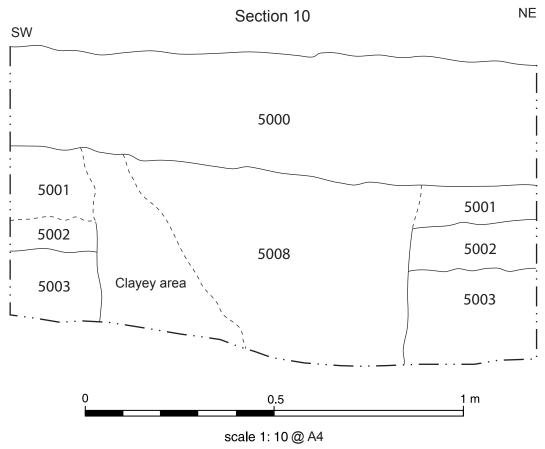


Fig. 5 Sections 6 and 10

PLATES



Plate 1 Section 1, looking NW, 0.5m sale units



Plate 2 Section 2, looking NE, 0.5m scale units



Plate 3 Section 3, looking NE, 0.5m scale units



Plate 4 Linear feature, Context 5008 and 5009, looking NW, 0.1m scale units



Plate 5 Section 4, looking NE, 0.5m scale units



Plate 6 Section 5, looking SW, 0.5m scale units



Plate 7 19th/ 20th century refuse dump in Trench 5, looking SW, 0.5m scale units



Plate 8 Trench 5 on approach to electric substation, Looking S