



## YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

<b>SITE</b>	Piccadilly AAI WB		
<b>CLIENT NAME</b>	Northern Powergrid		
<b>YAT PROJECT #</b>	5904	<b>YAT REPORT #</b>	2016/31
<b>MUSEUM ACCESSION #</b>	N/A	<b>GRID REFERENCE</b>	SE 6067 5148
<b>PLANNING REFERENCE #</b>	N/A	<b>AAI OPS NOTICE #</b>	16006

### Introduction

On the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of April York Archaeological Trust carried out a watching brief at Piccadilly adjacent to Union House, York. This involved the monitoring of excavations carried out by Northern Powergrid. A cable trench was excavated across Piccadilly carriageway and Dixons Lane cycle path, as well as along an area of the footpath. The cable trench was excavated by hand and machine and measured 500mm wide by 750mm deep.

The site was recorded by hand written notes, sketch drawings and digital photography.

No significant archaeological remains were encountered during the works, no finds were recovered and no samples were taken.

### Results

The earliest deposit uncovered was a firm, mid brown, clayey silt measuring 320mm thick. This contained frequent CBM fragments; moderate stones, cinder and charcoal, and has been interpreted as a build up layer. This was found to be the deepest deposit in all areas of the cable trenches.

On the western side of Piccadilly carriageway a deposit of compacted limestone 300mm thick lay above this deposit. This has been interpreted as road make up possible for a widening of the road to the west. On the eastern side of the carriageway this road makeup changed slightly to a compact coarse, gravel and sand, possibly indicating an earlier road surface. A concrete deposit was present 0.5m from the western edge of the Piccadilly pavement that may mark the original extent of the road.

Under the eastern pavement of Piccadilly there were four ceramic pipes and services running north-south and a service cable running east-west.

At the eastern edge of Dixons Lane two brick walls were uncovered. One running north-south that was 0.40m wide, and another running north west-south-east measuring 0.22m. They were both constructed of bricks measuring 240mm x 110mm x 70mm and bonded with a firm grey cement mortar. These appear to be wall foundations cut into the build up deposit, probably 19<sup>th</sup> Century or later in date.

The excavations along the eastern pavement of Piccadilly revealed extensive disturbance by services running north-south along the pavement.

Above these deposits was the tarmac road and pavement surface that varied from 130mm to 80mm.

### Conclusion

No significant archaeological deposits were encountered during the course of the excavation.

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<b>FINDS</b>	0	<b>SAMPLES</b>	0	<b>PHOTOS</b>	4	<b>PAGE</b>	<b>1 of 8</b>

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Plate 1 Piccadilly carriageway looking south-east 0.50m scale

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Plate 2 Piccadilly carriageway looking south east 0.50m scale

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Plate 3 Shot of wall foundations at east end of Dixons Lane looking north. scale 0.50m.

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Plate 4 General shot facing south-west.

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Figure 1 Location of site

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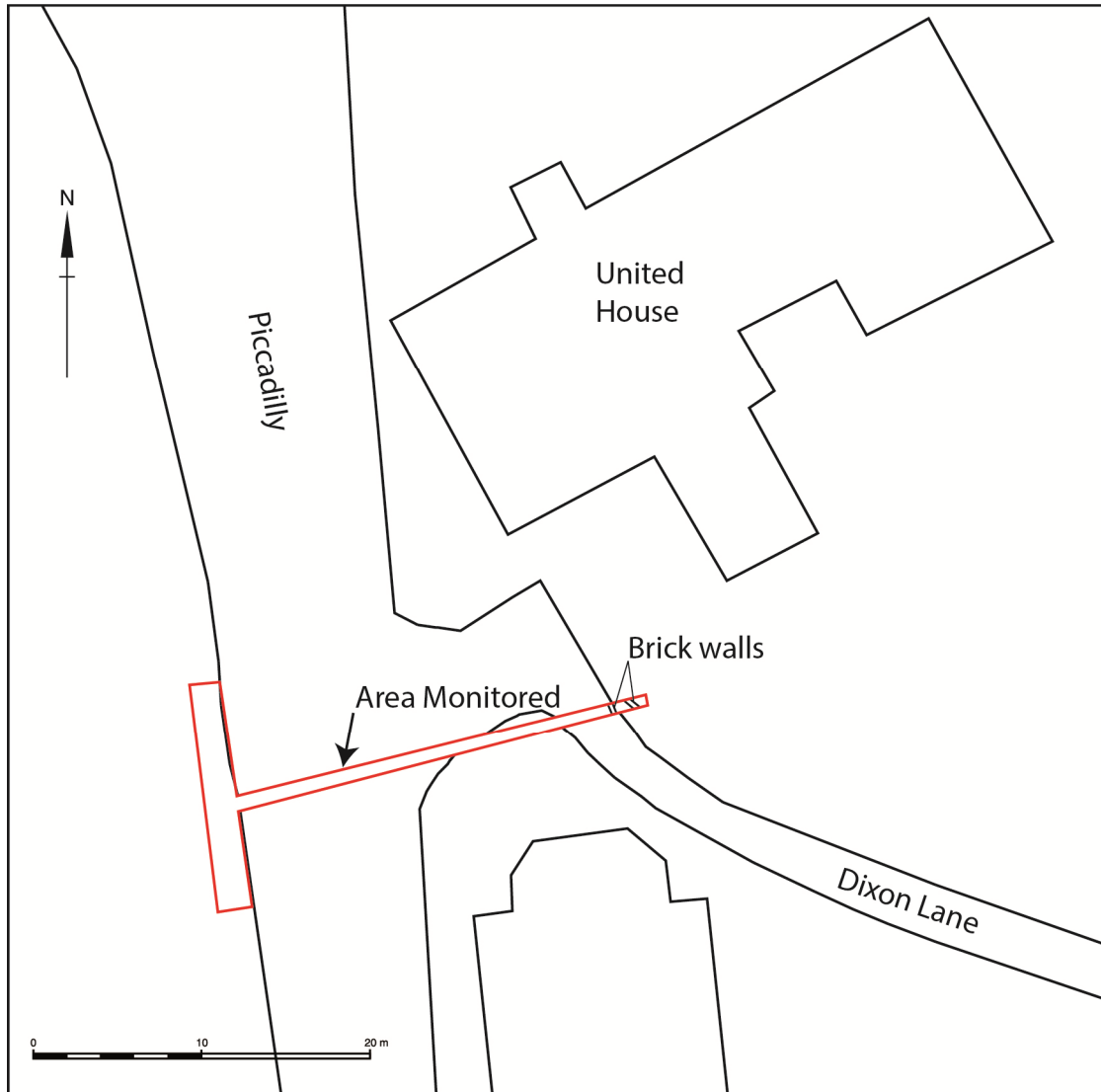


Figure 2 Areas monitored

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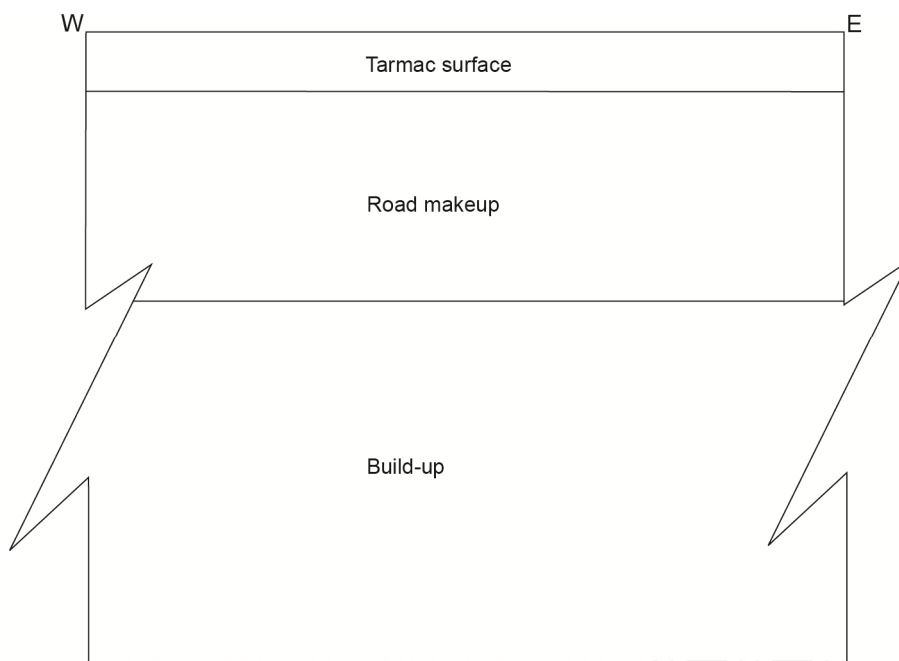


Figure 3 Representative section

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