



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

SITE ADDRESS	Unit 3 St Maurice's Road, York		
CLIENT NAME	SMR Limited		
YAT PROJECT #	5963	YAT REPORT #	2017/30
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 60620 52217
PLANNING REFERENCE #	AOD/16/00424 & 16/01698/FUL	AAI OPS NOTICE #	20170210103955617

Introduction

Between the 1st and 6th March 2017 a watching brief took place during the excavation of a combined utility trench in the yard and car park of Unit 3 St Maurice's Road, York (Figure 1).



Figure 1 Site Location
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010

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FINDS	none	SAMPLES	none	PHOTOS	In text
		PAGE			1 of 6

Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland (SCO42846)



Registered Office:
47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Without Share Capital Registered
in England No. 1430801



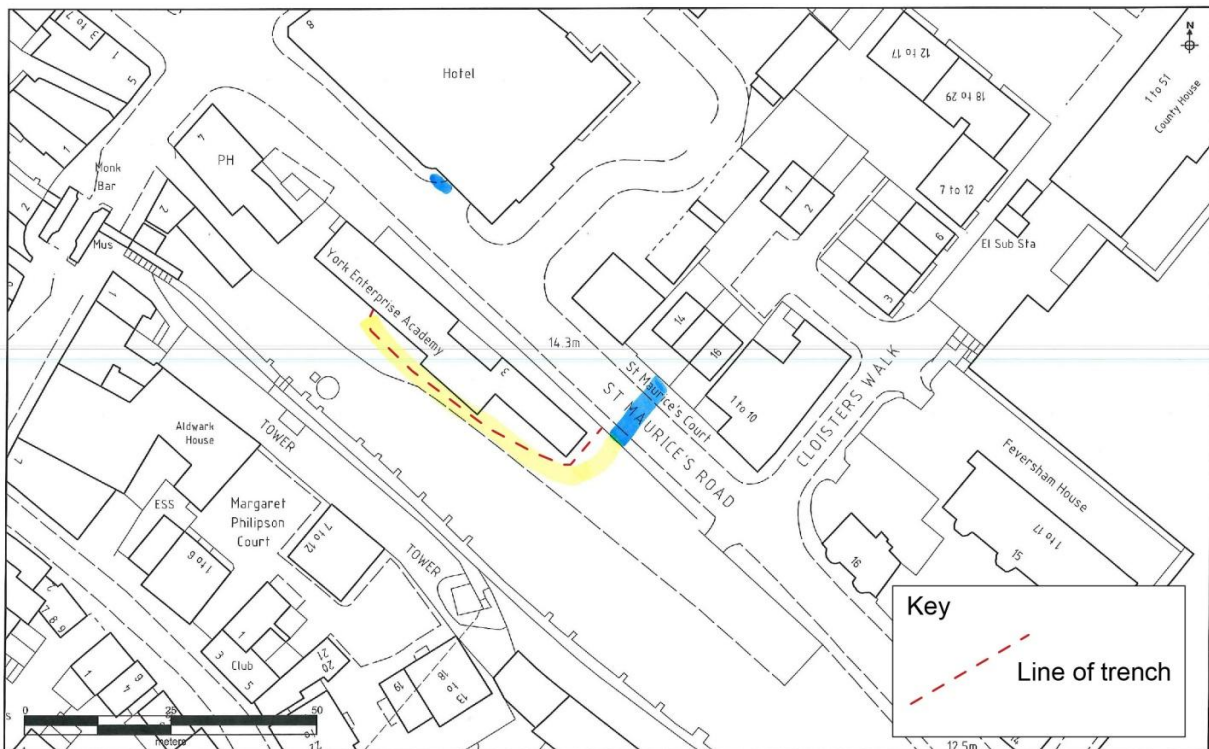
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Methodology

The trench for the combined services was 600mm wide and 750mm deep. The tarmac and solid surfaces were cut with a Stihl saw and a hydraulic breaker was used to loosen firm deposits below. Following this trench was excavated using a small 360° tracked excavator and shovels where appropriate. See Figure 2 for works location.

Deposits encountered were recorded in a notebook alongside sketch plans and representative sections where appropriate. Digital photographs were taken at intervals during the watching brief.



Northern Powergrid Holdings Company
The position of our equipment is shown on this plan as accurately as possible. However, it may have changed since the plan was produced. Therefore the position of our equipment and these services cables which may not be shown should be established on site. Electricity cables not owned by Northern Powergrid Holdings Company may be buried in this area and may not be shown on this plan. Where private cables are shown, the information should not be regarded as accurate and should be used for guidance purposes only. If all cables, accurate information should be obtained from the owner of such cables prior to the commencement of work on the site.

Mains Record



User: lee.angus
Scale: 1:500
Date Printed: 10-Feb-2017

Title: ENQ5350190 - Electricity installation St Maurice Road, York - SE607523

Figure 2 Works Location
After AIA ops notice 20170210103955617

Results

The general sequence commenced with disturbed backfill deposits in the lower 300mm of the trench, overlain by 150mm of disturbed soils and rubble. The uppermost 300mm was hardcore and tarmac for the current surfaces (Figure 3; Plate 1). Virtually the entire trench was positioned on top of existing drains and sewers, explaining the disturbed deposits.

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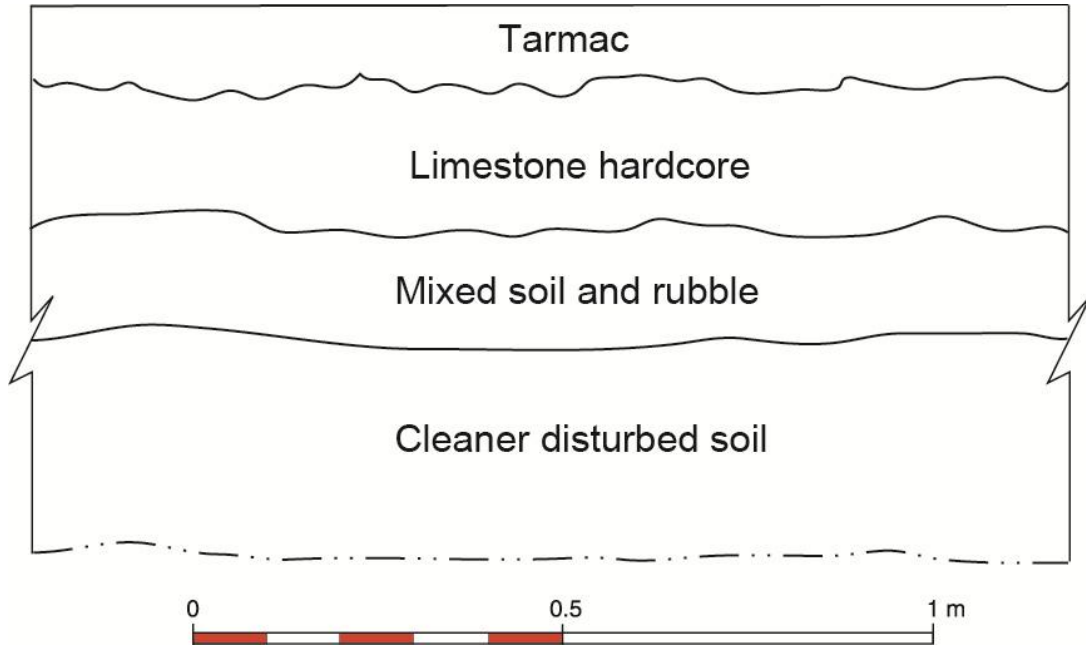


Figure 3 Representative Section



Plate 1 Trench Section.

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In the few areas outside of previous significant disturbance there were traces of a possible cinder surface at c.700mm BGL and truncated wall stubs (Plates 2 and 3).



Plate 2 Possible cinder surface

The surface and wall stubs were both clearly 19th century or later in date and will relate to previous use and structures across the site.

This previous activity was referred to in a Cultural Heritage Baseline Assessment of the area carried out in 2011 by ArchHeritage (Report no. 2011/52), which identified archaeology nearby from the Roman Period onwards. This report is available through the CYC website:

(https://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/10510/syo1332_st_maurices_road_dbapdf)

However, only residual finds, including pottery and ceramic building materials, from the medieval period onwards were observed during the current works. None of this material was retained for cataloguing.

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Plate 3 C19th foundation remnants

Discussion & Conclusions

The site revealed very little in the way of features undisturbed by services, and what did survive was of limited significance. As the results from the main site were minimal, associated works for the connection across the main road were not observed under the AIA Operations Notice.

No further work is suggested for the results of this watching brief, but the sequence and intrusions described here will inform future decision making.

Thanks are given to the contractors for their assistance and cooperation during the watching brief.

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KEY REFERENCE

ArchHeritage, 2011. *St Maurice's Road, York - Cultural Heritage Baseline Assessment. Unpublished ArchHeritage Report no. 2011/52*

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