



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

SITE	The Old Coach House, 4a Custance Walk, York, YO23 1BX		
CLIENT NAME	PBH Surveys Ltd		
YAT PROJECT #	5956	YAT REPORT #	2017/34
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 59963 51196
PLANNING REFERENCE #	16/02328/FUL	AAI OPS NOTICE #	17002

York Archaeological Trust was commissioned by PBH Surveys Ltd to undertake archaeological monitoring at The Old Coach House, 4a Custance Walk, York, YO23 1BX (Figure 1). The nature of this development was such that there was potential for the disturbance of archaeological deposits and it was necessary to observe and record anything of historical or archaeological interest during the course of the operations. The work was carried out over a two week period at the end of February 2017 under operations notice 17002 dated 16/01/17 under the auspices of Section 38(1)b of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Digging out and replacement of the existing drains, manholes and foundations for the extension of the existing buildings into the courtyard was carried out by ground workers using a mechanical digger and hand tools (figure 2; plates 1–3). Several visits were made by the archaeologist to observe the works and observations were recorded on site.

The concrete yard surface was removed prior to archaeological monitoring. During the subsequent groundworks, including the stripping of the footprint of the new building to formation level, the only deposition observed consisted of a mixed rubble levelling deposit of up to 300mm in depth. This material was dated to the 20th century by pottery and glass artefacts (not retained) and is interpreted as the sub-base for the concrete yard surface. Beneath the rubble levelling layer naturally deposited glacial deposits consisting of mid-orange-brown silty sand and clay were encountered.

Foundation trenches were dug to a depth of around 1.3m below present ground level. Nothing of archaeological interest was identified, all evidence of historic human activity being of 19th– 20th century date and relating to the construction and later alteration of the existing buildings, services and yard surfaces.

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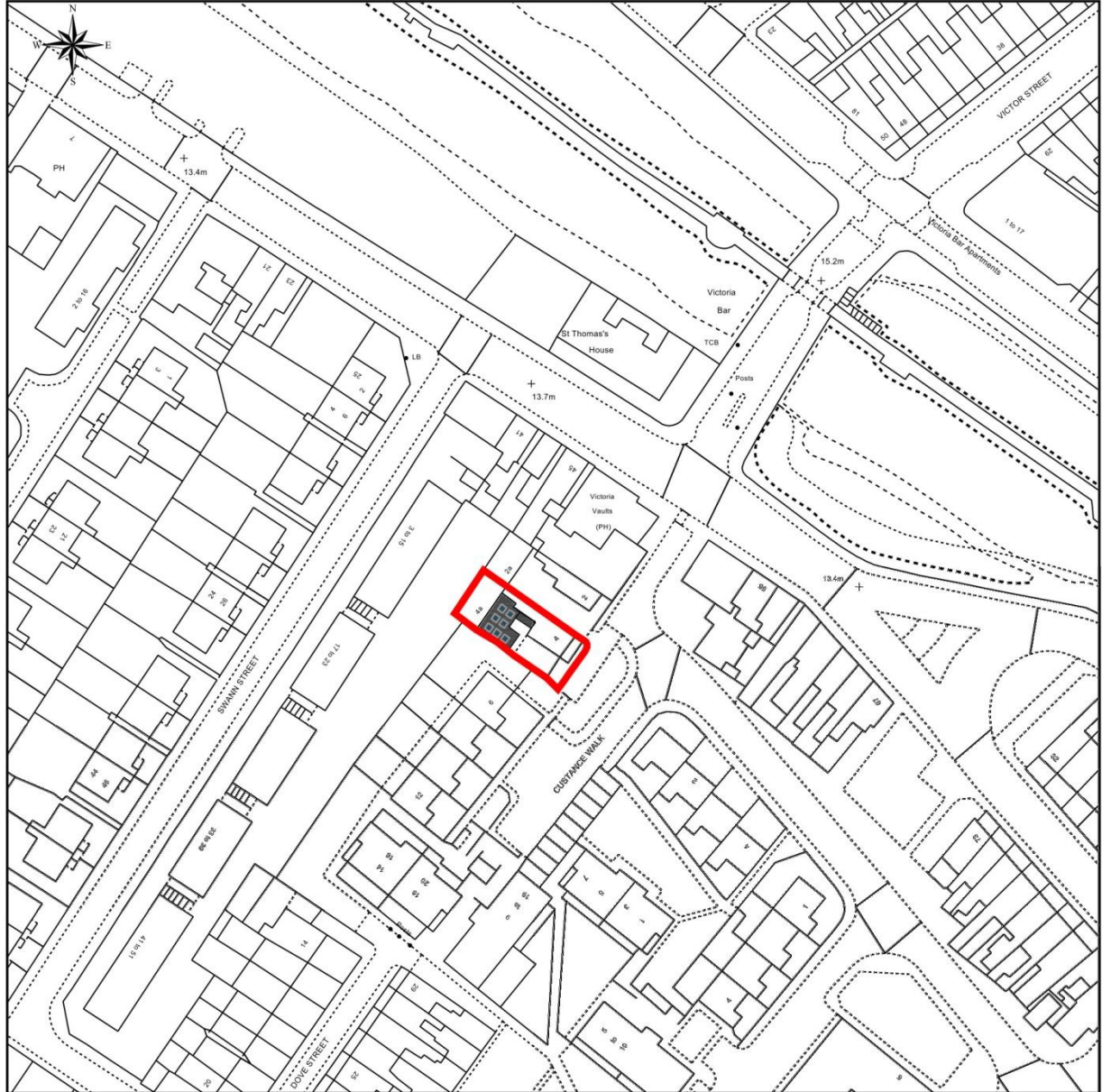


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Figure 1 Location Plan showing site perimeter in red

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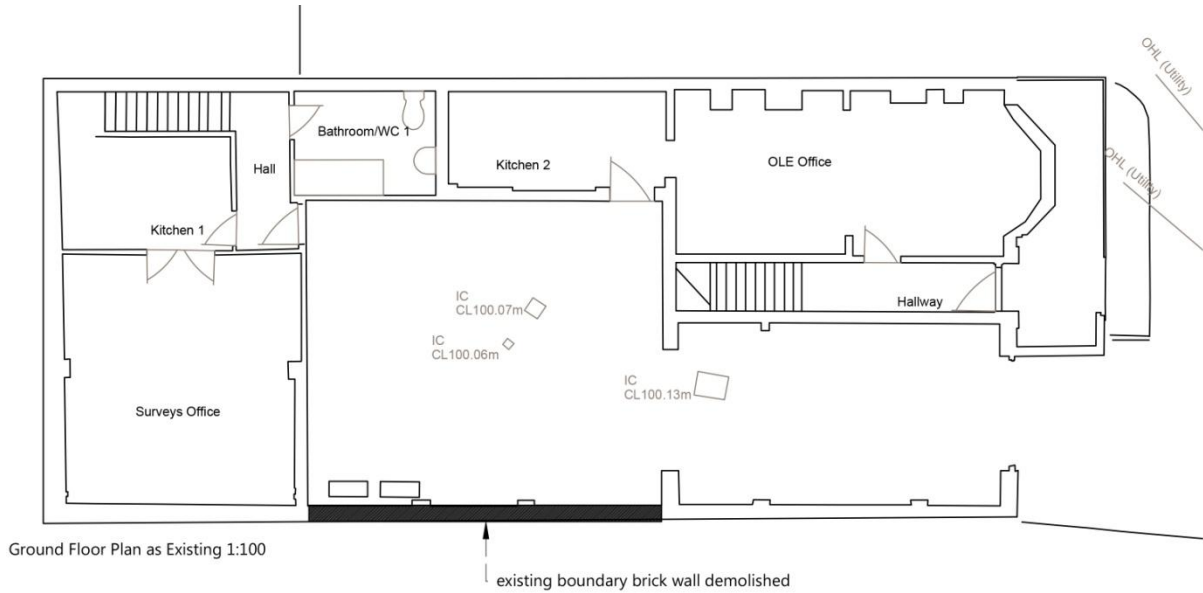


Figure 2 Ground plan showing position of manholes to drains and demolished boundary wall

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Plate 1 Exposing old drains prior to replacement

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Plate 2 Wall footings excavated after the demolition of the old boundary wall

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Plate 3 Stripping commences across the footprint of the new building

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