



**YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**



## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT 9 THE CRESCENT, YORK**

By Clare Jackson

*EVALUATION REPORT*

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**Abbreviations**

BGL – Below Ground Level

AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

YAT – York Archaeological Trust

CBM – Ceramic Building Material

TBM – Temporary Benchmark

## Non-technical Summary

Between the 23<sup>rd</sup> January and the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 York Archaeological Trust conducted a trial trench evaluation at 9 The Crescent, York (SE 59563 51394).

The work was undertaken for SPV to help inform a potential planning application. The work was based on a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by YAT. The works involved the excavation and recording of a single 4m x 4m trench.

The evaluation uncovered horticultural and agricultural soils dating from the medieval to post-medieval periods, as well as a potential Roman cut feature. Substantial modern made ground deposits of almost 2.00m sealed the archaeology. It is considered there is a high potential for medieval and Roman archaeology present on the site from 2.00m BGL.

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	9 The Crescent, York
YAT Project No.	6030
Document Number	2018/12
Type of Project	Evaluation
Client	SPV
Planning Application No.	N/A
NGR	SE 59563 51394
Museum Accession No.	Pending
OASIS Identifier	Yorkarch1-307310

## REPORT INFORMATION

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between the 23<sup>rd</sup> January and the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 YAT conducted an evaluation at 9 The Crescent, York (SE 59563 51394) (Figure 1). The work was undertaken for SPV to help inform a potential planning application.
- 1.2 A single archaeological trial trench was excavated and recorded in the central yard of the development area. In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) machine excavation ceased as soon as significant deposits were revealed.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

The methodology followed the WSI (Appendix 5).

A total of one trial trench was excavated (Figure 1):

No.	Size (m)	Rationale
1	4m x 4m	To identify and characterise the archaeology

- 2.1 The trench was excavated in the central yard area of 9 The Crescent, towards the north of the site, within the bounds of a potential Roman cemetery (See section 4). The concrete yard surface and 20<sup>th</sup> century made ground were removed by a 8tn machine equipped with a toothless bucket. The trench was accurately located by measurement to local permanent features on a 1:2500 OS map and a TBM was established on site by traversing from a known benchmark on the Bar Convent, Blossom Street. The TBM was recorded at 14.71m AOD and levels were subsequently taken using a manual theodolite.
- 2.2 Machine excavation ceased as soon as archaeological deposits were encountered and the trench was then cleaned by hand. The trench was stepped in at 1m BGL, to create a 2m<sup>2</sup> trench which was excavated to a depth of 1.20m; at 2.20m BGL a 0.50m<sup>2</sup> sondage was dug in the centre of the trench through the remaining deposits, until a possible natural deposit was reached. The total depth of excavation was 2.7m BGL.
- 2.3 All deposits were hand excavated and recorded as per the standard YAT single context recording system, as detailed in the YAT Fieldwork Manual (YAT 2009). Colour digital photography was used to document archaeological contexts. Finds were retrieved and bagged by individual context number and subsequently processed by YAT.
- 2.4 Following initial hand excavation and full recording, in order to characterise and date the deposit, the post-medieval to medieval plough soil was removed by machine and any potential finds retrieved from the separated soil.
- 2.5 The excavated trench has been backfilled at the client's request.

## 3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The proposal site is located at 9 The Crescent, York (Figure 1) and comprises of a two storey brick building, single storey lean-to and a concrete/tarmac yard between the two buildings. The ground is mainly level, with an 16.2m AOD height recorded on at the junction between

The Crescent and Blossom Street, just to the south of the site.

- 3.2 The site is located in an area of mixed commercial and residential properties and lies just to the south of York Railway Station. The site is bordered by commercial properties to the north and a residential building to the south. NCP car park bounds the site to the west, whilst The Crescent bounds the site to the east.
- 3.3 The geology of the site comprises of underlying bedrock of Sherwood Sandstone Group - Sandstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 237 to 272 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods when the local environment was dominated by rivers. Above this are superficial deposits of glacial moraine, consisting of clay, sand and gravel which were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk) - accessed 18/01/18).

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site is located about 700m to the south-west of the Roman fortress, just outside the civilian settlement and to the north-west of Blossom Street, a known major route to York dating since at least the Roman period. A possible second Roman road crossed the southern corner of the site, on a north-east to south-west alignment. An excavation on The Crescent in 1981 found remains of a cobbled surface, believed to be a metalled Roman road around 2.00m BGL (Brinklow 1981). The southern corner of the site forms part of the northern edge of an area believed to be formerly occupied by an extensive Roman mixed inhumation and cremation cemetery. Excavations at 35-41 Blossom Street (Oakey 1990), 120m to the south-east of the site, uncovered, along with a potential Romano-British enclosure and field-system, a cremation and 31 inhumations around 2.7m BGL. An excavation at 28-40 Blossom Street, around 50m to the east of the site uncovered evidence of Roman activity comprising of ditches, a small road, levelling and clearance events, possible industrial and funerary activity and the foundations of a small building (Milsted 2009).
- 4.2 During the medieval period the area around the site was mainly agricultural; excavations to the rear of 35-41 Blossom Street and 28-40 Blossom Street recorded a thick medieval plough soil sealing the Roman remains at around 1.2m and 1.3m BGL. There is evidence along Blossom Street that there was some settlement outside of the city walls; at 20 Blossom Street investigations uncovered a medieval cobbled surface, pits and deposits. Pits, boundary ditches and the base of an oven or kiln dating to the medieval period were also recorded at 35-41 Blossom Street.
- 4.3 During the post-medieval period the medieval buildings that lined Blossom Street were gradually replaced and modified, with an increase in inns and other accommodation establishments. The Crescent was constructed after 1875, and the site remained unoccupied until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 5 RESULTS

### 5.1 Possible Roman activity (Figures 3 & 6; Plate 4)

- 5.1.1 The earliest deposit recorded on the site comprised of yellow, orange brown sandy clay 1005, with evidence of bio-turbation, recorded at a depth of 12.33m AOD. Cutting into the clay was a linear feature 1007, aligned east to west and filled with a mid brownish grey silty clay 1006. These features were dated by the presence of a sherd of samian ware, left in situ, within fill 1006.

5.1.2 The features dated to this phase of activity were recorded in the base of the sondage and were not excavated to avoid exceeding safe working depths.

## **5.2 Medieval plough soil (Figures 3, 5 & 6; Plate 3)**

5.2.1 A light grey brown silty clay was recorded at a depth of 12.38m AOD and was a maximum thickness of 0.09m. The plough soil 1004 was noticeably lighter than the above horticultural soil (see 5.3.1), and contained a higher proportion of cultural material, including 10 sherds of pottery dating from the Roman period to the 14<sup>th</sup> century (see Jenner Appendix 6), and animal bone.

## **5.3 Medieval to post-medieval horticultural soil (Figures 2 & 5; Plates 1 & 2)**

5.3.1 The horticultural soil 1003 extended across the whole of the trench, measuring 0.49m thick and the top of which was recorded at a depth of between 12.87m and 12.73m AOD. The soil comprised of friable dark grey silty clay with very occasional degraded animal bone and small sherds of pottery dating from the Roman period to the late 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century (see Jenner Appendix 6). In spite of the machine removal of the layer, it was clear that the deposit was quite sterile, indicating that little settlement or occupation activity took place in this area during this period.

## **5.4 Modern activity (Figures 2 & 4; Plates 1 & 2)**

5.4.1 Modern activity in the trench predominantly comprised of two layers of made-ground; the earliest layer was a 0.80m thick deposit of redeposited natural clay (1002), possibly sourced from the extensive landscaping that occurred around the train station in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Sealing the clay was a substantial (over 1m thick) layer of friable dark brownish grey silty clay (1001) with frequent fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> century CBM and stone as well as mortar, charcoal and cinder inclusions.

5.4.2 The yard surface 1000 comprised of a mixture of concrete and hardcore, with evidence of disturbance and repair.

# **6 DISCUSSION**

6.1 The predominant archaeology recorded on the site was agricultural and horticultural soils containing pottery and CBM dating from the Roman to the post-medieval periods. Similar soils have also been recorded at sites along Blossom Street (Clarke 1991, Milsted 2009, Oakey 1992) in the vicinity of the site, and therefore are consistent with the known archaeology of the area. The later soil 1003 was horticultural, rather than agricultural; as the map of 1852 shows that the site was located within a landscaped garden during the post-medieval period, and remained so until the site was developed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Soil 1003 contained little cultural material, indicating that little settlement and occupational activity was present during these periods. However it was noticed during excavation that what little pottery there was became older in date as the deposit deepened, suggesting a gradual build up of material over time. The depth of the soil also supports this supposition, and is consistent with current interpretations of the soils (Milsted 2009).

6.2 The medieval plough soil 1004 contained no early medieval pottery, which is consistent with other archaeological sites in the area, and has been interpreted by previous investigations two ways; either there had been significant clearance undertaken between the post-Roman and medieval period, or that little to no activity took place around Blossom Street until the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Milsted 2009). The keyhole nature of the evaluation does not allow for further investigation of this; however it is something to bear in mind if the site requires further work.

6.3 A small amount of Roman pottery was recovered from the plough soil 1004, indicating the presence of Roman features, and a cut feature was recorded at the base of the trench, in

which the presence of a piece of samian ware was noted. Excavations at 28-40 Blossom Street, 50m to the east of site recorded Roman features including traces of a building, possible yard surfaces, boundary ditches and a potential road surface (Milsted 2009). The closeness of this site and the fact that there has been Roman material recovered during this evaluation suggests that there could be significant Roman archaeology present beneath the medieval plough soils.

- 6.4 The site is located within the presumed bounds of a Roman cemetery that is located along Blossom Street; however no human bone was recovered from the trench during the course of the evaluation. Though no Roman features were excavated, early material can often get redeposited during the ploughing process (see 6.3), and therefore if there were any burials beneath the medieval plough soil, it would be expected that some human remains would be present within the soil. Despite the lack of evidence, there is still the potential for Roman burials deeper within the trench and elsewhere in the proposed development area, undisturbed by medieval ploughing.
- 6.5 During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century there was significant dumping of deposits, including redeposited natural clay, on the site in order to raise the ground up and make it suitable for building. It is likely that the depth of deposits, at 1.80m, is consistent across the yard area of the site, and should be taken into consideration if any further work is required.

## LIST OF SOURCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)

## REFERENCES

Brinklow, D., 1981. *The Crescent, Blossom Street, York*. YAT unpublished report.

Clarke, A., 1991. *Report on an Archaeological Evaluation at 14-20 Blossom Street*. YAT unpublished report.

Jackson, C., 2018. *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Investigations, 9 The Crescent, York*. Unpublished YAT report no. 2018/7.

Milsted, I., 2009. *Sewage Attenuation Tanks, 28-40 Blossom Street, York*. Unpublished YAT report no. 2009/90

Oakey, N., 1992. *35-41 Blossom Street*, unpublished YAT level 4 report.

YAT 2009. *York Archaeological Trust Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank SPV for their cooperation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks are also given to the excavation team; Emma Boast and Katie Smith for their hard work on site and for their contribution to the post-excavation work and illustrations for this report. The author would also like to thank Rod Green for providing the plant and machining of the trench.



**APPENDIX 1 INDEX TO ARCHIVE**

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	8
Levels register	1
Photographic register	1
Sample register	0
Drawing register	1
Original drawings	5
B/W photographs (films/contact sheets)	0
Colour slides (films)	0
Digital photographs	20
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

**Table 1 Index to archive**

**APPENDIX 2 CONTEXT LIST**

Context Number	Cut Number	Phase	Description
1000	N/A	Modern	Yard surface
1001	N/A	Modern	Made ground. Demolition rubble and silty clay
1002	N/A	Modern	Made ground. Redeposited clay
1003	N/A	Post-medieval to medieval	Horticultural soil. Dark grey silty clay
1004	N/A	Medieval	Plough soil. Light grey silty clay
1005	N/A	Roman?	Yellow brown sandy clay
1006	1007	Roman?	Backfill. Mid brownish grey silty clay
1007	1007	Roman?	Linear. NE/SW aligned feature

**Table 2 Context list**

### APPENDIX 3 PLATES



**Plate 1 Trench post-machining showing redeposited clay 1002 and horticultural soil 1003, view west**



**Plate 2 Section 2 showing made ground 1001, redeposited clay 1002 and horticultural soil 1003. Base of the trench is plough soil 1004. View west.**



**Plate 3 Plough soil 1004, view west**



**Plate 4 Sondage showing yellow clay deposit 1005 and feature 1007, view east. Samian ware can be seen along right edge of sondage.**

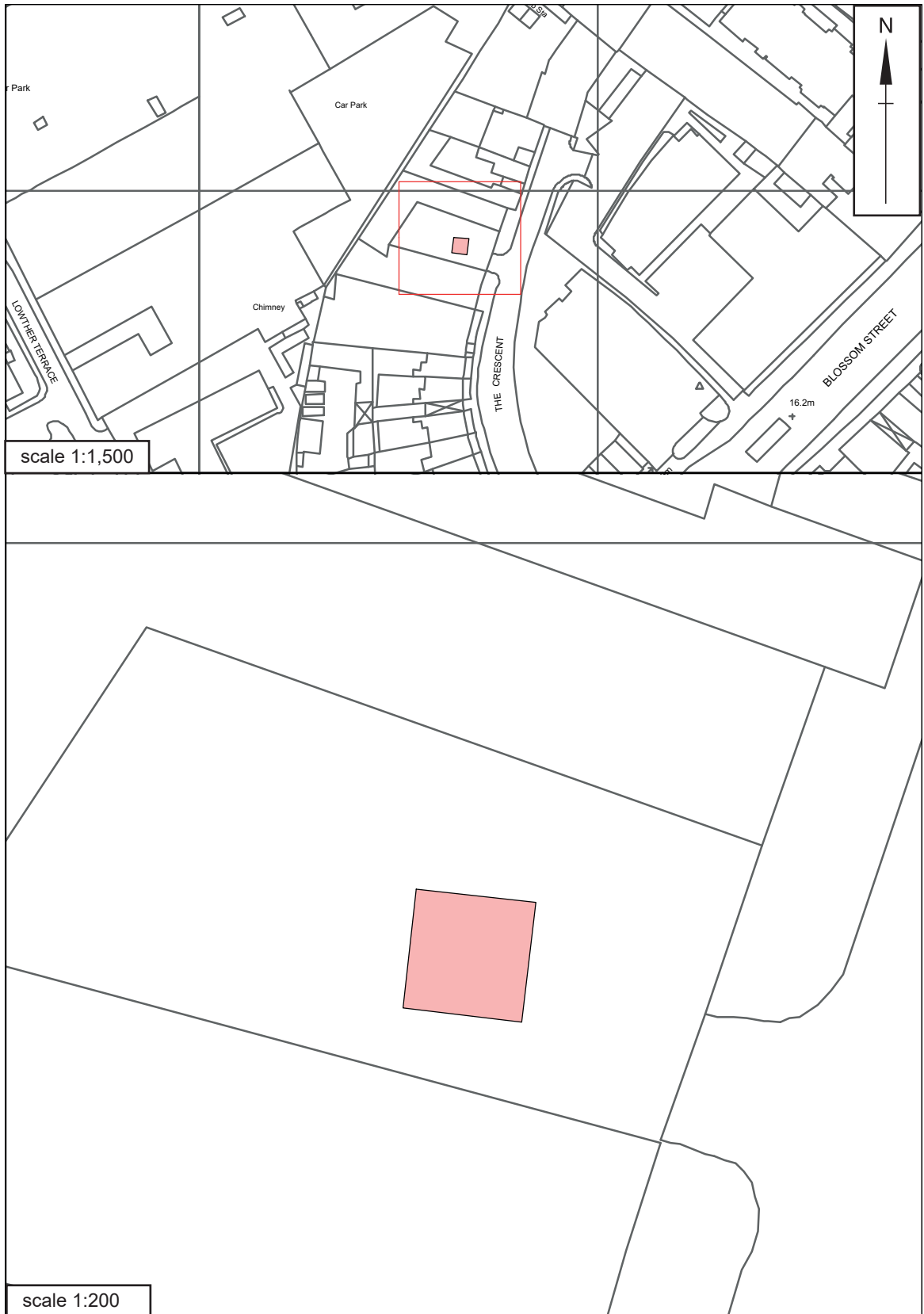


Fig. 1 Site and Trench Location

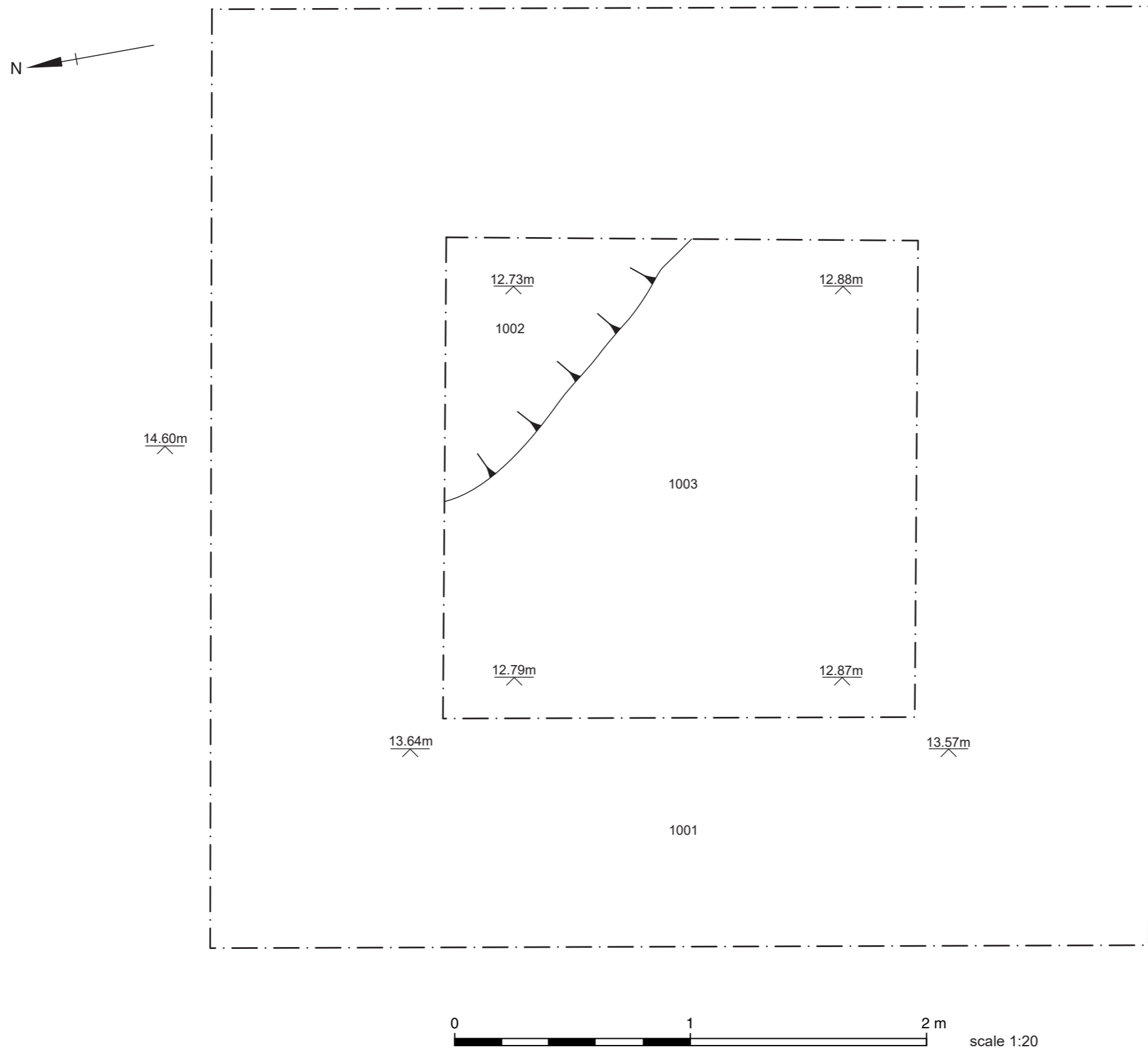


Fig. 2 Plan of deposit 1003.

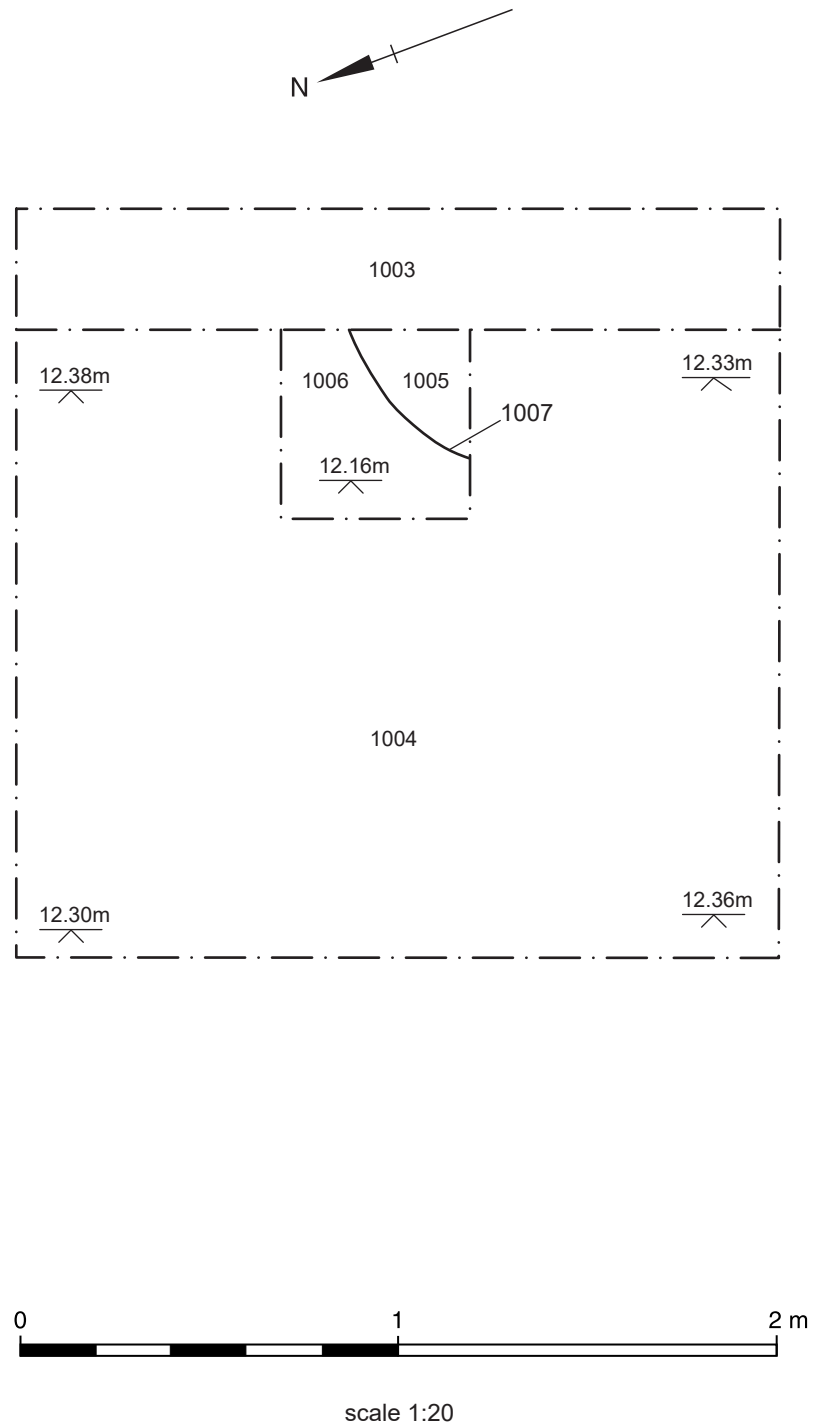


Fig.3 Plan of plough soil 1004, deposit 1005 and feature 1007

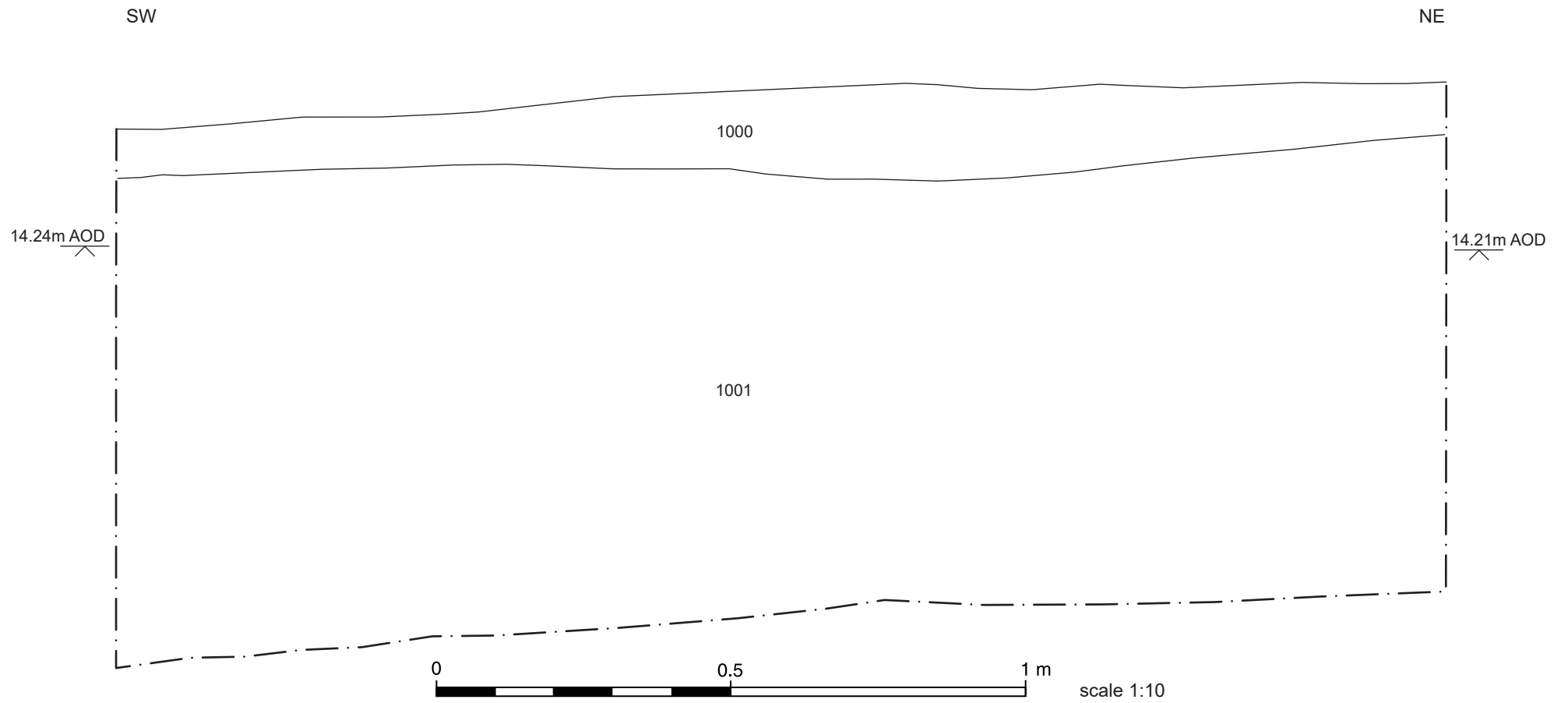


Fig. 4 Section 1. Facing South East.



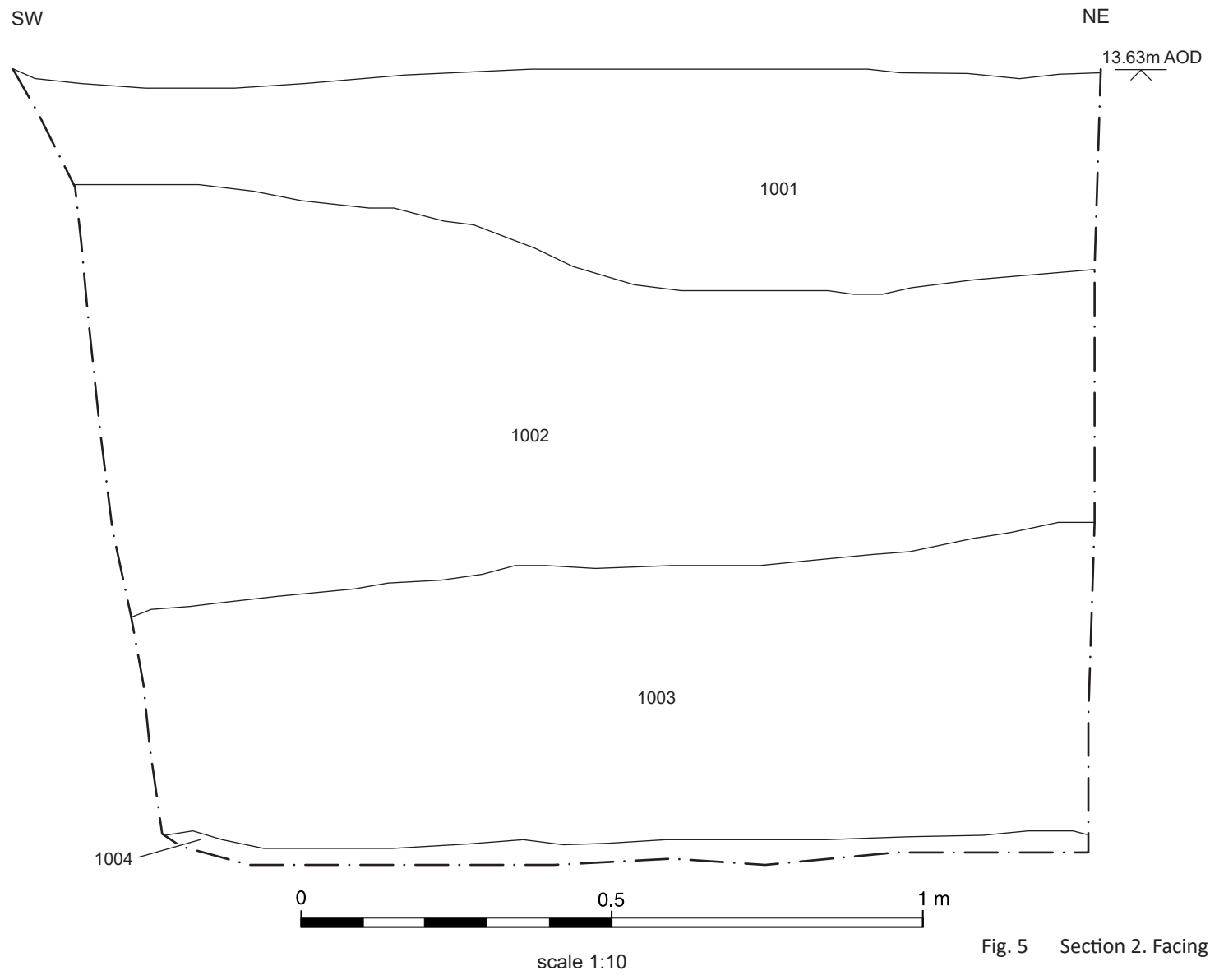


Fig. 5 Section 2. Facing South East.

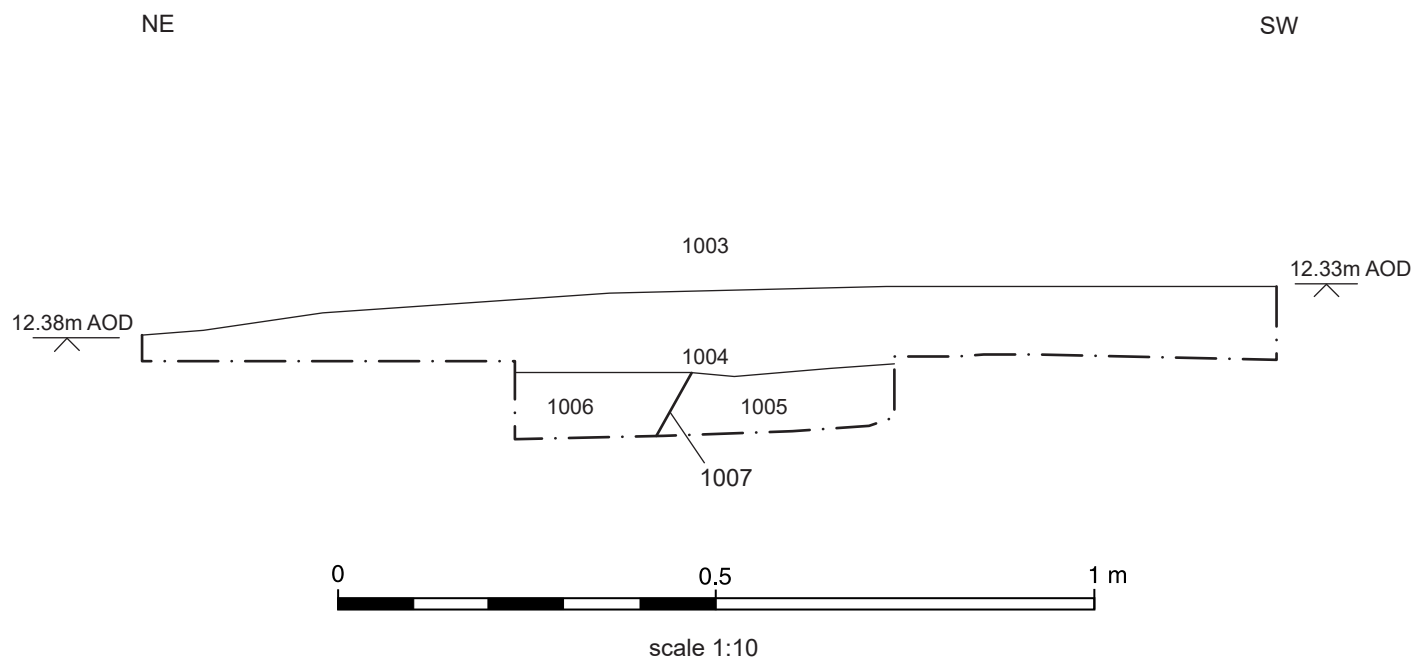


Fig. 6 Section 3. Facing North West.

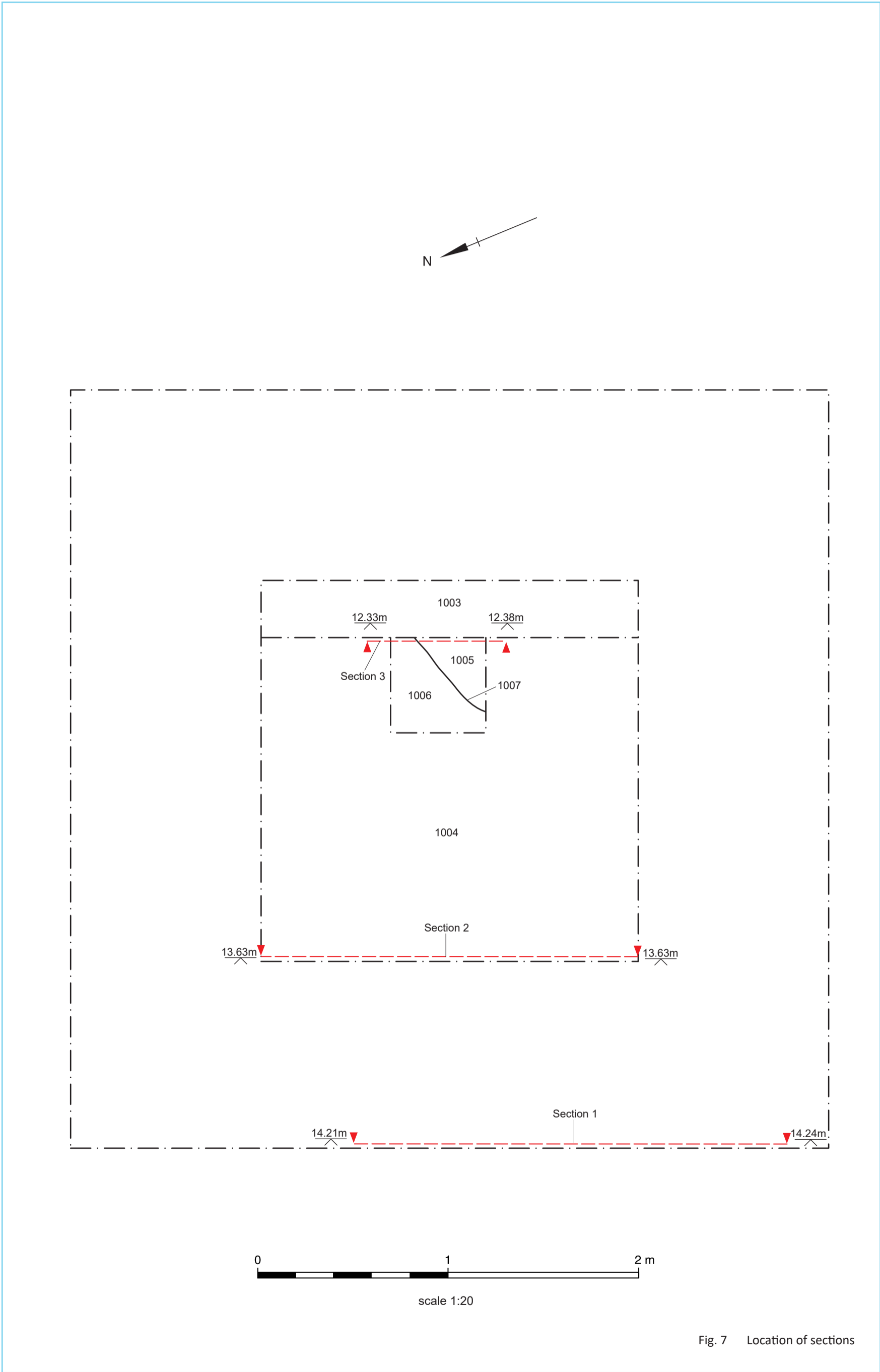


Fig. 7 Location of sections

## APPENDIX 5 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

## WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTGATIONS, 9 THE CRESCENT, YORK

**Site Location:** 9 The Crescent, York  
**NGR:** SE 59563 51394  
**Proposal:** N/A  
**Planning ref:** Pre-Application  
**Prepared for:** TW Fields  
**Document Number:** 2018/7

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1	CJ	17/01/18	IDM	22/01/18	IDM	22/01/18

### SUMMARY

TW Fields are preparing an application for development at 9 The Crescent, York (SE 59563 51394).

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to a specification supplied by TW Fields. The work will be carried out in accordance with this WSI and according to the principles of the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Code of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

### SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

The proposal site is located at 9 The Crescent, York (Illustration 1) and comprises of a two storey brick building, single storey lean-to and a concrete/tarmac yard between the two buildings. The ground is mainly level, with an 16.2m AOD height recorded on at the junction between The Crescent and Blossom Street, just to the south of the site.

The site is located in an area of mixed commercial and residential properties and lies just to the south of York Railway Station. The site is bordered by commercial properties to the north and a residential building to the south. NCP car park bounds the site to the west, whilst The Crescent bounds the site to the east.

The geology of the site comprises of underlying bedrock of Sherwood Sandstone Group - Sandstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 237 to 272 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods when the local environment was dominated by rivers. Above this are superficial deposits of glacial moraine, consisting of clay, sand and gravel which were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk) - accessed 18/01/18).

### **DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS**

The site lies within the York Area of Archaeological Importance.

The site is accessed by a locked double gate and the only available area for evaluation is the central yard. There are possible archaeological deposits up to 3m below ground level and therefore the trench will have to be stepped for health and safety.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST**

The site is located about 700m to the south-west of the Roman fortress, just outside the civilian settlement and to the north-west of Blossom Street, a known major route to York dating since at least the Roman period. A possible second road crosses the southern corner of the site, on a north-east to south-west alignment. An excavation on The Crescent in 1981 found remains of a cobbled surface, believed to be a metalled Roman road around 2.00m BGL (Brinklow 1981). The southern corner of the site forms part of the northern edge of an area believed to be formerly occupied by an extensive Roman mixed inhumation and cremation cemetery. Excavations at 35-41 Blossom Street (Oakey 1990), 120m to the south-east of the site, uncovered, along with a potential Romano-British enclosure and field-system, a cremation and 31 inhumations around 2.7m BGL. An excavation at 28-40 Blossom Street, around 50m to the east of the site uncovered evidence of Roman activity comprising of ditches, a small road, levelling and clearance events and possible industrial and funerary activity (Milsted 2009).

During the medieval period the area around the site was mainly agricultural; excavations to the rear of 35-41 Blossom Street and 28-40 Blossom Street recorded a thick medieval plough soil sealing the Roman remains at around 1.2m and 1.3m BGL. There is evidence along Blossom Street that there was some settlement outside of the city walls; at 20 Blossom Street investigations uncovered a medieval cobbled surface, pits and deposits. Pits, boundary ditches and the base of an oven or kiln dating to the medieval period were also recorded at 35-41 Blossom Street.

During the post-medieval period the medieval buildings that lined Blossom Street were gradually replaced and modified, with an increase in inns and other accommodation establishments. The Crescent was constructed after 1875, and the site remained unoccupied until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **AIMS**

The aims of the evaluation are:

- 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

#### EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The evaluation will comprise the following elements:

- Trial trenching
- Reporting

**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.**

A single trench will be excavated. The location of the trenches is shown on Figure 1. Trenches will be stepped if necessary, to ensure their stated size at the base of the trench.

No.	Size (m)	Rationale
1	4x4	To identify and characterise any archaeological deposits.

The trench locations will be accurately plotted by measurement to local permanent features shown on published Ordnance Survey maps. 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.

Overburden such as turf, topsoil or other superficial fill materials would be removed by a machine fitted with a toothless bucket. Mechanical excavation equipment would be used judiciously, under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural subsoil, whichever appears first. If archaeology is present machining will cease and excavation will normally proceed by hand. Where deep homogenous deposits, or deposits such as rubble infill, are encountered, these may be carefully removed by machine, after consultation with the City of York Archaeologist.

The use of mechanical, air-powered, or electrical excavation equipment may also be appropriate for removing deep intrusions (e.g. modern brick and concrete floors or footings) or through deposits to check that they are of natural origin, after consultation with City of York Archaeologist. The machine will not be used to cut arbitrary sondages down to natural deposits.

All trenches 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.

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.

- Discrete features will be half-sectioned in the first instance.
- Linear features will be sample excavated (to a minimum of 25% of their length) with each sample being not less than 1m in length
- Deposits at junctions or interruptions in linear features will be sufficiently excavated to allow relationships to be determined.
- Structures will be sample excavated to a degree whereby their extent nature, form, date, function and relationships to other features and deposits can be established.

#### **RECORDING METHODOLOGY FOR EXCAVATION**

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.

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-section 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.

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.

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.

Areas which do not contain any archaeological deposits will be photographed and recorded as being archaeologically sterile. The natural stratigraphic sequence within these areas will be recorded.

All finds will be collected and handled following the guidance set out in the ClfA 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.

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.

Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with York Archaeological Trust specialists and the Heritage England 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.

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 City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely 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 7.10) and retained for assessment.
- Any grave goods or coffin furniture will be retained for further assessment.

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, ClfA Technical Paper 13 (1993) and Historic England guidance (2005).

## **SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT**

The stratigraphic information, artefacts, soil samples, and residues will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis and study. The material will be quantified (counted and weighted). Specialists will undertake a rapid scan of all excavated material. Ceramic spot dates will be given. Appropriately detailed specialist reports will be included in the report.

Materials considered vulnerable should be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration must be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues on or in pottery, and mineral-preserved organic material). Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilization of all objects and a written assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs will be produced. Once assessed, all material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, in accordance with Watkinson and Neal (1998), ClfA (2014) and Museums and Galleries (1992).

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.

Allowance will be made for the recovery of material suitable for scientific dating and contingency sums will be made available to undertake such dating, if necessary. This will be decided in consultation with City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely.

## **REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION**



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 selected artefacts, and phased feature plans where appropriate.
- e) Specialist artefact and environmental 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
- i) Additional photographic images may be supplied on a CDROM appended to the report

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 CYC for planning purposes, and subsequently for inclusion into the SMR/HER.

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 prior to the commencement of fieldwork to establish the detailed curatorial requirements of the museum and discuss archive transfer and to complete the relevant museum forms. The relevant museum curator would be afforded access to visit the site and discuss the project results.

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.

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

## **POST EXCAVATION ANALYSIS & PUBLICATION**

The information contained in the evaluation report will enable decisions to be taken regarding the future treatment of the archaeology of the development site and any material recovered during the evaluation.

If further archaeological investigations (mitigation) take place, any further analyses (as recommended by the specialists, and following agreement with City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely) may be incorporated into the post-excavation stage of the mitigation programme unless such analysis are required to provide information to enable a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised. Such analysis will form a new piece of work to be commissioned.

In the event that no further fieldwork takes place on the site, a full programme of post excavation analysis and publication of artefactual and scientific material from the evaluation may be required by City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely. Where this is required, this work will be a new piece of work to be commissioned.

If further site works do not take place, allowance will be made for the preparation and publication in a local and/or national journal of a short summary on the results of the evaluation and of the location and material held within the site archive.

The results of the work will be publicised locally e.g. by presenting a paper and talking to local societies, as appropriate.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

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

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

#### **PRE-START REQUIREMENTS**

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.

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.

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.

#### **REINSTATEMENT**

Following excavation and recording the spoil from the trenches will be backfilled unless requested otherwise. The backfill material will be levelled and compressed as far as possible with the mechanical excavator bucket, but will not be compressed to a specification. York Archaeological Trust are not responsible for reinstating any surfaces, including reseeding, unless specifically commissioned by the client who will provide a suitable specification for the work.

## TIMETABLE & STAFFING

The timetable has work commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 and continuing for up to one week.

Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:

- Human Remains – Malin Holst
- Palaeoenvironmental remains – Dr Jennifer Miller
- Head of Curatorial Services - Christine McDonnell
- Finds Researcher - Nicky Rogers
- Pottery Researcher - Anne Jenner
- Finds Officers – Nienke Van Doorne
- Archaeometallurgy & Industrial Residues – Rachel Cubitt and Dr Rod Mackenzie
- Conservation - Ian Panter

## MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

As a minimum requirement, City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely 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 and to discuss the requirement any further phases of archaeological work. York Archaeological Trust will notify City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely 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 City of York Archaeologist, John Oxely.

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For the latest Historic England guidance documents see:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/latest-guidance/>

## APPENDIX 6 POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Anne Jenner.

### Introduction

Twenty two sherds of mainly domestic pottery were retrieved from two Contexts ranging from the Roman to post medieval periods.

There is a high level of residuality/intrusion as might be expected from plough soils which will have been worked over a number of years.

### Methodology

Visual analysis involved separating fabric and form groups. The number of each type is recorded in the Table below. Decorative schemas, stamps and other significant features are also noted.

### Discussion

The sample is too small and mixed to warrant any meaningful discussion beyond its appearance as a secondary deposit, perhaps intentionally used to break up and drain the plough soils from with it was found. The relatively small size of the constituent sherds and slight abrasion on many of them is also consistent with its appearance in the plough soil.

### Recommendations for further work

No further work is recommended.

Context	Find	Quantity	Dating	Details
1003	BF1	12	LATE 18TH/19TH CENTURY	1 gritty ware jar rim, 2 York Glazed ware strap handle from a jug clean break sherds join large sherd, 1 Samian body abraded, 3 Cistercian scraps, 1 pearl ware body with blue band, 1 very fine pearl ware rim, 1 terracotta plant pot rim, 1 very coarsely gritted ware, 1 Ebor red painted ware body.
1004	BF2	10	14TH CENTURY	2 high fired oxidised lid rim with burnt edge, 1 high fired oxidised bowl/jar rim, 1 Humber ware jug body, 1 Samian base, 1 Ebor with white slip body, 1 Ebor red painted body with abraded bands of colour coating, 1 Black burnished ware body, 1 Torksey type grey ware body, 1 Roman grey ware body. All small to medium sized sherds.

**Table 3 Pottery Quantification**

## APPENDIX 7 ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Dr Clare Rainsford

A total of 8 fragments of faunal bone were recovered from 2 contexts from excavations at the Crescent, York. All bone was identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible, and basic taphonomic information was recorded. Data were stored as Excel spreadsheets, and NISP is used as a quantitative method throughout.

### Results

None of the bone from The Crescent was identifiable to species level. Context 1003 consisted of one rib, identified as large mammal, and two fragments of unidentified bone (Table 4). Context 1004 consisted of two rib fragments of medium mammal size, both of which were butchered; two fragments which could only be identified to large mammal and small mammal / bird, respectively; and one unidentified fragment.

Bone from both contexts is in reasonable condition, with a uniform mid-fawn colouration. Material from context 1003 showed slightly greater evidence of degradation than material from context 1004, but the difference in condition is not substantial.

Due to the extremely small size of the assemblage and the absence of any notable features, little further comment can be made on the animal bone from this site. The assemblage is characteristic of domestic refuse from most periods in the city of York area.

Taxon	Context	
	1003	1004
large mammal	1	1
medium mammal		2
small mammal / bird		1
unid	2	1
<i>TOTAL</i>	3	5

**Table 4 Taxon representation**



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

York Archaeological Trust undertakes a wide range of urban and rural archaeological consultancies, surveys, evaluations, assessments and excavations for commercial, academic and charitable clients. We manage projects, provide professional advice and fieldwork to ensure a high quality, cost effective archaeological and heritage service. Our staff have a considerable depth and variety of professional experience and an international reputation for research, development and maximising the public, educational and commercial benefits of archaeology. Based in York, Sheffield, Nottingham and Glasgow the Trust's services are available throughout Britain and beyond.



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