



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	Beverley Minster Cable Works WB		
CLIENT NAME	Beverley Minster/ Northern Power Grid		
YAT PROJECT #	6055	YAT REPORT #	2018/75
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	TA 3774 9276
PLANNING REFERENCE #	N/A	AAI OPS NOTICE #	N/A

INTRODUCTION

York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief on 30th May 2018 on behalf of Beverley Minster to monitor ground works at the accessible entrance to the Minster (NGR TA 3774 9276; Figure 1). The works comprised cable repair and upgrade and an archaeological watching brief was required to record any archaeological deposits exposed during ground works and to mitigate potential disturbance of human remains.

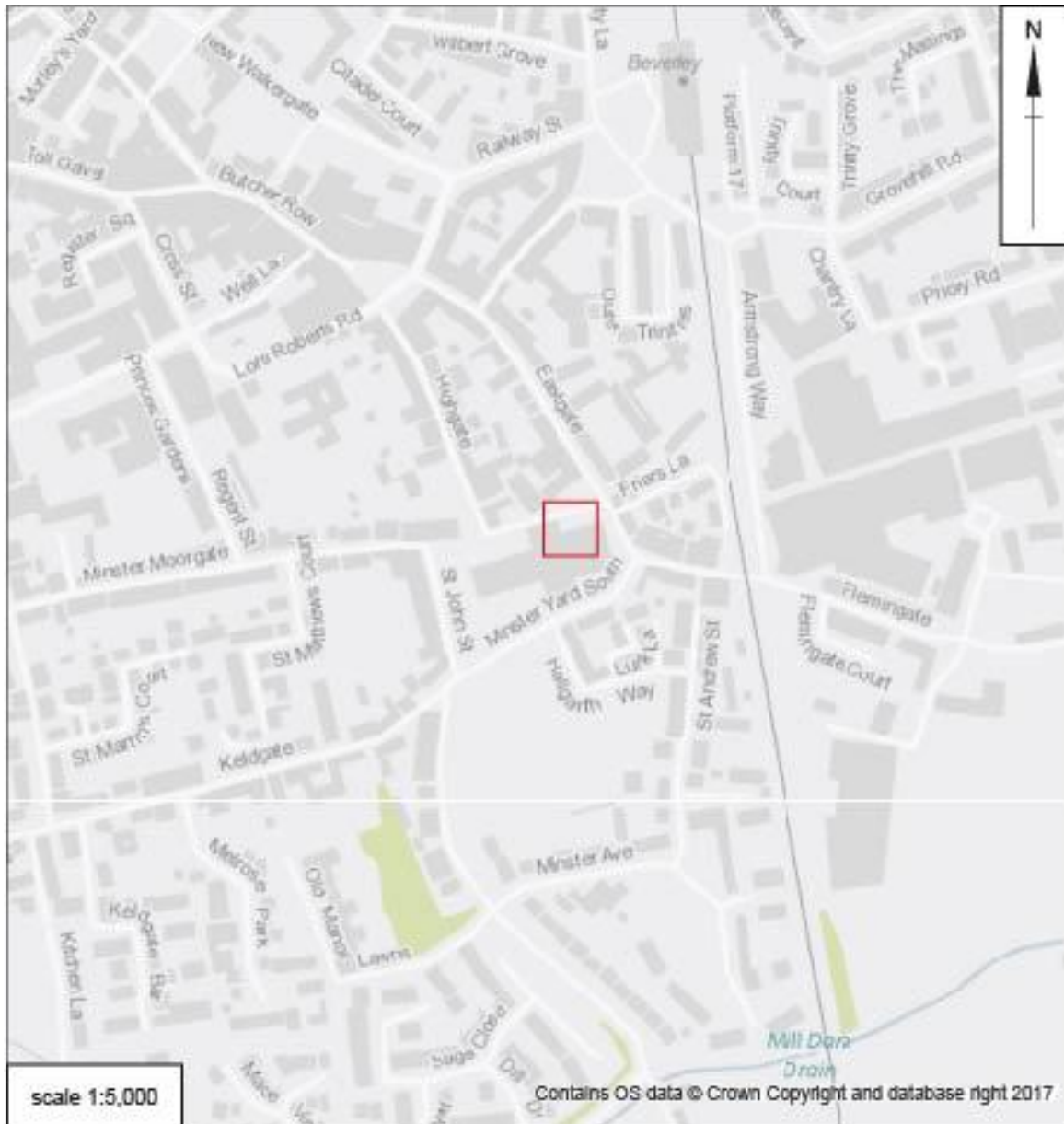


Figure 1 Site Location

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FINDS	N/A	SAMPLES	N/A	PHOTOS	10
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METHODOLOGY

The existing cable lay beneath a stone flag path that provides access to the north side of the minster (Plate 1), its position was located using service plans and then pinpointed by the contractor using a CAT and Genny scanner. The cement joints between the flagstones were cut carefully using a masonry saw to prevent them being damage whilst they were lifted. A trench measuring 1.22m x 0.96m in plan was hand dug to a depth of 0.55m by contractors under archaeological observation (Figure 2; Plate 2). The stone and mortar build-up for the access path was kept separate from the cable trench backfill and the latter was used for reinstatement when the work on the cable was completed. Recording consisted of digital photographs, sketch drawings and notes.

RESULTS

The excavation revealed a concrete bed on which the stones were laid, a modern stone and mortar build-up deposit and the cable trench backfill and ducting (Figures 2 & 3). Part of a brick chamber associated with the drainage was also exposed (Plate 2; Figures 2 & 3). This structure continued beyond the east edge of the trench. No earlier deposits or in-situ archaeology was encountered; however, a small amount of pottery, fired clay tobacco pipe stems, and disarticulated human bone were recovered from the cable trench backfill.

CONCLUSIONS

All of the deposits were of a modern date, associated with services or the laying of the path. The cable trench dates approximately to the late 1970s/80s. In agreement with the church warden and the vicar, all bone was retained and reburied during reinstatement of the path. The cable trench fill was reused for reinstatement in case any smaller fragments of bone had not been identified during excavation. No other finds were retained.

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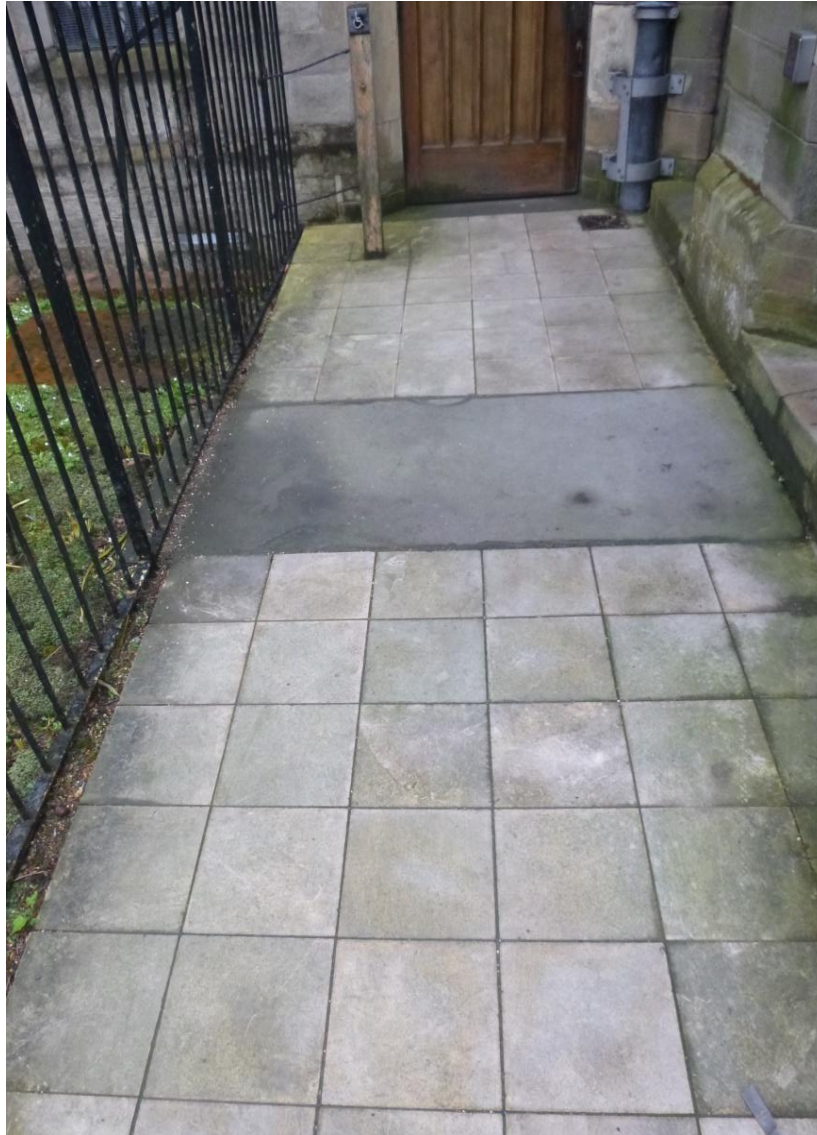


Plate 1 Pre-excavation shot of accessible path on the northern side of the Minster

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Plate 2 Post-excitation photograph of trench showing ducting and brick chamber (right). Scale: 0.5m

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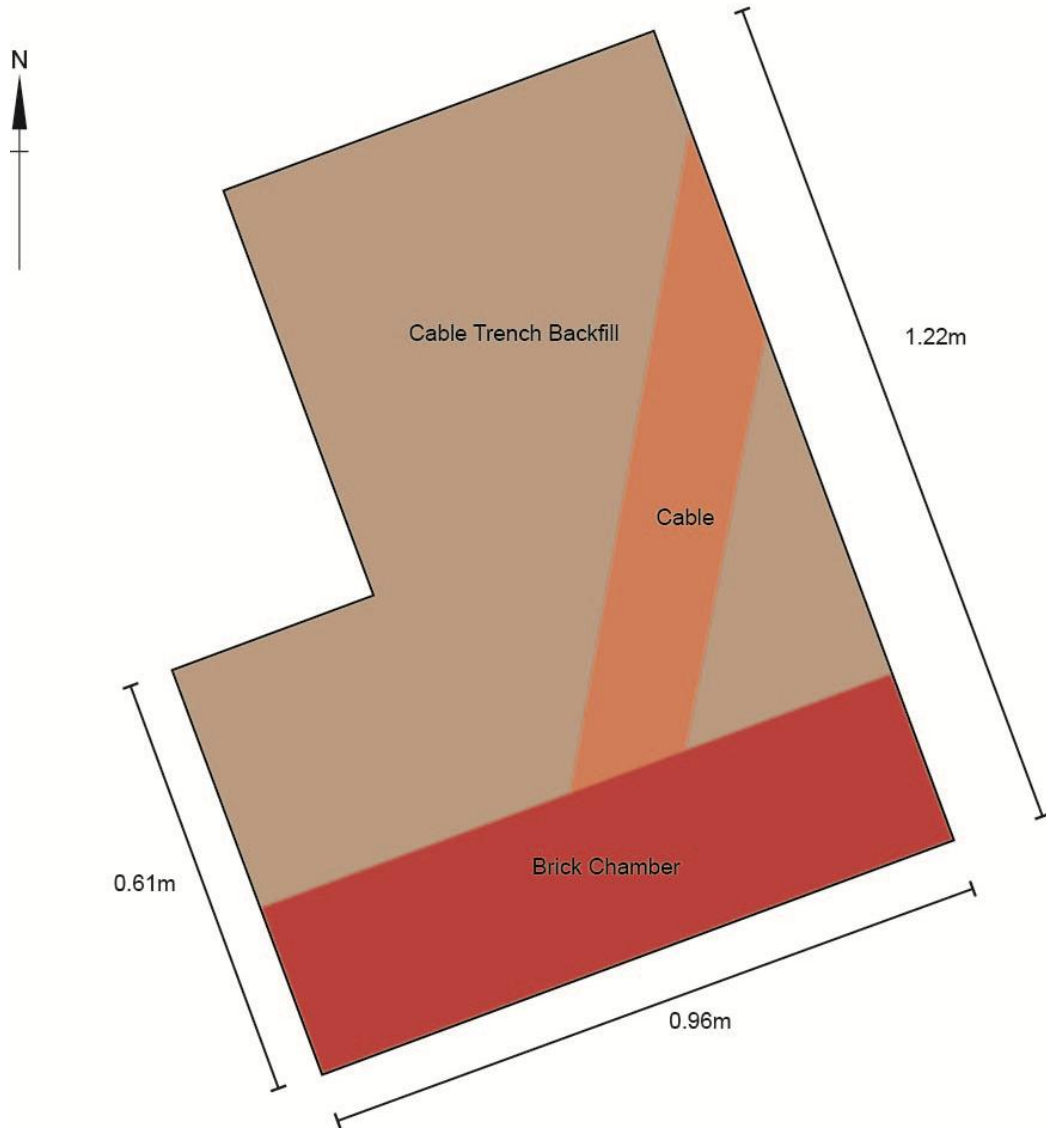


Figure 1 Trench plan (not to scale)

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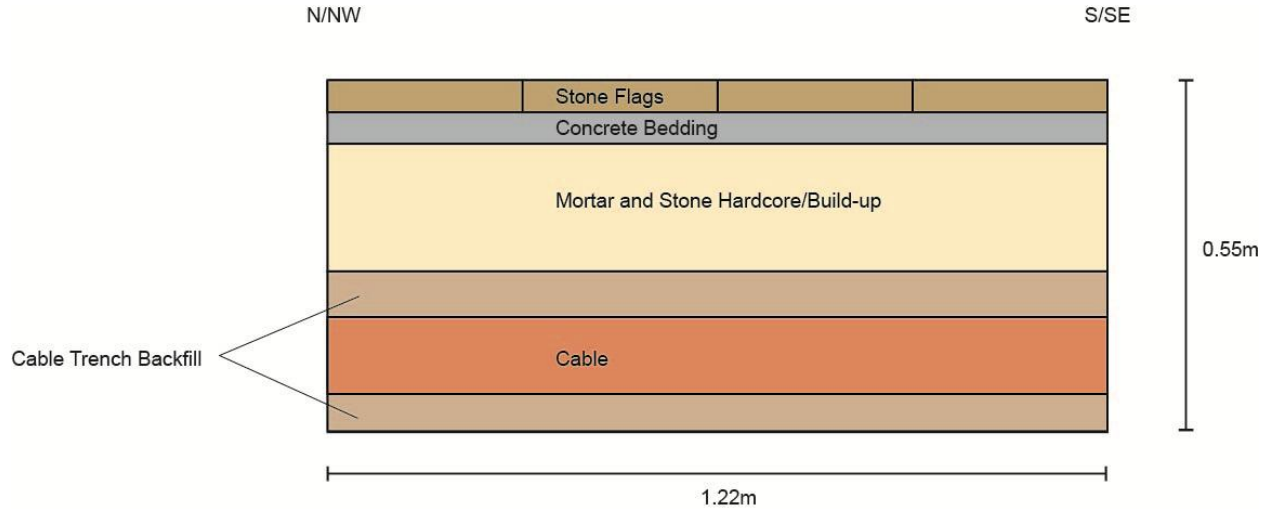


Figure 2 Trench section (not to scale)

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