



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

|                            |                             |                         |              |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>SITE</b>                | 79 Fulford Road, York       |                         |              |
| <b>CLIENT NAME</b>         | Michael Hammill             |                         |              |
| <b>YAT PROJECT #</b>       | 6062                        | <b>YAT REPORT #</b>     | 2018/110     |
| <b>MUSEUM ACCESSION #</b>  | N/A                         | <b>GRID REFERENCE</b>   | SE 6086 4984 |
| <b>PLANNING REFERENCES</b> | 17/02381/FUL : AOD/18/00239 | <b>AAI OPS NOTICE #</b> | N/A          |

## INTRODUCTION

A watching brief was carried out by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Michael Hammill between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August on ground works for the erection of block of six flats incorporating existing stone arches, conversion of coach houses to form 3no. dwellings to rear with associated parking and access from Howard Street at 79 Fulford Road, York, NGR SE 6086 4984 (Figure 1). An earlier version of this report was prepared under the planning reference number 17/02381/FUL but is here reissued under planning reference AOD/18/00239 due to resubmission of the planning application. The objective of the watching brief was to record any archaeological deposits or structures exposed by the ground works.

## METHODOLOGY

The ground works consisted of a concrete strip and foundation trenches. The first stage, the concrete strip, only disturbed 300mm of ground including some 200mm of concrete, and the foundation trenches were excavated to 700mm wide and to a depth ranging from 600mm to 1600mm below the concrete strip. Following a building inspection part way through the development some of the foundation trenches had to be made deeper due to concerns about nearby trees. All of these excavations were carried out using a rubber tracked mini digger and an archaeologist was present for all ground works. Some trenches were too deep and unstable for the archaeologists to safely enter and so recording was completed from the trench edges. Digital photographs and notes were taken throughout.

## RESULTS

During the removal of the concrete ground surface only 300mm of material was removed (Plate 1) and no archaeological deposits or features were observed. The first 200mm was either concrete, or concrete and former floor surfaces. The remaining 100mm was a rubble make up material consisting of brick, tile and plastic.

The excavation of the foundation trenches revealed more of this rubble ground make-up to approximately 400–900mm below the concrete. It was deepest in the trench that ran along the old garden wall at the north-east corner of the site. Below this construction deposit was a firm to friable clayey sand deposit with some colour variation from a mid orangey-yellowish brown to a dark bluish grey. Below this was a deposit that varied across the site from a firm mid orangey greyish brown clay to a soft, mid orangey brown slightly clayey sand. The sections of the foundation trenches corresponded across the site, with some variations in the depths of deposits depending on where the foundation trenches were (Plates 2 and 3). This was because some of the trenches followed the line of the original buildings' walls.

## CONCLUSIONS

The concrete strip revealed nothing of any antiquity or archaeological significance. The foundations reached natural geological deposits and whilst they exposed the full extent of the construction-

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| <b>FINDS</b>        | N/A      | <b>SAMPLES</b>    | N/A | <b>PHOTOS</b>   | 83            |
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related deposits associated with the former house and the subsoil below this, no archaeological deposits were encountered.



**Figure 1** Site Location at 1:1,000.

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**Plate 1** Post-excitation shot of the area after the concrete was stripped. Foundation trenches were excavated across this area

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**Plate 2** One of several foundation trenches, showing drainage and construction deposits associated with the old house. The natural is starting to appear at the bottom of the trench

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**Plate 3** Another foundation trench, this time at the south west of the site showing the darker variations in the subsoil and natural.

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