



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

SITE	15 Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe		
CLIENT NAME	Mr and Mrs Mackie		
YAT PROJECT #	6046	YAT REPORT #	2018/109
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	N/A	GRID REFERENCE	SE 56830 47534
PLANNING REFERENCE #	17/03069/FUL	AAI OPS NOTICE #	N/A

INTRODUCTION

A watching brief on ground works for a dwelling was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Mr and Mrs Mackie between 4th July and 1st August at land to the rear of 15 Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe, NGR SE 56830 47534 (Figure 1). 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 topsoil strip, piling and ground beam excavations. A YAT archaeologist attended before stone was laid and did not observe any deposits of interest.

The trenches for ground beams between the piles were initially observed. These trenches were machine excavated and were approximately 700mm deep and 600mm wide. A c.15cm X 10cm sized fragment of possible Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) was identified during trenching, which led to this stage of the watching brief being stopped. The possible ACM appeared to be cement board but this has not been confirmed. Digital photographs, measured sketches and notes were taken of these excavations. It was decided due to the clearly modern and potentially contaminated nature of the deposits encountered that no further observation was needed. This decision was supported by the result of extensive observations across the immediately adjacent development site on the land to the rear of 9–11 Tadcaster Road (YAT Report 2018/34). That development found similar results at a greater depth than the 15 Tadcaster Road development.

RESULTS

Much like the observations next door, excavations revealed nothing of significance. There was a 300mm deposit of stone which formed the piling mat, a further 100mm deep deposit of topsoil, and finally modern build up and dumping deposits for a further 300mm to the formation depth (Plate 1). These deposits contained modern brick, stone and tile rubble, and are likely no older than the surrounding properties (c.1950s). Nothing of archaeological importance was encountered, nor were the natural geological deposits.

CONCLUSIONS

Nothing of any antiquity or significance was encountered during this watching brief, and the natural geological deposits were not reached. As with the results of the watching brief at the adjacent site, 9–11 Tadcaster Road, all features appear to be contemporary with, or later than extant houses along Tadcaster Road. The deliberate build-up of the ground has been observed beyond the depth of intended work in this particular area. The results of this watching brief and the one at 9–11 Tadcaster Road, as well as observations from historic maps, all suggest that until the current developments the site has been unsuitable for any use besides as a dumping ground.

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FINDS	N/A	SAMPLES	N/A	PHOTOS	26
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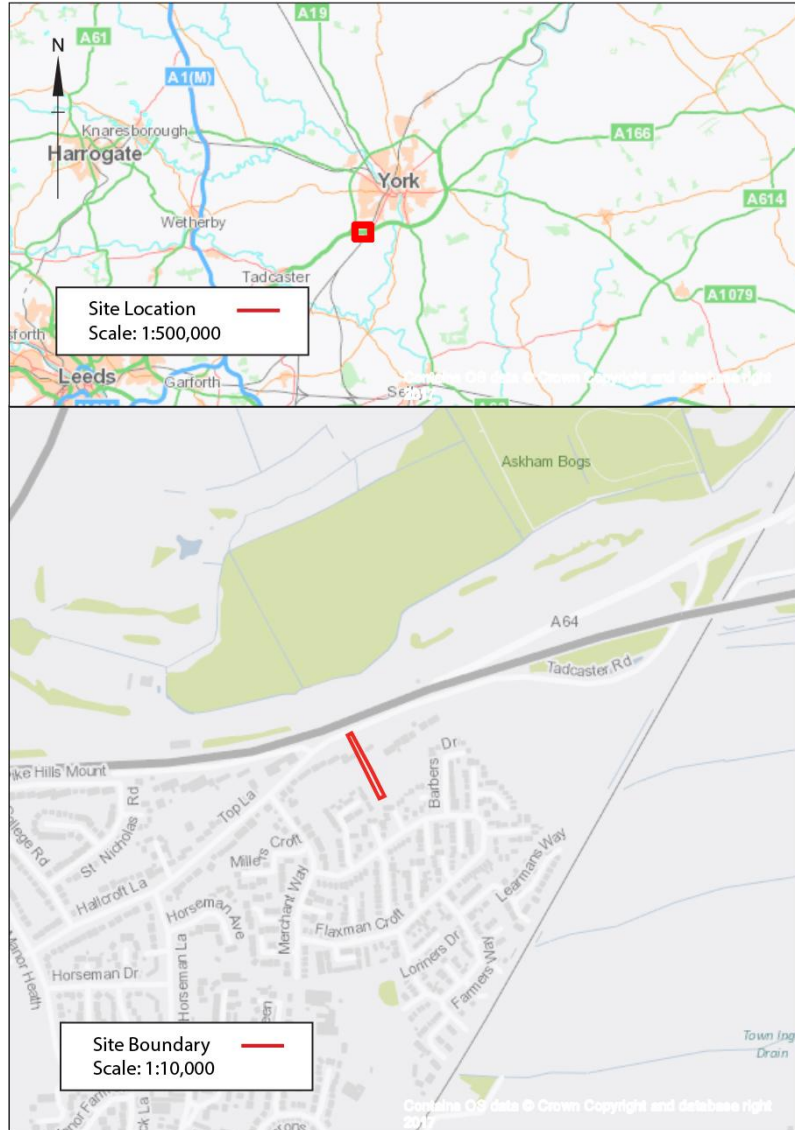


Figure 1 Site Location

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Plate 1 North facing section of ground beam trench showing pile mat, topsoil and make up with modern brick. Scale 500mm.

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