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Archaeological Evaluation at Land off Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding of Yorkshire

By George Loffman

YAT Evaluation Report 2019/41 March 2019



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Abbreviations

AOD	above ordnance datum
BGL	below ground level
CBM	ceramic based material
YAT	York Archaeological Trust

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Between the 26th February and the 1st March 2019 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) conducted an archaeological evaluation at Land off Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding of Yorkshire (SE 6437 2170).

The work was undertaken for Midland Construction Services in response to a condition applied by Humberside Archaeology Partnership (DC/18/03559/PLF). The work was based on a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by YAT. The works involved the excavation and recording of six evaluation trenches.

A number of undated ditches and pits were recorded during the evaluation. Due to their alignment, these are possibly associated with Iron Age/Romano-British field systems identified in aerial photography and geophysical survey. In addition medieval furrows, boundary ditch and a post medieval/modern trackway were found.

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name	Land off Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding of Yorkshire
YAT Project No.	6097
Document Number	2019/41
Type of Project	Evaluation
Client	Midland Construction Services
Planning Application No.	DC/18/03559/PLF
NGR	SE 6437 2170
Museum Accession No.	Pending
OASIS Identifier	yorkarch1-346777

REPORT INFORMATION

Version	Produced by		Edited by		Approved by	
	Initials	Date	Initials	Date	Initials	Date
V1	GL	26/03/19	IDM	27/03/19	IDM	27/03/19

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1 INTRODUCTION

Between the 26TH February and the 1st March 2019 YAT conducted an archaeological evaluation at Land off Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding of Yorkshire (SE 6437 2170) (Figure 1).

The work was undertaken for Midland Construction Services in response to a planning condition note from James Goodyear, Development Management Archaeologist for Humber Archaeology Partnership (DC/18/03559/PLF).

1.1 The following archaeological condition has been imposed:

“No development shall take place on site until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Should the...(geophysical survey)...indicate the presence of likely archaeological features, limited trial trenching would be recommended to determine the nature, extent and importance of any remains.

The results of these preliminary stages should enable the impact of the proposed development on any archaeological deposits to be fully assessed. An informed and reasonable decision can then be taken regarding the future treatment of the remains”.

Further comment by James Goodyear, Development Management Archaeologist of HAP includes:

“The recommendation for a programme of evaluation by trial trenching has been recommended because the application site lies within an area of medium to high archaeological potential. A geophysical survey of the application site has identified a number of likely features of Iron Age and/or Romano-British date. The evaluation will inform subsequent planning decisions, thereby allowing for suitable mitigation strategies to be incorporated into the scheme”.

A programme of geophysical survey was carried out by Magnitude Surveys on the 9th October 2018 (Magnitude Survey 2018). The results suggested the presence of possible or probable archaeological features, interpreted as an Iron Age/Romano-British field system.

This work was carried out to determine the nature, extent and importance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development.

The methodology followed a WSI produced by YAT (Appendix 3), the principles of the Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) and relevant standards and guidance.

2 METHODOLOGY

The methodology followed the WSI (Appendix 3).

The evaluation comprised the excavation of 4no 50m and 2no 25m trenches (Figure 2). These were placed to investigate geophysical anomalies and to provide sufficient coverage of the proposed development site.

No.	Size (m)	Rationale
1	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
2	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
3	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
4	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
5	25m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
6	25m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies

Trenches were located and features recorded using a Leica GPS unit. All measurements were accurate to +/-10cm, and trench locations are locatable on a 1:2000 Ordnance Survey map.

Trenches were excavated by a 13 tonne 360 excavator, equipped with a 1.8m toothless bucket.

All archaeological deposits were hand excavated and recorded as per the standard YAT single context recording system.

Finds were retrieved and bagged by individual context number.

The proposed development site has a public footpath running along the northern part of the site, and through the centre running north/south. Due to this trenches were opened and shut within the day, ensuring no open trenches were left overnight, in the interests of public safety.

3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

The site (centred on NGR SE 6437 2170) is 10.25 km to the south-west of Goole (Figure 1). The proposed development is located to the south of Snaith, on the western side of Butt Lane, which links to the village of West Cowick. It is bounded to the north and west by residential properties, to the east by Butt Lane and to the south by arable fields.

The underlying bedrock is Sherwood Sandstone, overlain with superficial geology of Lacustrine Beach deposits of gravel and sands (www.bgs.co.uk).

Ground level slopes north/south between 9.76m AOD and 7.34m AOD.

There is an overhead high voltage cable running north/south across the middle of the proposed development site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A desk based assessment has been carried out previously by ArcHeritage/YAT for the proposed development site (Stenton 2018). The results are summarised below.

Prehistoric and Roman

A geophysical survey identified linear and sub linear features, interpreted as remains of boundary ditches, enclosures and trackways of Iron Age/Romano British date (Magnitude Surveys 2018).

Further features have been identified within cropmarks, dating to Iron Age/ Romano British period. A linear feature was recorded by Historic England, orientated north-east/south-west, in the south-west part of the site (NMP Sheet SE62SW). Cropmarks have also been identified to the south and south-east of the site, as well as to the south-west. This indicates that the site was part of a wider agricultural landscape during this period.

Medieval

Snaith has origins within the early medieval period, its place name deriving from the Old Norse term 'sneith', meaning a detached piece of land.

A large area of ridge and furrow (MHU22386) is recorded to the east and north-east of the site. The site is also shown within Snaith Field at the time of the 1754 Snaith enclosure award. Medieval pottery has been recovered to the north-east of the site, possibly deposited to improve the fertility of the fields.

Butt Lane connects Snaith to West Cowick, and was likely to be the main medieval routeway between the villages. West Cowick was a site of pottery production during the later medieval period. The remains of kilns, pottery and wasters have been found at West Cowick.

Post medieval and Modern

The site remained agricultural during the medieval and early post-medieval periods, when it formed part of Snaith Field, an extensive area of commons. While the western part of the site was enclosed in 1781, it is not clear if the central and eastern areas remained commons or had been enclosed privately prior to that date. The site formed part of three fields throughout the 19th century, with various plots given over to arable or pasture.

The site remained agricultural land through the 19th and 20th Centuries.

5 RESULTS

The earliest deposit encountered were natural deposits encountered within all trenches. These consist of gravel and sand (Trench 1 -2), sand (Trench 2-6) and clay (Trench 6). Archaeological features were found cut into natural and below the subsoil. The subsoil, was approximately 0.06 - 0.15m in thickness. This was sealed by a topsoil deposit, approximately 0.15 – 0.35m in thickness.

5.1 Trench 1

A single narrow linear Context 1005 (fill Context 1004) was found running north/south (Plate 3). Context 1004 contained a single sherd of 14th Century pottery. The feature is most likely a plough furrow.

In the southern part of the trench a sub circular modern feature was found (Plate 4). This contained 19th-20th Century pottery (not retained).

5.2 Trench 2

Two linear features (Context 2005, Context 2009) were found, aligned north-east /south-west. These appear to correspond to the geophysical anomalies on the same alignment (see Figure 2). Both fills (Context 2004) and (Context 2008) were similar in composition, colour and contained moderate small rounded stones (Plate 7 & 9). No finds were recovered from these features.

Two sub circular features were also uncovered, Context 2007 and Context 2011. Only parts of these features were present within the boundaries of the trench, therefore their full extent is unknown. No finds were recovered from the fills. Context 2007 (Plate 8) is probably the base of a pit. Context 2011 (Plate 10 & 11) is possibly a ditch terminus that curves slightly to the south-east.

5.3 Trench 3

Context 3005 was a shallow linear aligned north/south, probably a furrow (Plate 14). The feature matches the agricultural furrow recorded during geophysical survey.

Context 3007 (fill 3006) was a ditch aligned north-north-east/south-south-west (Plate 15). Context 3006 contained a small sherd of Samian, a sherd of grey ware and a sherd of Anglo-Scandinavian Torksey ware. This is possibly a boundary ditch.

5.4 Trench 4

The earliest features within Trench 4 were ditches 4011 and 4013. Ditch 4011 was a shallow ditch/gully aligned north/south (Plate 21). Ditch 4013 is possibly part of the same ditch and is aligned north-east/south-west (Plate 22). No finds were recovered from these features. Both ditches are cut by ditch 4007.

Ditch 4007 (Plate 19) is aligned east/west and its position corresponds with a linear identified by the geophysics survey. The feature did not contain any finds.

The eastern side of ditch 4007 was cut by furrow 4005 (Plate 18). A further furrow 4009 (Plate 20), was found aligned north/south to the west. The furrows contained finds dating to the 14th – 15th Century and some residual Roman pottery.

A modern feature aligned north/south was found in the southern part of the trench (Plate 23).

5.5 Trench 5

The terminus of a ditch or gully (Context 5018) was found aligned north-east/south-west (Plate 30). No finds were recovered from the feature.

To the south-east of ditch was a sub circular pit, Context 5016 (Plate 29). The fill of the pit, Context 5015 contained inclusions of moderate small rounded stones. No finds were recovered from the feature.

A ditch/gully 5014 was aligned north-north-west/south-south-east (Plate 27). The feature had a bell shaped plan. A terminus, Context 5012 (Plate 26 & 28), was found to cut the southern part of ditch 5014. The ditch appeared to run north-east/south-west and turns to the south-east before terminating.

Contexts 5005, 5007 and 5009 were linears aligned north-east/south-west (Plate 25). They probably formed part of a trackway recorded in the geophysics survey. Late 13th-14th Century

pottery was recovered from the fills of 5005 and 5007. The fill of 5009 contained 19th – 20th Century pottery (not retained).

5.6 Trench 6

No archaeological features were recorded within Trench 6.

6 SUMMARY

The evaluation recorded three features that appear to correspond with the probable Iron Age/Romano-British field system identified by the geophysical survey (ditches 2005, 2009 and 4007). These features did not produce any finds, and are therefore undated.

In addition to these features were a number of ditches (2011, 4011, 4013, 5018, 5012 and 5014) and pits (2007 and 5016). These were undated. These can perhaps be grouped with the probable Iron Age/Romano British field system based upon orientation, similar fill composition and their lack of finds. Ditch features 4011, 4013 may represent an earlier phase of activity, as it was found to be cut by a ditch (4007) identified by the geophysics survey.

The evidence from the evaluation does suggest that at least parts of the projected Iron Age/Romano-British field systems are present within the development site. This is with the caveat that the lack of finds prevents any definitive interpretation of date.

Medieval activity was identified in the form of furrows and a possible boundary ditch. This seems to support the evidence that the proposed development site was largely arable fields from the medieval period. The medieval features are orientated broadly north/south, in contrast to the north-east/south-west orientation of the undated features described above.

The evaluation did not record any evidence for medieval activity on the eastern side of the proposed development, connected to the pottery works at West Cowick.

LIST OF SOURCES

www.bgs.ac.uk/ British Geological Survey accessed on 25/03/2019.

Historic England: NMP Sheets SE 62SE.

REFERENCES

Magnitude Surveys Ltd., 2018. *A Geophysical Survey of Land Off Butt Lane, Snaith*. Unpublished Magnitude Surveys Ltd report.

Stenton, M., 2018. *Land at Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding Desk-based Assessment*. ArchHeritage unpublished report, 2018/71.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

YAT would like to thank the landowner for allowing access to the site.

APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE

Item	Number of items
Context sheets	60
Levels register	0
Photographic register	0
Sample register	0
Drawing register	1
Original drawings	20
B/W photographs (films/contact sheets)	0
Colour slides (films)	0
Digital photographs	216
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

Table 1 Index to archive

APPENDIX 2 – CONTEXT LIST

Trench	Context	Description
1	1000	Unstratified.
	1001	Topsoil. Friable, mid to dark brownish grey, silty clayey sand. Occasional to moderate small rounded stones.
	1002	Subsoil. Friable, light to mid yellowish brown, slightly clayey sand. Frequent small to medium sized rounded stones.
	1003	Natural. Friable, light orangey brown with yellowish brown and dark brown mottling, slightly clayey sand. Frequent small to medium rounded stones.
	1004	Backfill of 1005. Friable, dark greyish brown, sandy silt. Frequent small rounded and angular stones. Fill of [1005]. 1 pottery fragment.
	1005	Plough furrow cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NW – SE, sharp break of slope at surface, steep sides, sharp break of slope at base, flat base. Length 3m, width 0.69m, depth 0.26m. Contains 1004.
2	2000	Unstratified.
	2001	Topsoil. Soft to loose friable, dark brownish grey, silty clay. Moderate small rounded stones.
	2002	Subsoil. Soft to friable, mid orangey brownish grey, silty sandy clay. Moderate gravel. Frequent small rounded stones.
	2003	Natural. Soft to friable, orangey grey mottling, clayey sand. Occasional patches of gravel.
	2004	Ditch backfill. Friable to loose, mid to dark, mottled grey brown with orange, silty sand. Frequent gravels and small sub angular stones. Very Occasional flecks of charcoal. Fill of [2005].
	2005	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE-SW, slight break of slope at top, moderately sloping sides, U shaped base. Length 1m, width 1.10m, depth 0.14m. Contains 2004.
	2006	Pit Backfill. Soft, mid greenish greyish brown, silty sand. Frequent small and medium sized rounded stones. Fill of [2007].
	2007	Pit Cut. Sub circular shape in plan. Sharp break of slope at surface, gentle sides, gentle break of slope at base, flat base that rises slightly at NE side. Length 1.55m, width 1m, depth 0.13m. Contains 2006.
	2008	Ditch backfill. Loose to friable, mid greyish brown, sandy silt. Moderate small sub rounded stones. Occasional flecks of charcoal. Fill of [2009].
	2009	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE-SW, moderate break of slope at the top, moderately sloping edges, NW edge slightly stepped, irregular to moderate break of slopes at base, irregular concave base. Length 1m, width 2.10m, depth 0.34m. Contains 2008.
	2010	Ditch terminus backfill. Soft to Friable, mid to dark greyish brown, silty sand. Moderate charcoal flecks and small fragments, small sub angular and rounded stones. Fill of [2011].
2011	Ditch terminus cut. Sub circular shape in plan, curving from SW to SE, sharp break of slope at top, steep sides, moderate to sharp break of slope at surface, uneven base. Length 1.50m, width 1.35m, depth 0.36m. Contains 2010.	
3	3000	Unstratified.
	3001	Topsoil. Friable, mid to dark brownish grey, clayey sand. Occasional small sub rounded stones.

Trench	Context	Description
	3002	Subsoil. Friable, mid brown, clayey sand. Occasional small sub rounded stones and CBM flecks. Contains medieval pottery.
	3003	Natural. Firm to friable, light yellow and mottled orange, clayey sand. Occasional small stones.
	3004	Furrow backfill. Soft, dark greyish brown, silty sand. Occasional small rounded and sub angular stones, flecks of charcoal. Fill of [3005].
	3005	Furrow Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NNE – SSW, gentle break of slope at surface, gently sloping sides, gentle to no break of slope at base, slightly concave base. Length 1.80m, width 1.22m, depth 0.15m. Contains 3004.
	3006	Ditch backfill. Soft to friable, mid brownish grey mottled, sandy silt. Moderate small to medium sized sub angular stones and rounded pebbles, larger stones towards base. Occasional flecks of CBM, charcoal, and manganese. Fill of [3006]. Pottery and CBM recovered.
	3007	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NNE – SSW, moderate break of slope at top, gentle sloping sides, eastern edge slightly steeper, slight break of slope at base, flat base. Length 2.4m, width 1.34m, depth 0.28m. Contains 3008.
4	4000	Unstratified.
	4001	Topsoil. Loose to friable, dark greyish brown, clayey silt. Moderate small angular and rounded stones.
	4002	Subsoil. Firm to friable, dark brownish grey, silty clay. Occasional small stones.
	4003	Natural. Firm to friable, mid to light yellowish orangey brown, sandy clay at NE, becoming gravellier and sandy at SE end. Mottled lenses of dark orangey brown sand and reddish brown, sandy clay. Moderate to frequent gravel and small to medium stones, moderate flecks of manganese, bands and lenses of sand and clay.
	4004	Furrow backfill. Firm to friable, mid greyish brown, slightly silty clayey sand. Moderate flecks and small fragments charcoal. Occasional small rounded stones. Fill of [4005]. Contemporary to furrow [4009]. Medieval green glazed pottery recovered.
	4005	Furrow Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, gentle break of slope at surface, very gently sloping sides, indiscernible break of slope at base, slightly uneven, concave base. Length 2.30m, width 1.33m, depth 0.08m. Contains 4004.
	4006	Ditch backfill. Light to mid, orangey brown silty clayey sand. Moderate medium sized sub angular stones and pebbles. Occasional charcoal. Fill of [4007].
	4007	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NW – SE, gradual break of slope of NE, steeper to SW, moderate sloping side to NE, steep sides to SW, concave slightly V shaped base. Length 3.30m, width 1m, depth 0.27m. Contains 4006.
	4008	Furrow backfill. Friable, mid greyish brown, clayey silt. Occasional charcoal, small rounded stones. Fill of [4009]. Pottery recovered.
	4009	Furrow cut. Linear shape in plan, SW – NE, alignment, gradual break of slope at top, slightly sloping sides, irregular concave base. Contains 4008.
	4010	Ditch or Gully backfill. Firm to friable, mid brownish grey, silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks, small rounded stones. Fill of [4011].
	4011	Ditch or Gully Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, moderate

Trench	Context	Description
		break of slope at surface, gently sloping sides, gentle break of slope at base, flat base. Length 1.50m, width 0.61m, depth 0.05m. Contains 4010.
	4012	Ditch backfill. Friable, mid grey brown, silty clay. Occasional small angular stones, charcoal flecks. Fill of [4013].
	4013	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, moderately break of slope at top, gradually sloping sides, wide U shaped base, diffuse to the SW end. Length 0.85m, width 0.72m, depth 0.16m. Truncated to SW by ditch [4007]. Contains 4012.
5	5000	Unstratified.
	5001	Topsoil. Loose to friable, dark greyish brown, clayey silt. Moderate small angular and rounded stones.
	5002	Subsoil. Firm to friable, dark brownish grey, silty clay. Occasional small stones.
	5003	Natural. Firm to friable, mid to light yellowish orangey brown, sandy clay at NE, becoming gravellier and sandy at SE end. Mottled lenses of dark orangey brown sand and reddish brown, sandy clay. Moderate to frequent gravel and small to medium stones, moderate flecks of manganese, bands and lenses of sand and clay.
	5004	Ditch backfill. Firm to friable, mid orangey brown mottled with lenses of natural silty clay. Moderate charcoal flecks, small rounded stones. Fill of [5005]. Glazed medieval pottery recovered.
	5005	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, moderate break of slope at top, very gradual sloping sides, flat base. Length 2.5m, width 1.62m, depth 0.07m. Contains 5004.
	5006	Ditch backfill. Firm to friable, mid orangey brown mottled with lenses of natural silty clay. Moderate charcoal flecks, small rounded stones. Fill of [5007]. Pottery recovered.
	5007	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, gradual break of slope at top, moderately, gentle sloping sides, flat base. Length 2.5m, width 1.80m, depth 0.06m. Contains 5006.
	5008	Ditch backfill. Firm to friable, dark brownish grey with orange, brown natural silty clay. Frequent small stones. Moderate charcoal flecks and CBM fragments. Fill of [5009]. Contains 19 th – 20 th Century pottery.
	5009	Ditch Cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, moderate break of slope at top, gradual sloping side to SW, moderately undulating side to NW, undulating U shaped base. Length 2.5m, width 0.92m, depth 0.12m. Contains 5008.
	5010	Ditch terminus backfill. Firm to friable, light to mid orangey brownish grey, silty sand. Moderate charcoal flecks. Occasional small to medium sized stones. Fill of [5012].
	5011	Ditch backfill. Firm to friable, light to mid orangey brownish grey, silty sand. Moderate charcoal flecks. Occasional small to medium sized stones. Fill of [5012].
	5012	Terminus ditch cut. Curvilinear shape in plan, aligned NE – SW turning SE. Sharp break of slope at top, moderately steep sides, moderately gradual to base in section 16 with undulating, more U shaped base to NE, Steep to base in section 17, with flat base. Length 2.20m, width 1.22m, depth 0.16m. Contains 5010 and 5011.
	5013	Ditch backfill. Friable, mid orangey brown with dark red brown mottling, silty sand. Occasional flecks of charcoal. Fill of [5014].

Trench	Context	Description
	5014	Ditch Cut. Irregular shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, sharp break of slope at top, steep sides onto U shaped base. Length 0.60m, width 1.50m, depth 0.20m. Truncated by [5012] to the NE. Contains 5013.
	5015	Pit backfill. Friable, mid grey brown, silty sand. Frequent small to medium stones. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of [5016].
	5016	Pit cut. Oval shape in plan, aligned NE – SW, sharp break of slope at top, steep vertical stepped side to the SW, more gradually undulating to U shaped base at NE side. Length 1.50m, width 2.50m, depth 0.26m. Contains 5015.
	5017	Ditch Backfill. Friable, mid grey brown, silty sand. Moderate small stones. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of [5018].
	5018	Ditch terminus cut. Linear shape in plan, aligned E – W, moderate break of slope at top, moderately sloping sides, U shaped base. Length 1.00m, width 0.60m, depth 0.20m. Contains 5017.
6	6000	Unstratified.
	6001	Topsoil. Friable, mid brown grey, clayey silt. Occasional charcoal flecks, CBM flecks.
	6002	Subsoil. Friable, mid grey, brown, clayey silt. Occasional charcoal flecks.
	6003	Natural. Firm, mid yellow brown, slightly clayey sand to the SW, with iron pan and occasional small rounded stones. Firm, mid brown orange, sandy clay with occasional small rounded stones.

Table 2 Context list

APPENDIX 3 – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY

Midland Construction Services have received planning consent for the erection of 43 dwellings at Butt Lane, Snaith, East Riding of Yorkshire (SE 6437 2170). The scheme will include associated infrastructure.

The following archaeological condition has been imposed:

No development shall take place on site until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

The written scheme of investigation shall provide for:

- i) The proper identification and evaluation of the extent, character and significance of archaeological remains
- ii) An assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological remains
- iii) Proposals for the preservation in situ, or for the investigation, recording and recovery of archaeological remains and the publishing of findings, it being understood that there shall be a presumption in favour of their preservation in situ wherever feasible
- iv) Sufficient notification and allowance of time to archaeological contractors nominated by the developer to ensure that archaeological fieldwork as proposed in pursuance of (i) and (iii) above is completed prior to commencement of permitted development in the area of archaeological interest and
- v) Notification in writing to the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership (HAP) of the commencement of archaeological works and the opportunity to monitor such works.

Should the...(geophysical survey)...indicate the presence of likely archaeological features, limited trial trenching would be recommended to determine the nature, extent and importance of any remains.

The results of these preliminary stages should enable the impact of the proposed development on any archaeological deposits to be fully assessed. An informed and reasonable decision can then be taken regarding the future treatment of the remains.

Should the evaluation show that the site contains significant archaeological remains, mitigation measures should be explored to achieve physical or in-situ preservation of those remains. If destruction is unavoidable, detailed excavation of selected areas, followed by post-excavation analysis and publication of results, should take place in order to achieve preservation by record.

All archaeological site work...must be undertaken by an archaeological contractor, who is acceptable to the Local Planning Authority, after consultation with their archaeological advisor.

Further comment by James Goodyear, Development Management Archaeologist of HAP includes:

The recommendation for a programme of evaluation by trial trenching has been recommended because the application site lies within an area of medium to high archaeological potential. A geophysical survey of the application site has identified a number of likely features of Iron Age and/or Romano-British date. The evaluation will inform subsequent planning decisions, thereby allowing for suitable mitigation strategies to be incorporated into the scheme.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared in response to the above condition. The work will be carried out in accordance with the archaeological condition and this WSI, and according to the principles of the Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Code of Conduct and all relevant standards and guidance.

2 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

2.1 The proposal site is located at land to the west of Butt Lane, on the southern edge of Snaith, close to West Cowick (Figure 1). It is bounded to the north and west by the rear gardens of domestic houses, to the south by an arable field and by a mature hedge and Butt Lane itself to the east. The site comprises two arable fields divided by a path.

2.2 The underlying geology is Sherwood Sandstone, overlain by Lacustrine Beach deposits sand and gravel (BGS). Ground level slopes gently up from Butt Lane, but is generally level.

3 DESIGNATIONS & CONSTRAINTS

3.1 The site does not lie within the Snaith Conservation Area nor contain any designated or undated heritage assets.

3.2 An overhead 11,000kv electricity line cross the eastern part of the proposed development site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

4.1 The Desk Based Assessment report (Stenton, 2018) concluded that the site formed part of a wider agricultural landscape in the Iron Age/Roman periods. Crop marks are visible within the site on 21st century aerial photographs, with similar features visible in the results of a recent geophysical survey (Kesterton & Nelson, 2018). Several linear magnetic anomalies were detected across the site, which were suggested could relate to an Iron Age or Romano-British field system. The overall orientation of the features was not respected by the ploughing trends or current field boundaries and therefore supports the idea that they are of earlier origin. These features could comprise of enclosures, trackways and boundary ditches similar to those recorded to the south and south-west of the site.

4.2 The site remained agricultural during the medieval and early post-medieval periods, when it formed part of Snaith Field, an extensive area of commons. While the western part of the site was enclosed in 1781, it is not clear if the central and eastern areas remained

commons or had been enclosed privately prior to that date. The site formed part of three fields throughout the 19th century, with various plots given over to arable or pasture.

4.3 Butt Lane connects Snaith to West Cowick and is likely to have been the main route between the villages through the medieval period (Stenton, 2018). West Cowick was a major pottery production centre throughout this period (Goodyear, Planning Advice) and remains of kilns, pottery and wasters have been found around 300m to the south-east of the site (MHU1328; MHU5605; MHU5622). To the north-west of the site a programme of archaeological work also recovered a number of medieval to post-medieval finds, including a harness pendant, weights, a spoon, a hooked tag and pottery (Goodyear, Planning Advice).

4.4 The land remained in agricultural use throughout the 20th and 21st century.

5 AIMS

5.1 The aims of the evaluation are:

- to determine the extent, condition, character, importance and date of any archaeological remains present
- an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological remains
- 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

6 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

6.1 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.

6.2 A series of 4no 50m and 2no 25m trenches will be excavated. The location of the trenches is shown on Figure 2. Trenches will be stepped if necessary, to ensure their stated size at the base of the trench.

No.	Size (m)	Rationale
1	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
2	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
3	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
4	50m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies
5	25m x 2m	To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies

6 25m x 2m To investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies

6.3 The trench locations will be accurately plotted by GPS. 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.

6.4 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 Humber Archaeology Partnership.

6.5 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.

6.6 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.

7 RECORDING METHODOLOGY FOR EXCAVATION

7.1 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.

7.2 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.

7.3 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.

7.4 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 digital photographs. All site photography will adhere to accepted photographic record guidelines.

7.5 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.

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

7.7 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.

7.8 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.

7.9 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 James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP 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.

7.10 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).

8 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT

8.1 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.

8.2 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).

8.3 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.

8.4 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 James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP.

9 REPORT & ARCHIVE PREPARATION

9.1 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

9.2 Copies of the report will be submitted to the commissioning body. A digital copy of the report will be submitted direct to Humber Archaeology Partnership for planning purposes, and subsequently for inclusion into the HER.

9.3 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 appropriate 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.

9.4 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.

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

10 POST EXCAVATION ANALYSIS & PUBLICATION

10.1 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.

10.2 If further archaeological investigations (mitigation) take place, any further analyses (as recommended by the specialists, and following agreement with James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP) 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.

10.3 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 James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP. Where this is required, this work will be a new piece of work to be commissioned.

10.4 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.

11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

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

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

12 PRE-START REQUIREMENTS

12.1 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.

12.2 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.

12.3 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.

13 REINSTATEMENT

13.1 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.

14 TIMETABLE & STAFFING

14.1 The timetable will be as agreed with the client

14.2 Specialist staff available for this work are as follows:

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

15 MONITORING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

15.1 As a minimum requirement, James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP 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 James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP 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 James Goodyear, Development Manager Archaeologist, HAP.

15.2 With the client's agreement illustrated notices will be displayed on site to explain the nature of the works.

16 COPYRIGHT

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For the latest Historic England guidance documents see:

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

APPENDIX 4 – THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

BY J.M. MCCOMISH

Three sherds were examined. Two from C5008 weighed 2g and 1g respectively, while the third sherd from C3006 weighed 3g. All three fragments were abraded and no original surfaces survived. It was impossible, given the size of the sherds, to determine the original form or date. The sherds offered no potential for further research and were discarded.

APPENDIX 5 – THE POTTERY

BY A. JENNER

Introduction

Excavations at Butt Lane, Snaith, produced 39 sherds of mainly medieval pottery from six contexts. These wares were most probably produced locally at West Cowick and perhaps Beverley. The assemblage is too small to be of any further significance.

Discussion

The only medieval ware types are those made in the Humber and East Yorkshire areas. This is hardly surprising as the nearest pottery kilns that produced Humber type wares are located at West Cowick (see Johnson, 1999), though two sherds may have come from the kilns at Beverley (see Watkins 1987).

One sherd of a Grey ware, which resembles the Lincolnshire Torksey type wares, is most probably an Anglo-Scandinavian type. Torksey wares are noted in York from the late 9th to early 11th century, but are most common in the 10th century (Mainman 1990, 426-7). There are no other sherds of this date.

A small amount of Roman pottery includes small sherds of Samian and Grey ware. The former is very abraded. This suggests that it is residual. (There is no apparent intrusion).

Sherds range in size from small (<5cms) to large >10cms, measured at the widest point. They are mostly small. Their size and level of abrasion may suggest that they have been spread on the fields either to break up the clay or aid drainage.

The reduction, kiss marks and glaze over the broken tile edge may suggest that it emanated from the nearby kiln site at West Cowick. Despite this, there are no obvious wasters amongst the assemblage.

Further work

No further work is recommended.

Context	Find	Quantity	Dating	Details
1004	BF1	1	14TH CENTURY	1 Humber ware small sherd
3002	BF2	4	LATE 14TH CENTURY+	1 Purple Glazed moderately gritted oxidised medium sized sherd with bimodal matrix, 2 Oxidised fine sandy Beverley type ware rim with greenish brown patchy glaze small sherds join abraded, 1 Oxidised fine sandy ware with green brown matt glaze very small sherd.
3006	BF3	3	ANGLO-SCANDINAVIAN	1 Samian small sherd very abraded, 1 Roman Grey ware small, 1 Torksey type Grey ware small sherd.
4004	BF4	1	14TH/15TH CENTURY	1 Humber ware glazed inside medium sherd slightly abraded.
4008	BF5	7	LATE 14TH CENTURY	4 Humber oxidised type scraps, 1 Purple glazed reduced ware small sherd, 1 Roman Grey ware very small, 1 Roman coarse ware small abraded.
5004	BF6	17	14TH CENTURY	14 Humber ware including a strap handle with central groove small to large sherds.
5006	BF7	6	LATE 13TH/14TH CENTURY	6 Humber ware including rilled green glazed jug neck small, tile with glaze over broken edge, matt purple glazed with kiss mark, small, oxidised unglazed sherd medium, oxidised unglazed small sherd and one with reduced surfaces including rough area very small.l

Table 3 Pottery quantification

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PLATES



Plate 1 Trench 1, looking north-east. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 2 Trench 1 representative section, facing south-east. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 3 Context 1005, looking south. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 4 Modern feature in Trench 1, looking south-west. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 5 Trench 2, looking south east. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 6 Trench 2 representative section, facing north-east. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.5m.



Plate 7 Ditch 2005, facing south-west. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 8 Pit 2007, looking north-west. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 9 Ditch 2009, looking south-west. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.2m.



Plate 10 Terminus/ditch 2011, looking south-west. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.5m.



Plate 11 Terminus/ditch 2011, looking south-west. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 12 Trench 3, looking east. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 13 Trench 3 representative section, facing north. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.5m.



Plate 14 furrow 3005, looking north. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 15 Ditch 3007, looking south. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.2m.



Plate 16 Trench 4, looking south-east. Scale unit 1.0m.

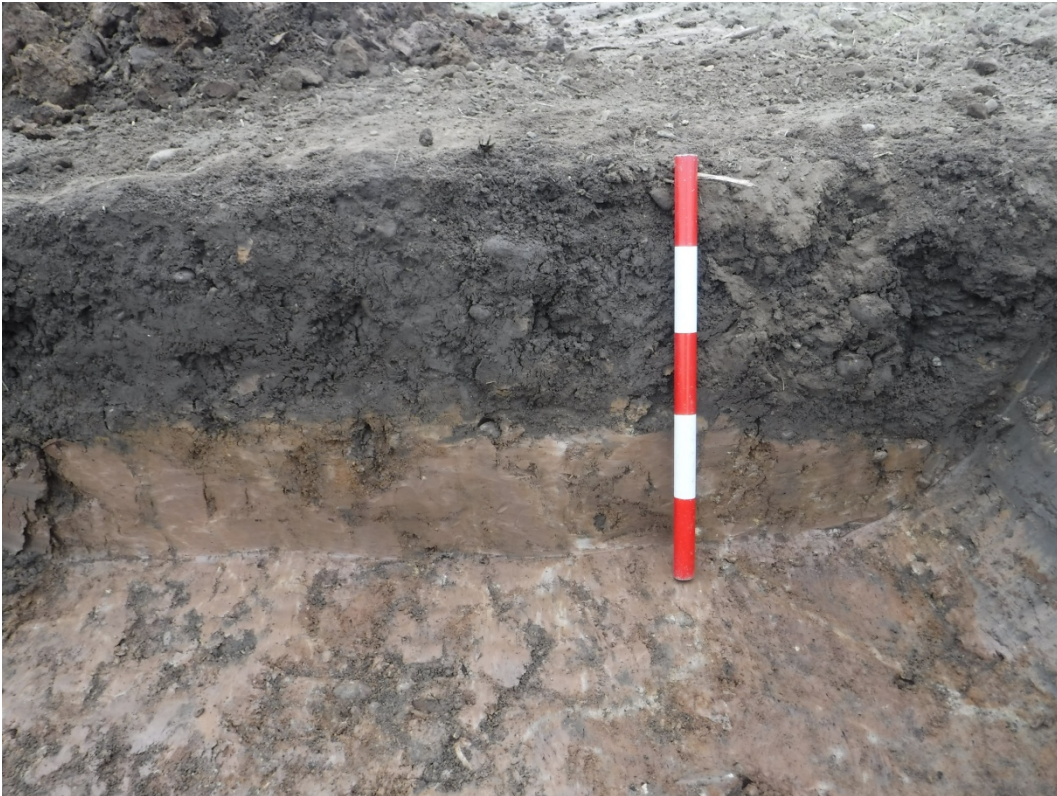


Plate 17 Trench 4 representative section, facing north-east. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 18 Furrow 4005, looking north. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 19 Ditch 4007, looking east. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.2m.



Plate 20 Furrow 4009, looking north. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 21 Ditch 4011, facing south-west. Scale unit 0.5m.

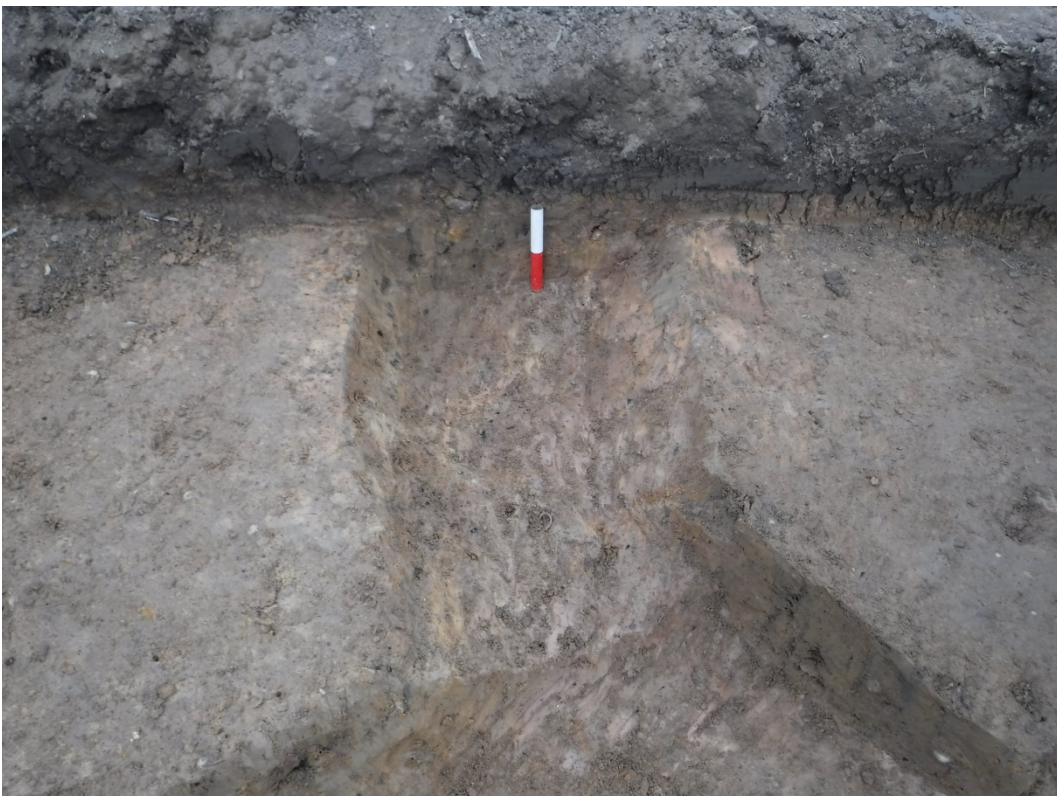


Plate 22 Ditch 4013, looking north-east. Scale unit 0.2m.



Plate 23 Trench 4 modern feature, looking south. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 24 Trench 5, looking south-east. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 25 Trackway 5005, 5007, 5009, looking north-east. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 26 Ditch terminus 5012, looking north-west. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 27 Ditch/gully 5014, looking south-east. Scale unit 0.2m.



Plate 28 Ditch terminus 5012 and ditch/gully 5014, looking north-east. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 29 Pit 5016, looking north-west. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.2m.



Plate 30 Gully 5018, looking south-west. Scale unit 0.5m.



Plate 31 Trench 6, looking south-west. Scale unit 1.0m.



Plate 32 Trench 6 representative section, looking south-east. Scale unit 1.0m and 0.5m.

FIGURES

Figure 1 Site location.

Figure 2 Trench locations overlain on geophysics survey.

Figure 3 Trench 1 Plan and Section 7.

Figure 4 Trench 2 Plan and Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Figure 5 Trench 3 Plan and Sections 5 and 6.

Figure 6 Trench 4 Plan and Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Figure 7 Trench 5 Plan and Sections 13 - 20.



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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