



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

<b>SITE</b>	27 Bootham Row Watching Brief		
<b>CLIENT NAME</b>	Lindum Ltd.		
<b>YAT PROJECT #</b>	6069	<b>YAT REPORT #</b>	2018/171
<b>MUSEUM ACCESSION #</b>	N/A	<b>GRID REFERENCE</b>	SE 60081 52340
<b>PLANNING REFERENCE #</b>	18/00376/FULM	<b>AAI OPS NOTICE #</b>	N/A

## INTRODUCTION

A watching brief on ground works relating to the re-routing of drainage and the construction of a wall was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of Lindum Group Ltd. on the 15th October 2018 at 27 Bootham Row, York, NGR SE 60081 52340 (Figure 1). The objective of the watching brief was to record any archaeological deposits or structures exposed by the ground works. These ground works involved the excavation of a wall foundation trench into which piles to support the wall were to be driven. Excavation here was intended to be approximately 1.0m deep. The position of the wall foundation trench required re-positioning of an existing inspection chamber and associated drains.

## METHODOLOGY

Within an area measuring approximately 7.5 north-west/south-east and 2m north-east/south-west ground reduction was carried out by use of a 2.5 tonne rubber tracked excavator utilising a 0.6m wide ditching bucket (Plate 1).

In the first instance the line of existing drainage and an associated inspection chamber (see Figure 2) was exposed, with the result of reducing ground level by approximately 0.5m across the majority of the watching brief area. Next excavation was carried out to remove the north-west/south-east aligned drain run in order to facilitate re-routing (Plate 2). This involved digging out the existing concrete encased drain, a depth of 0.70m Below Ground Level (BGL) at the south-east end and 1.2m BGL at the north-west end, further excavation was carried out around the inspection chamber. Excavation for a new drain and inspection chamber was then carried out to join into the remaining north-east/south-west aligned section of drain. This involved digging an approximately 1.0m wide corridor to the south-east of the existing north-east/south-west aligned drain and the existing inspection chamber to a depth of 1.2m BGL.

Following the re-routing of the drain and inspection chamber a foundation trench, measuring c.7.5m x 0.75m and c.1.0m deep, was excavated for the foundation of a new wall (see Figure 2). This phase of work was undertaken on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 and unfortunately was not carried out under archaeological supervision.

## RESULTS

The existing drains and inspection chamber had created extensive disturbance to a depth of at least 0.70m BGL and continued to be evident where depths of up to 1.2m BGL were reached. No in situ undisturbed deposits were observed.

Excavation of the new north-west/south-east aligned drain trench did however expose part of a brick built structure in the north-east facing section which appeared to extend under the rear of 27 Bootham (Figure 2 and Plate 3). This structure comprised of a red brick wall aligned north-west/south-east which was exposed to a height of 9 courses, It was seen to return 90° at a point close to the north end of the bay present at the rear of 27 Bootham (Plate 3).

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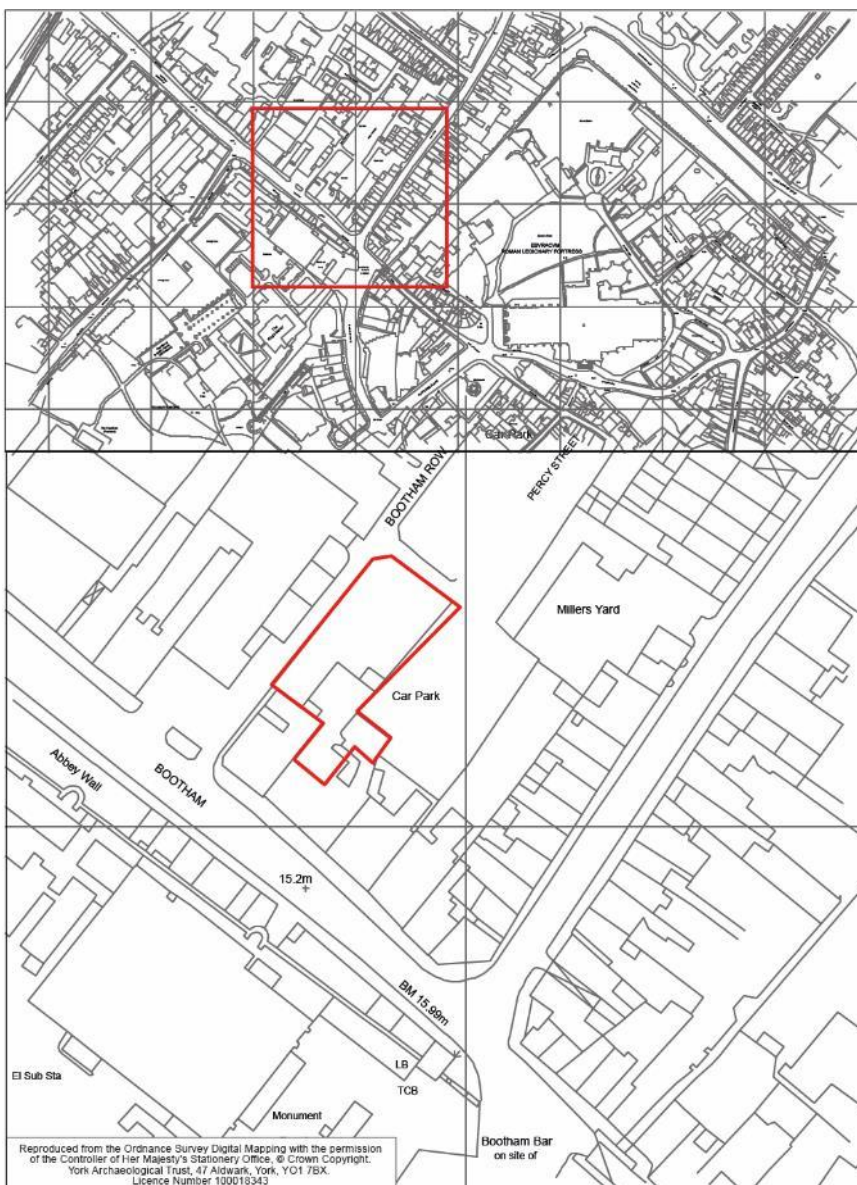


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## CONCLUSIONS

Where archaeological monitoring was carried out no deposits, features or structures of archaeological significance were observed. The extensive disturbance relating to the existing/former drainage suggests that it is unlikely that the current ground works resulted in the disturbance of any significant archaeological deposits, indeed where monitoring was carried out the deposits and structures observed appeared to be late post-medieval and/or modern in date.



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Figure 1 Site

location

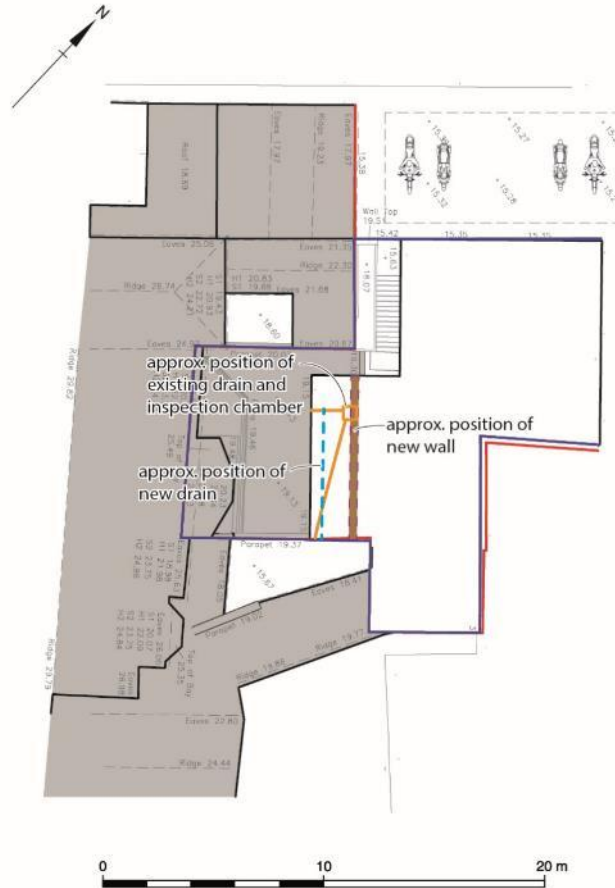


Fig. 2 Watching Brief works location (based in DC-architecture drawing no. 005)

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Figure 2 Works location

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Plate 1 Clearance work exposing the existing inspection chamber and concrete encased drains, looking SW

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Plate 2 Buried wall exposed in NW facing side of trench excavated from new drain run, looking N

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Plate 3 Detail of buried wall and loose material built up against it, viewed from the NE, 0.1m scale units

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Plate 4 General view of Watching Brief at the rear of 27 Bootham area from the east

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