



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

SITE	Peckitt Street, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Power Grid		
YAT PROJECT #	6009	YAT REPORT #	2017/99
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	NA	GRID REFERENCE	SE 603515
PLANNING REFERENCE #	NA	AAI OPS NOTICE #	17020

Introduction

On the 23/10/17 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) undertook a watching brief under an Area of Archaeological Importance Operations Notice (AAI OPS) on the footpath outside the Former Fire Station, Clifford Street, York, YO1 9RJ, SE 603515 (Figure 1). The work involved the installation of a temporary site electrical supply to the construction site (YAT Project number 5905).



Figure1: Site location, scale1:500 © OS Map data 2000

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FINDS	NA	SAMPLES	NA	PHOTOS	3
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Registered Charity in England & Wales (509060) & Scotland (SCO42846)



Registered Office:
47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX
Tel: 01904 663000 Fax: 01904 663024



A Company Limited by Guarantee
Without Share Capital Registered
in England No. 1430801

Offices in: SHEFFIELD, trading as *ArchHeritage* GLASGOW, trading as *Northlight Heritage* NOTTINGHAM, trading as *Trent & Peak Archaeology*



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Background

The decision to observe and record under the AAI OPS notice was taken because the site lies with the York Area of Archaeological Importance, the works were within 100m of Clifford's Tower. The trench also joined to a site evaluated by YAT (YAT report no. 2015/43) on the site of the Former Fire Station. Work is currently underway under YAT project no. 5905.

Methodology

The excavation involved ground works to install a new electrical supply and was carried out by subcontractors contracted by Northern Power Grid. The excavation was within the footpath outside the front of the Former Fire Station.

The trench was roughly 3m long and up to 0.8m wide, and it continued to a maximum depth of 660mm. A small junction to the west entered the site of the Former Fire Station to join to the site's temporary electrical box.

The trench was excavated with a combination of machine and hand dug elements. The machine used was a small 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 250mm toothless bucket. As soon as cables were encountered excavation continued by hand, using spades. The works were completed within the day.

Deposits encountered were recorded in a notebook alongside sketch plans, including location, and a representative section. Digital photographs were taken at intervals during the watching brief.

Results

The trench contained a simple sequence of deposits, which mostly related to the footpath and the previous cable trench.

The earliest deposits that were encountered were between 660mm-340mm BGL (Below Ground Level). This was a layer of fine yellow sand that the electrical cable was placed in and then covered over with. On top of this was a layer of rubble backfill similar to the makeup deposits found in the evaluation on the Former Fire Station (YAT report no. 2015/43), this seems to have been re-deposited into the cable trench.

On top of that was a layer of concrete 100-150mm deep that the stone setts were laid on.

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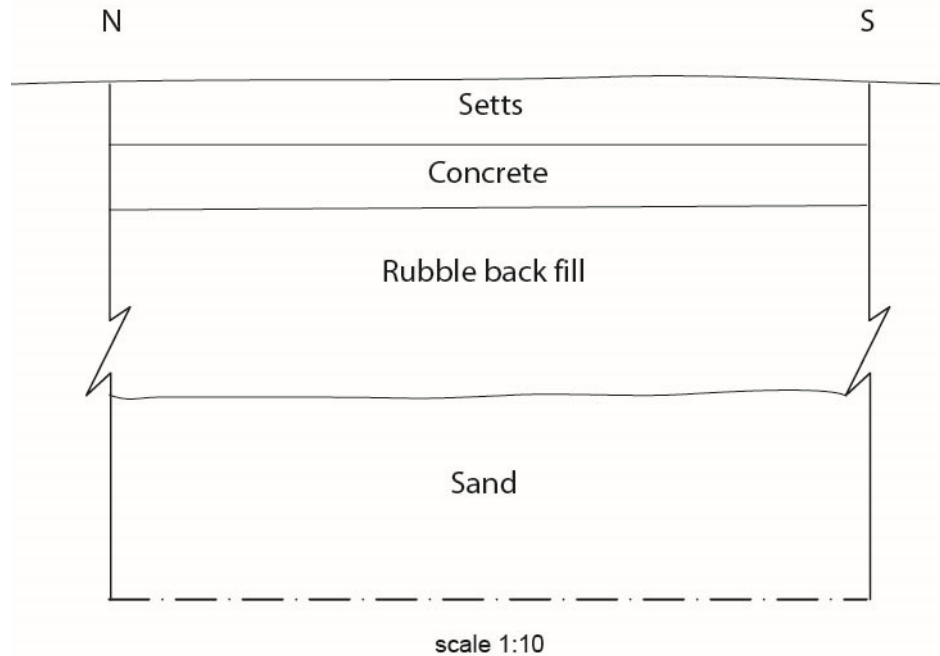


Figure 2: Representative section facing West, scale 1:10



Plate 1: Section photo looking East

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Discussion & Conclusions

No archaeology of significance was encountered during these works.

Archaeology was limited to an earlier twentieth century service relating to the previous electricity supply. This was subsequently sealed by the latest, extant, forecourt of the Former Fire Station.

The works at Peckitt Street had no significant impact on the archaeology of the area.

Many thanks to the groundwork contractor staff onsite for their co-operation and assistance during these works.

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