



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

SITE ADDRESS	14 Agar Street, York		
CLIENT NAME	Morrison Utility Services		
YAT PROJECT #	5338	YAT REPORT #	2010/11
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	n/a	GRID REFERENCE	SE 6078 5235
PLANNING REFERENCE #	n/a	AAI OPS NOTICE #	10003

On 22nd February 2010 York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief outside 14 Agar Street, York (Figure 1). The objective was to record any deposits, features or buried structures exposed during the excavation of a trench to connect a water supply to a new domestic development lying to the south-west of 14 – 18 Agar Street. On attendance at the site it was discovered that a further trench was being dug in the alley connecting Agar Street and Cloisters Walk and this was also recorded. A total of four sections was recorded (Figure 2). The trench outside 14 Agar Street was approximately 1.5m x 1.2m and a narrow trench, c.0.3m wide and 0.5m deep, was dug to connect this trench with the new development. Three sections were recorded, one just into the site along the connecting trench, one along the connecting trench as it crossed the pavement and one in the main trench. One section was recorded in the trench in the alley and a small number of record photographs were taken.

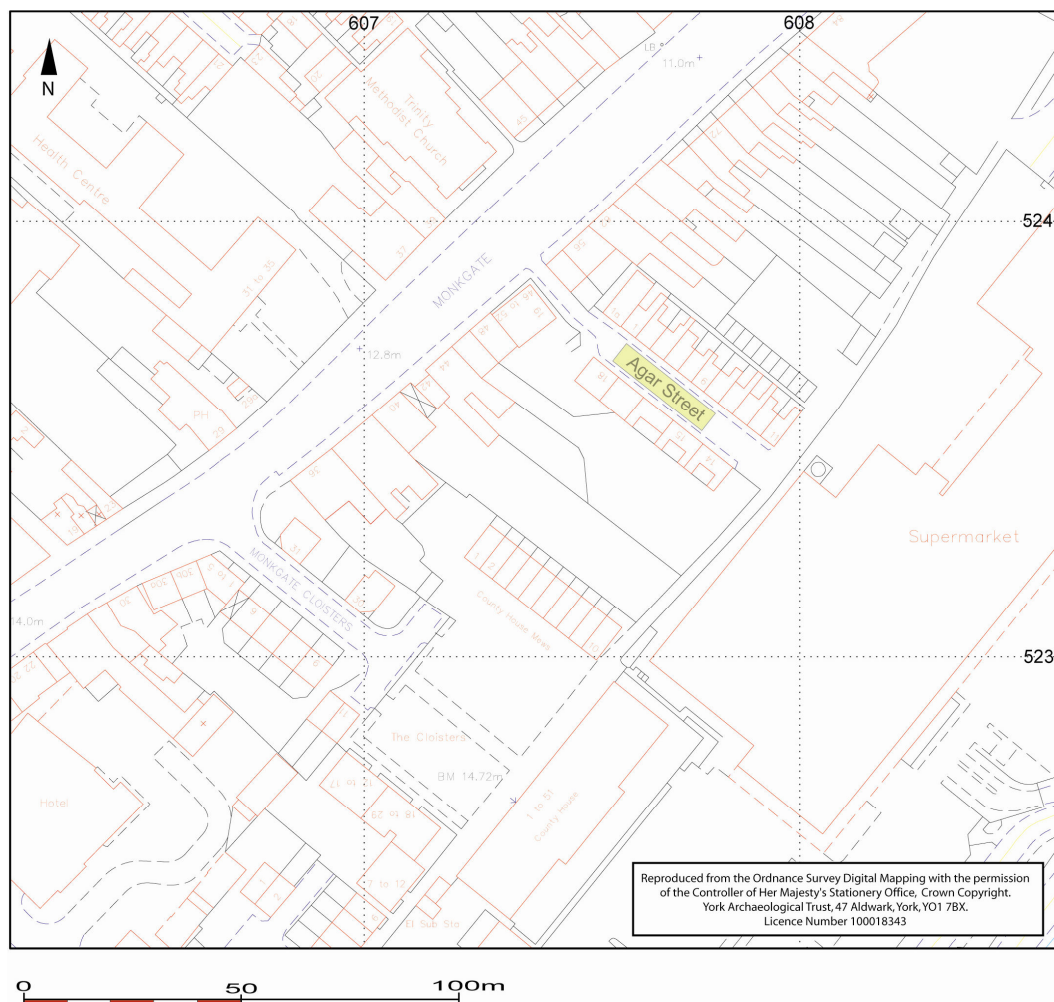


Figure 1 Site location

COMPLETED BY	D.T. Evans	CHECKED BY	M.R. Stockwell	FINISHED	30/06/10
FINDS	No	SAMPLES	No	Photos	Yes
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Registered Charity
No. 509060



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Without Share Capital Registered
in England No. 1430801



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In the first section recorded, just within the new development site, the earliest deposit, lying between 0.1m and 0.5m below the modern ground level (BGL), was a dark brown very slightly clayey silt with occasional brick / tile (1000). Above it was the modern ground surface of pale yellow crushed limestone (1001).

The second section was located below the pavement outside the new development. The lowest deposit noted, between 0.25m and 0.5m BGL, was a very dark brown slightly clayey silt with moderate brick / tile (1002). Above this was a layer of pale grey crushed limestone (1003) forming the makeup for the pavement surface of tarmac (1004).

The third section was in the trench dug in the road. Here the earliest deposit was a dark brown clayey silt with occasional brick / tile (1005) seen between 0.35m BGL and the base of the trench at c.1m BGL. Above this was a 0.1m deep horizontal band of cobbles in dark brown silt (1006). Overlying this was a deposit of pale yellowish-brown crushed limestone (1007) forming the levelling for the modern road surface (1008).

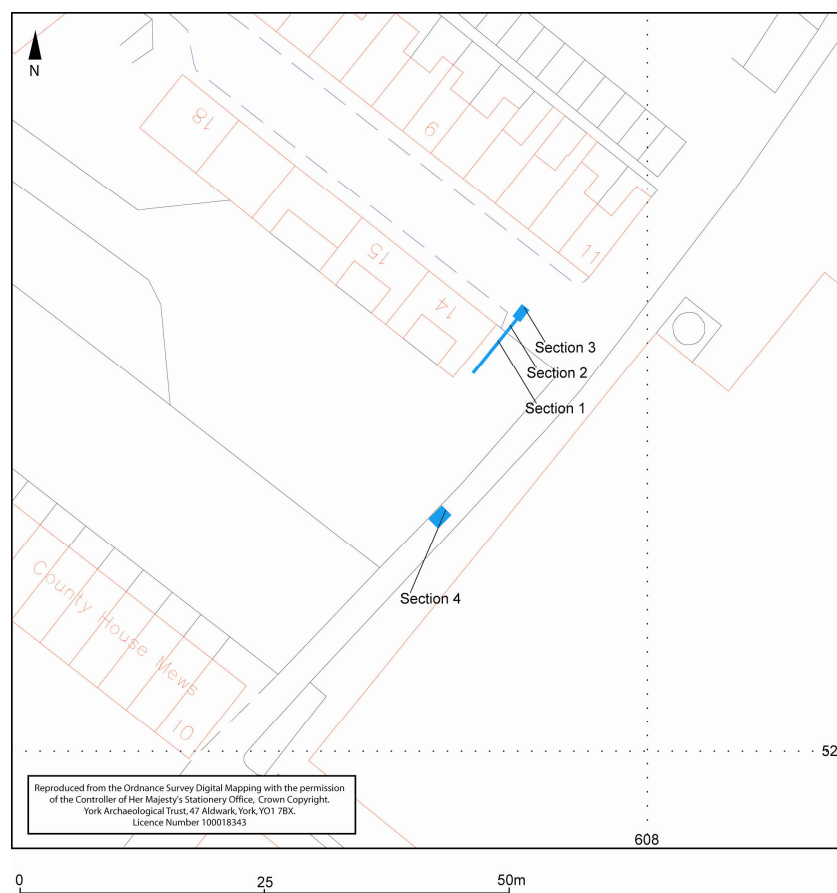


Figure 2 Location of trenches and recorded sections

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The last section was recorded in the trench in the alley. The lowest deposit, seen between 0.5m and 0.9m BGL, was a dark greyish-brown slightly clayey silt with moderate brown sand (1009) and containing a number of service pipes. It was sealed by a 0.4m deep layer of dark brown slightly clayey silt with occasional brick / tile (1010) and above this was a deposit of pale brown crushed limestone (1011) which formed the makeup for the modern ground surface of tarmac (1012).

The majority of the deposits recorded from the trenches were clearly modern but Contexts 1000 and 1002 may have been slightly disturbed build-up deposits. No dating evidence was recovered for these deposits but previous work in the immediate vicinity has shown that similar deposits can be dated to the broadly medieval period. The cobbles, 1006, seen in Section 3 almost certainly represent a previous road surface of uncertain, but possibly 19th century, date. Overall it is believed that no archaeological remains of any great significance were disturbed during these works.



Plate 1 Trench at location of Section 2, looking north-west

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Plate 2 Trench in back alley, looking north

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