



## YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

<b>SITE ADDRESS</b>	22 St. Saviourgate, York		
<b>CLIENT</b>	Emma and Richard Bonnar		
<b>YAT PROJECT #</b>	5442	<b>YAT REPORT #</b>	2010/98
<b>MUSEUM ACCESSION #</b>	n/a	<b>GRID REFERENCE</b>	SE 6064 5193
<b>PLANNING REFERENCE #</b>	n/a	<b>AAI OPS NOTICE #</b>	10019

### INTRODUCTION

On 10<sup>th</sup> September 2010 York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief at 22 St Saviourgate, York (Figure 1). The objective was to record any deposits, features or buried structures of archaeological interest exposed during the groundworks for a new extension to the rear of the property (Figure 2). The work involved the stripping of an area c.7m by 4.5m to a depth of c. 0.5m below the existing modern ground level and the excavation of a number of foundation trenches which were generally 0.4m wide and extended c.0.15m below the area of the general strip, c.0.6m below the level of the existing ground level (Figure 3). Due to access constraints all excavation was undertaken by hand. One single specimen section was recorded and is described below. The recording took the form of measured sketches and written notes supplemented by a small number of colour digital photographs.

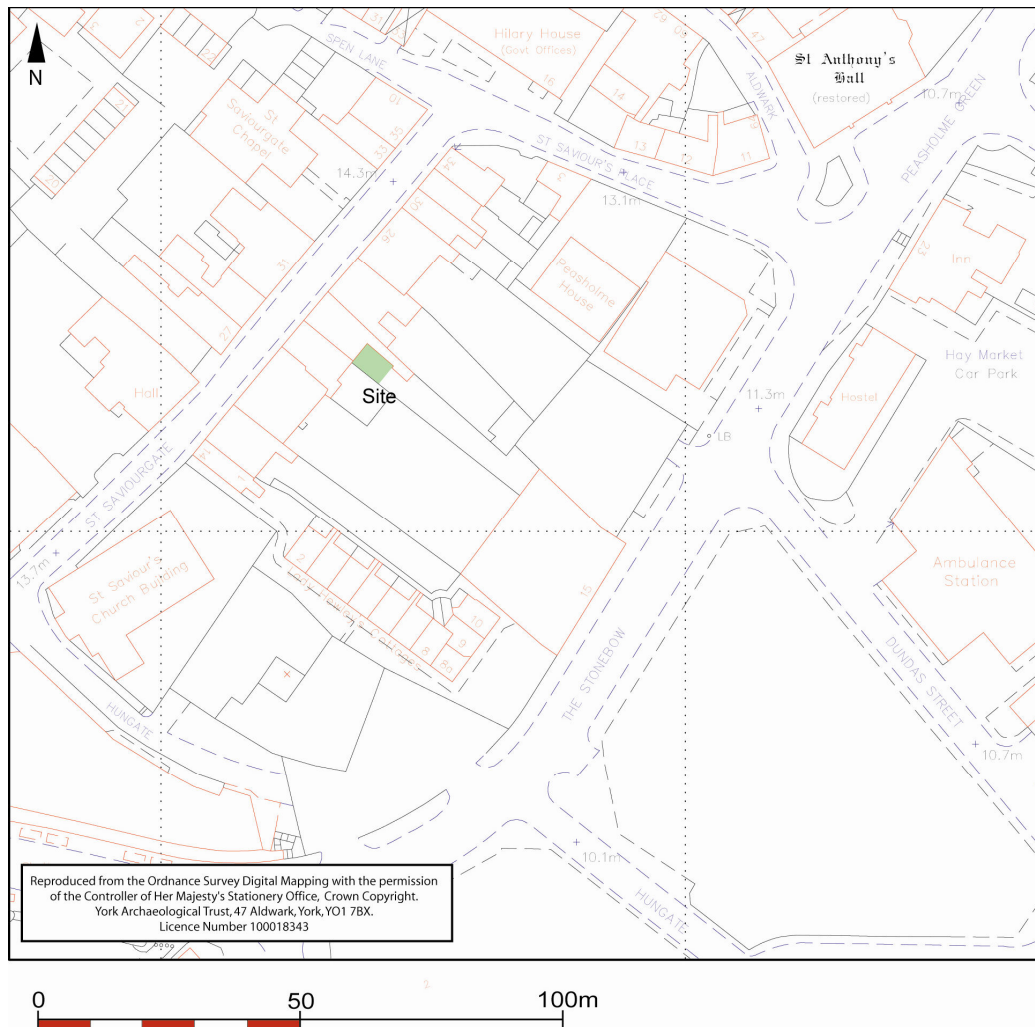


Figure 1 Site location

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<b>FINDS</b>	No	<b>SAMPLES</b>	No	<b>PHOTOS</b>	Yes
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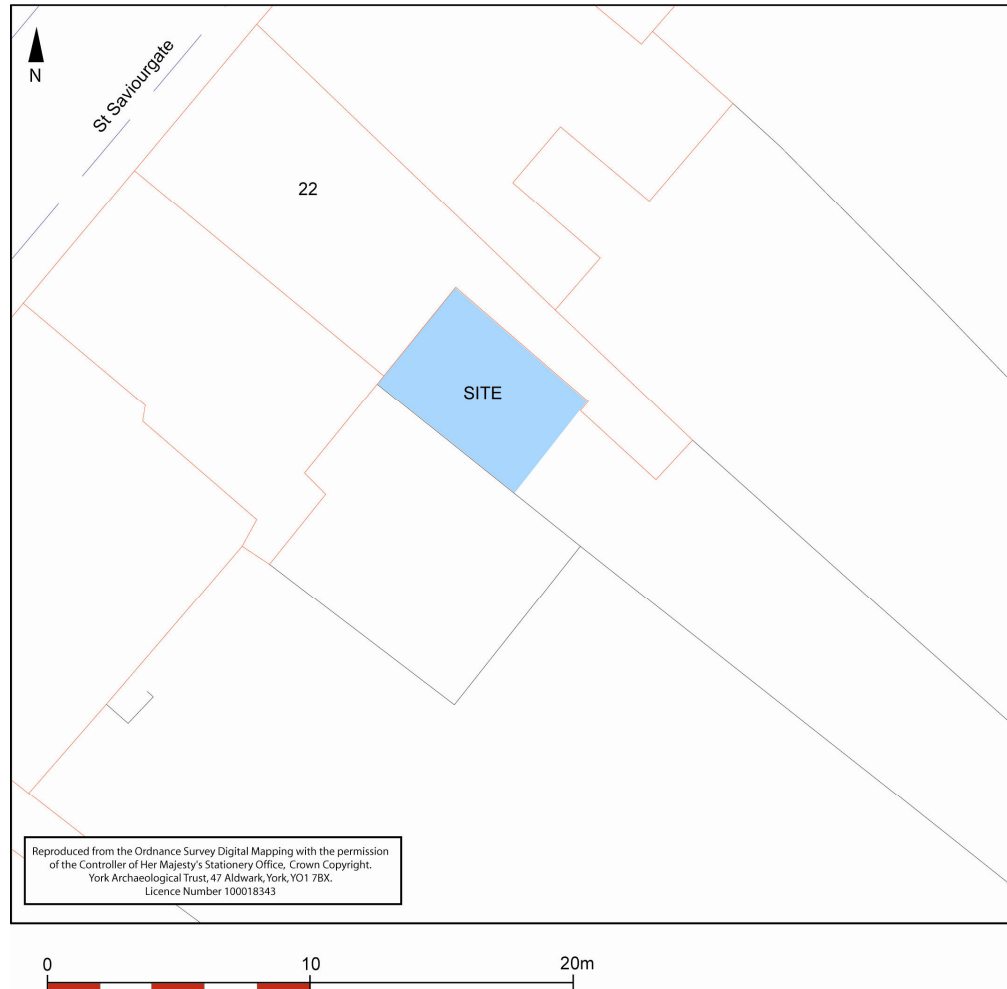


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*Figure 2 Extent of works*

## RESULTS

In the recorded section the earliest deposit, between 0.15 and at least 0.6m below ground level, was a very dark brown slightly clayey silt with frequent crushed limestone and moderate brick / tile (1000). It was sealed by a 0.1m deep levelling deposit of pale greyish-brown concrete (1001) which formed the bedding for the uppermost context, the concrete patio slabs (1002) forming the existing modern ground surface.

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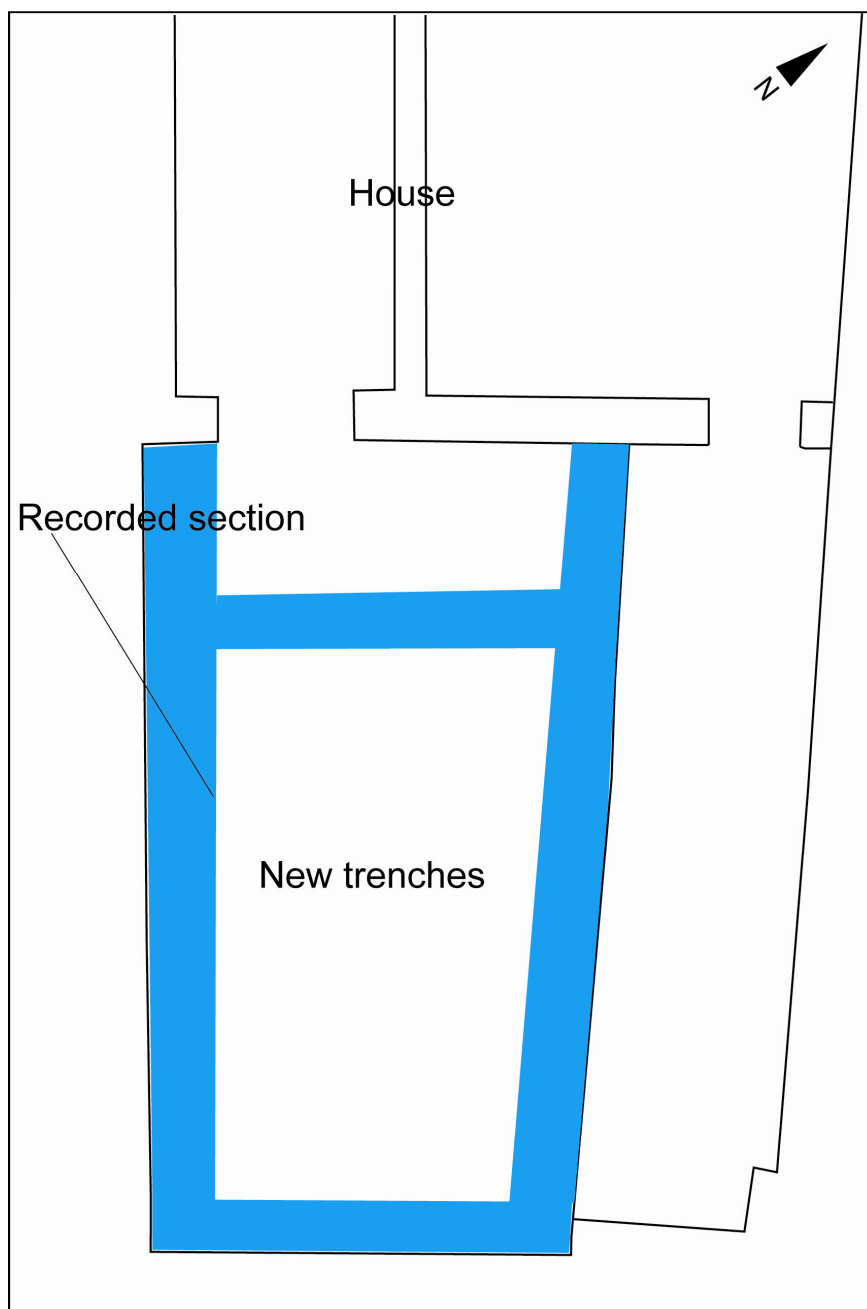


Figure 3 Location of new foundation trenches and recorded section

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*Plate 1 Detail of newly exposed south-west boundary wall and foundation trench, looking south-west*



*Plate 2 General view of site, looking north-west*

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### CONCLUSIONS

Although the foundation trenches penetrated up to 0.6m below the existing ground level, nothing of any great archaeological significance was noted. At the very base of these trenches in places the soil was seen to be becoming cleaner and thus it is possible that a short distance further down lie deposits, features and structures of archaeological interest. Everything seen during the excavation of the foundation trenches and the overall strip appeared to be relatively modern levelling deposits, quite possibly to create a level garden. This process has been noted during work at No. 26 St. Saviourgate earlier this year and may be a common practice in the vicinity and effectively protecting the local archaeology from most minor and moderate interventions.

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