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127 LAWRENCE STREET,
YORK

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REPORT ON AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION AND
WATCHING BRIEF



2002 FIELD REPORT
NUMBER 55

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CONTENTS

	ABSTRACT	
1.	INTRODUCTION	
2.	METHODOLOGY	
3.	GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	
4.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	
5.	THE EXCAVATION AND WATCHING BRIEF	
6.	FINDS ASSESSMENT	
7.	CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT	
8.	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	
9.	CONCLUSIONS AND PERIOD ANALYSIS	
10.	LIST OF SOURCES	
11.	LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS	

List of Figures

Figure 1.	General site location	4
Figure 2.	Location of deep strip and cellar excavation	8
Figure 3.	North facing Section 11	10
Figure 4.	South facing Section 12	10
Figure 5.	West facing Section 13	12
Figure 6.	North facing Section 14	12
Figure 7.	East facing Section 15	14
Figure 8.	North facing Section 25	14
Figure 9.	West facing Section 28	14

ABSTRACT

Between August 29th and October 3rd 2002, York Archaeological Trust undertook a programme of archaeological investigation at 127 Lawrence Street, York. The investigation revealed a large number of features including pits, ditches, postholes, and gullies, some of which had been seen during the earlier evaluation of the site. Dating evidence from a number of these features, particularly rubbish pits, suggested that although the principal occupational activity on the site dated to the 11th – 14th centuries, activity, mainly in the form of rubbish disposal, may have continued until perhaps the 16th century.

1. INTRODUCTION

Between August 29th and October 3rd 2002 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) carried out an archaeological excavation and watching brief at 127 Lawrence Street, York, North Yorkshire (NGR: SE 6160 5137, Figure 1, Site location). This was the third phase of a programme of investigation of the area the first phase comprising the machine excavation of seven engineering test pits across the site (Evans 2002/1). This was followed by an archaeological evaluation of the site the results of which (Evans 2002/2) prompted the third phase of work which was to consist of an excavation and watching brief. Initially a watching brief was undertaken during the removal and backfilling with hardcore of a cellar close to the north-west corner of the site. Once the brickwork had been removed the exposed sections were examined and cleaned after which five parts, using numbers 11000 – 15000, were drawn. After a short interval the excavation commenced, using numbers beginning with 16000, and at the same time development work began. After a brief pause another watching brief monitored the new drain trenches for the development.

2. METHODOLOGY

The excavation and watching brief were carried out to a specification approved by John Oxley, Archaeologist for the City of York Council, although an archaeological condition was not put on the planning permission granted for the site. The work was undertaken for Barratt York in advance of house building. Since the previous engineer's test pits had been written up as Trenches 1 – 7 and the evaluation trenches were designated Trenches 8, 9 and 10, the current watching brief and excavation used a numbering system that followed on. The upper and obviously modern deposits were removed by machine under archaeological supervision after which any further work was done by hand. After the excavation the ground level was further lowered, to formation level, by machine. This secondary stripping was also monitored in order to identify any features which may not have been seen during the initial stripping. The drain trenches to the Lawrence Street side of the site were also monitored but nothing of archaeological interest was seen.

The historical and archaeological background was originally derived from consulting the Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) of the City of York Council, (record cards, maps and aerial photographs), cartographic data (early 17th century to late 20th century), published works of

historical and archaeological synthesis, York Archaeological Trust Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and the aerial photograph collection of York Archaeological Trust. This evidence was originally presented in a watching brief report (Evans 2002/1).

Recording followed the procedures laid down in the York Archaeological Trust *Context Recording Manual* (1966). Standing sections of significance were drawn as were sections across most of the excavated features, at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Any significant features or deposits were to be recorded as single context plans at a scale of 1:20. Where relevant colour photographs were taken of standing sections and features and a number of general record photographs were also taken.

Research notes, for the watching brief, the evaluation, and the excavation/watching brief are currently stored by York Archaeological Trust under the YAT and Yorkshire Museum accession code YORYM:2002.449

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The underlying drift geology of the site is Boulder clay over lacustrine clays with deposits of sand, known in places to be waterlogged, lying within and over the clay in places. Beneath this the solid geology is of Bunter and Keuper sandstones laid down in the Triassic period some 225 million years ago (Geological Survey 1967).

The site lies c.450m east of Walmgate Bar outside the walled medieval city north-east of the River Ouse and partly abuts the A1079 Hull Road known here as Lawrence Street. The site is roughly rectangular, measuring c.55m north-south and c.30m east-west. Towards the south end of the site there is a slight slope up to Lawrence Street, at c.13.9m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), but much of the site was level and lay at c.13.2m AOD immediately prior to the development commencing.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 This background to the site has been compiled from the results of previous archaeological investigations and observations (Figure 1), readily accessible historical sources, and from cartographic evidence. There have been quite a number of archaeological investigations (Figure 3) in the general area of the site including watching briefs, accession numbers 1973.16, 1977.1009, 1979.1021, 1985.1015, 1985.1031, 1985.1047, 1989.1006, 1989.1027, 1991.1007, 1991.1018, 1993.3, 1994.152, 1995.0285, 1995.0361, 1996.171 carried out by the York Archaeological Trust (YAT 1997). A number of more formal archaeological investigations by YAT have taken place in the vicinity including sites with accession numbers 1983.31, 1989.8, 1989.13, 1992.13, 1993.9, 1993.11 and YORYM 2001.9444. An evaluation (FAS 2000) carried out on land at the premises of Bootham Engineering by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd revealed extensive remains of the medieval period and later. As mentioned in the introduction the site has recently been the subject of a watching brief and an evaluation excavation (both YORYM 2002:449). Evidence from these investigations and an examination of the documentary and cartographic evidence for the site is discussed below period by period.

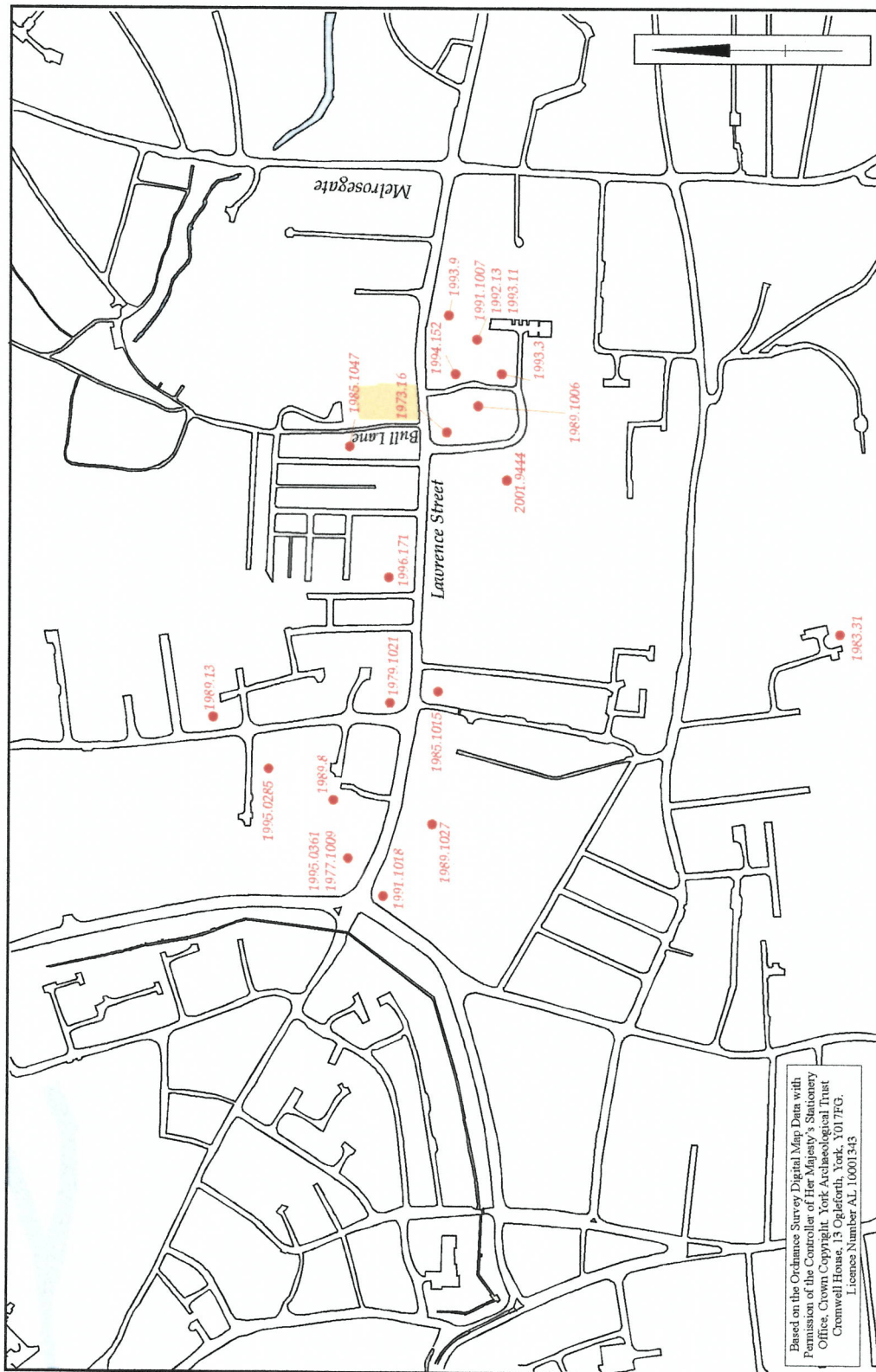


Figure 1 Location map and archaeological sites in area

4.2 Prehistoric and Roman periods (pre 1st century – 5th centuries AD)

No finds or activity dating to the prehistoric period have been discovered in the immediate vicinity of the development site. The site lies adjacent to, and partly astride, the main Roman road (RCHM 1, Road 2) to the east. This road has been seen as a soil mark south of the Hull Road at NGR SE 6310.5130 and in the vicinity of the site it is believed to run partly under the northern part of Lawrence Street. In 1954 (RCHM 1, 1) it was seen c.1.8m below the modern road some 90m east of Walmgate Bar where it was of cobbles set in clay. More recently, in 1974 – 5, a trench dug in the south-west corner of the garden of 127 Lawrence Street seemed to confirm that the road passes through the southern part of the site (Brinklow et al 1986). A Roman carved tombstone drawn by Francis Drake is known to have been built into the wall of St Lawrence's churchyard in the 18th century and probably came from a nearby burial. In 1906 a tile tomb covering a skeleton and accompanied by a vessel described as Samian was discovered on premises belonging to Shafto's Brickworks in James Street (RCHM 1, 70). More recent discoveries include a Roman pit, ditch, and dump deposit at Lawrence Street/Foss Islands Road (YAT 1989.8) and a possible Roman drain at 148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1993.9). Excavations at Lamel Hill (YAT 1983.31), some 250m south of the present site, produced a Roman gritstone coffin lid. Evidence from the D.C.Cook site (YORYM 2001.9444), a little way to the south-west of the present site, took the form of a ditch, pottery and possible features of uncertain function.

4.3 Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian periods (5th – 11th centuries)

To date there is some evidence from excavations or chance discoveries to indicate activity dating to either period in the immediate area. The excavations at Lawrence Street/Foss Islands Road (YAT 1989.8) did uncover what is believed to be a palisade of Anglo-Scandinavian date. In 1847 investigations by John Thurnam at Lamel Hill yielded 20 to 30 skeletons and a number of metal finds considered to be coffin fittings. He decided eventually that he had found a cemetery of the 7th or 8th century. More recently, in 1983, an excavation (YAT 1983.31) at the site in advance of a proposed development produced at least 38 more inhumation burials. A distinctive type of knife found with one of the burials and the recovery of a single sherd of Anglian pottery suggested that Thurnam's dating was probably correct and that an extensive Anglian cemetery was present here. More recently pottery of both periods, and possible features of the 9th – 11th centuries have come from the nearby D.C.Cook evaluation (YORYM 2001.9444).

4.4 Medieval Period (11th – 16th centuries)

Material of this period has been found in quite large quantities in a number of investigations over the last 30 years. Medieval pottery was recovered from a site at the junction of Lawrence Street and James Street (YAT 1979.1021) and a medieval building, pit and hearth were investigated at the Lawrence Street/Foss Islands Road site (YAT 1989.8). An evaluation at 130-148 Lawrence Street recovered part of a medieval building with occupation deposits (YAT 1992.13) believed to be associated with St Nicholas Hospital and a watching brief at Nicholas Gardens (YAT 1993.3) recorded medieval deposits. Architectural fragments from a garden at 136 Lawrence Street (YAT 1994.152) may have come from the hospital of St Nicholas. An investigation at the Rose and Crown pub (YAT 1995. 0361) discovered two inhumations possibly of this period and believed to be associated with the lost church of St Edward. Work at 32 Lansdowne Terrace (YAT 1996.171) revealed four burials which may have belonged to this period and medieval plough soils were noted at a site off James Street (YAT 1995.0285). A major excavation to the rear of

148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1993.11) recorded buildings, occupation deposits, a yard, and a ditch belonging to the 11th - 16th centuries, which were part of the hospital of St Nicholas. Deposits, postholes, a pit, and pottery were located at the D.C.Cook site (YORYM 2001.9444). The work at Bootham Engineering (FAS 2000) produced a large number of features, possibly including a very large ditch which was observed to be heading in the direction of the present site. These features may be associated with St Nicholas's Hospital. Much evidence from this period was recorded and excavated during the recent archaeological work on the site (YORYM 2002.449). Ditches, gullies, pits, at least one hearth, and build-up deposits of this date were identified from this site as well as a single human burial. All of these appeared to date mainly from the 12th to 14th centuries.

4.5 Post – medieval period (16th – 19th centuries)

Evidence for this period is quite abundant in the area and includes a burial of the period from the Rose and Crown pub, 13 Lawrence Street (YAT 1977.1009), post-medieval deposits from 132 Lawrence Street (YAT 1989.1006) and 130-148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1992.13), a cobble surface, pit and demolition deposits from 148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1993.9), and a pit and demolition, dump, and garden deposits also from 148 Lawrence Street (YAT 1993.11). A small quantity of pottery came from the evaluation at D.C.Cook (YORYM 2001.9444). Probable and possible features of this period were recorded at the Bootham Engineering site (FAS 2000), some possibly associated with the dissolution of St Nicholas's Hospital in the 16th century and the civil war siege of the 17th century. A large ditch possibly belonging to this period was identified during the watching brief and evaluation of this site (YORYM 2002:449).

4.6 Modern (19th – 21st centuries)

Much of the area of proposed development is probably a creation of the 19th or 20th century and buried remains of this period have been found on a number of sites in the vicinity. Modern build-ups were found at 68 Lawrence Street (YAT 1985.1015) and Victorian construction deposits at 115 Lawrence Street (YAT 1985.1031). A modern wall and drain were recorded at St Lawrence's Church Hall (YAT 1989.1027) and modern deposits at 130 Lawrence Street (YAT 1991.1007) and at the junction of Lawrence Street and Barbican Road (YAT 1991.1018). To the north of Lawrence Street an investigation at 42 Milton Street (YAT 1985.1047) produced Victorian build-up deposits as did work at 32 Lansdowne Terrace (YAT 1996.171). A site at the Eclipse Copper Works in James Street (YAT 1989.13) produced evidence of Victorian housing and at 148 Lawrence Street an excavation found evidence for modern dumps, demolition deposits, garden soils, and a yard. Modern material, mainly in the form of deposits and surfaces were located during the watching brief and evaluation. A number of small features and a very large pit, possibly a quarry pit, were recorded during the evaluation (YORYM 2002:449).

4.7 Historical Evidence

It appears that Lawrence Street, named after the church of St Lawrence c.400m to the west of the present site, was in the medieval period normally referred to as Walmgate or "Walmgate without the bar" (RCHM 4). The area was the location of four churches, those of St Lawrence, St Michael, St Edward, and St Nicholas. The church of St Edward was first mentioned in the 13th century but had become redundant and was demolished in the reign of Edward VI, possibly by 1586 when it was united with St Nicholas. It is thought that the site of this church lies close to

the junction of Lawrence Street and Lansdowne Terrace. The church of St Michael is reputed to have stood close to Walmgate Bar on the south side of Lawrence Street as depicted on Skaife's map of 1864. Little is known of its history but there is documentary evidence that it was in existence by 1277 and that it was united with St Lawrence in 1365. The earliest documentary evidence for St Lawrence is dated c.1194, a date supported by architectural evidence. It underwent repairs and rebuilding in the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries but was subsequently badly damaged, as was much of the surrounding area, during the siege of York in 1644. It was repaired in 1669 but apparently dismantled by 1736, except for the tower, and it was replaced by the present church in 1881-3. A number of views of the church before demolition still exist (Wilson and Mee 1998). The church of the hospital of St Nicholas (YAT 1992) may have been founded c.1142 and by 1280 served as a parish church with the choir being used as the chapel for the hospital. The hospital was the largest and richest of York's four medieval leper hospitals but did not survive the Reformation although the church apparently continued in use. Masonry from the site is said to have been used to repair Walmgate Bar in 1648 and in 1717 more stone was used to repair the church at Dunnington. The church ruins were used as cover for sniping during the civil war and as a result appear to have attracted return fire which caused large scale destruction. (VCH 1961). Remains of the church were still standing in 1730 but it appears that by 1736 any surviving parts had been removed probably in 1730 when it is recorded that stone from the site was used to make a pavement along Lawrence Street. Some architectural details, however, are available from Speeds map of 1610 and a watercolour of 1718 attributed to Francis Place. The parish retained its' identity for secular purposes until 1900. Development of the eastern part of Lawrence Street did not begin in earnest until the middle of the 19th century (Pevsner 1972) when terraced housing began to occupy much of the area to the west of the site.

4.8 Cartographic Evidence

The earliest map of the area is one drawn by John Speed and published in 1610. This shows that the area was mainly open ground or fields but with occasional buildings along the street front. Richard's map of 1682 indicates structures in the area probably associated with the hospital of St Nicholas to the east of the present site. To the south-east the church of St Nicholas is shown. Horsley's map of 1694 is similar but the immediate area is shown as completely open. By 1736, when Drake published his map of York, the area seems to still be open ground but there is some evidence to suggest that at least part of the church of St Nicholas had been demolished, possibly just leaving the tower. White's map of 1785 shows isolated buildings along the street front in the general area. The Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition map of 1853 shows a few buildings in the general area but fields to the rear. Skaife's map of 1864 shows the site still undeveloped but names Bull Lane, bounding the site to the west. The OS map of 1909 shows the street front as largely built-up with the present site as the vicarage of St Lawrence's with open land and the Hull Road Brick Works to the north. Later maps of the 20th century show the whole general area largely built-up.



Figure 2 Location of deep strip and cellar excavation

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5. THE WATCHING BRIEF AND EXCAVATION

Preamble

The works monitored included the removal of back fill from a cellar beneath the former vicarage building and cleaning back behind the cellar walls (Sections 11-15). Wholesale stripping of the development footprint was followed by hand excavation of the features identified as being archaeologically significant.

5.1 Section 11 (Figure 3)

5.1.1 In this section, behind the south wall of the dug-out cellar, the earliest recorded deposit was a mixture of light yellow and light orange sand (11009) which is believed to have been a natural deposit. Overlying it was a possible build-up deposit of mixed light brown sandy loam and light orange-yellow sand (11008) and above this was a layer of dark brown sandy (11006). Probably contemporary with 11006, and over 11009, was a mid brown very sandy loam (11007) containing patches of light orange sand. Both 11006 and 11007 are thought to be build-up deposits.

5.1.2 Cut into both 11006 and 11007 was a feature which was at least 0.7m across and 0.45m deep with very steeply sloping sides and a flattish base. It had a backfill of mid brown very sandy loam (11004) and may have been a ditch aligned approximately north-south. The top of 11004 had been truncated by another feature (11003), which was at least 1m wide and 0.5m deep with very steeply sloping sides and a flattish base. This had been backfilled with dark brown sandy loam (11002) and may also have been a north-south aligned ditch. If so then it was probably a recut of 11005.

5.1.3 A build-up deposit of very dark grey loam (11001) sealed (11003). Above (11001) was a layer of dark grey loam (11000) containing moderate amounts of brick, tile, and mortar. It was probably formed by demolition debris being pushed into a build-up deposit and it formed the modern ground surface, which at the time of recording lay at c.13.10m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

5.2 Section 12 (Figure 4)

5.2.1 The earliest deposit seen in this section, behind the north cellar wall, was a mixture of light yellow and light orange sand (12005), which is believed to be the natural sub-soil. Above it was a build-up deposit of mixed light to mid brown sandy loam and mid yellow sand (12004). Sealing 12004 was a layer of light to mid brown sandy loam (12003) and above this was a compact mid brown loam (12002). Both 12003 and 12002 were probably build-up deposits.

5.2.2 Overlying 12002 was a levelling deposit of mid orange sand (12001) which was capped by black tarmac (12000) forming the current modern ground surface at c.13.05m AOD.

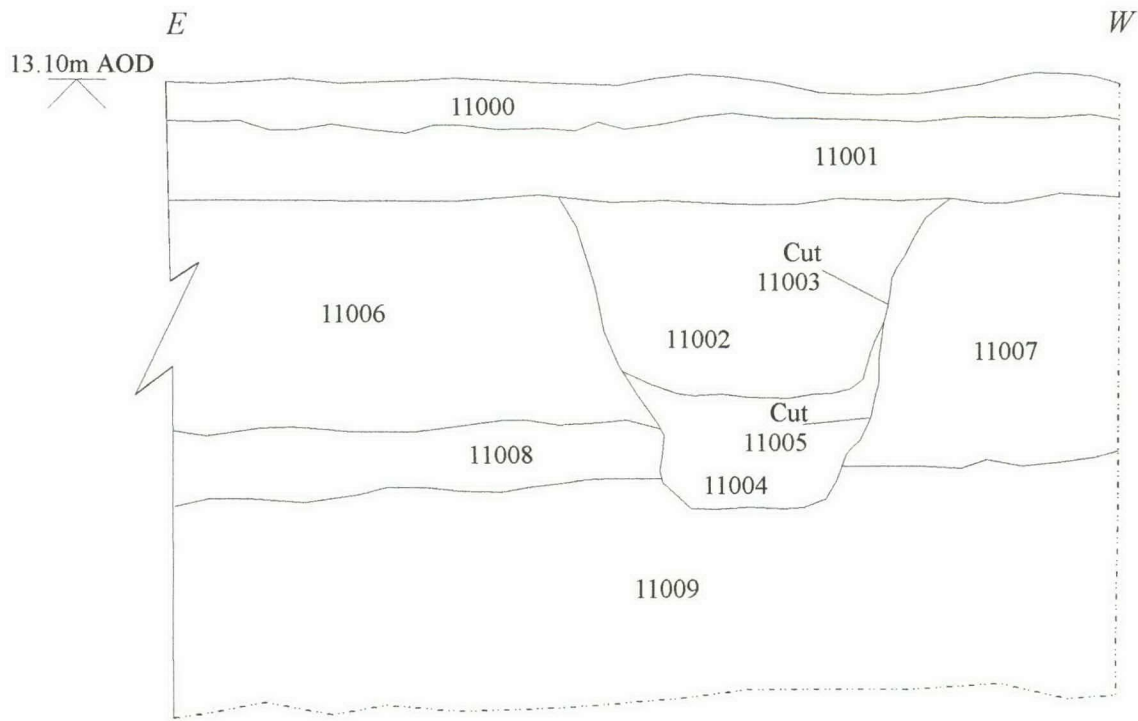


Figure 3 North facing Section 11

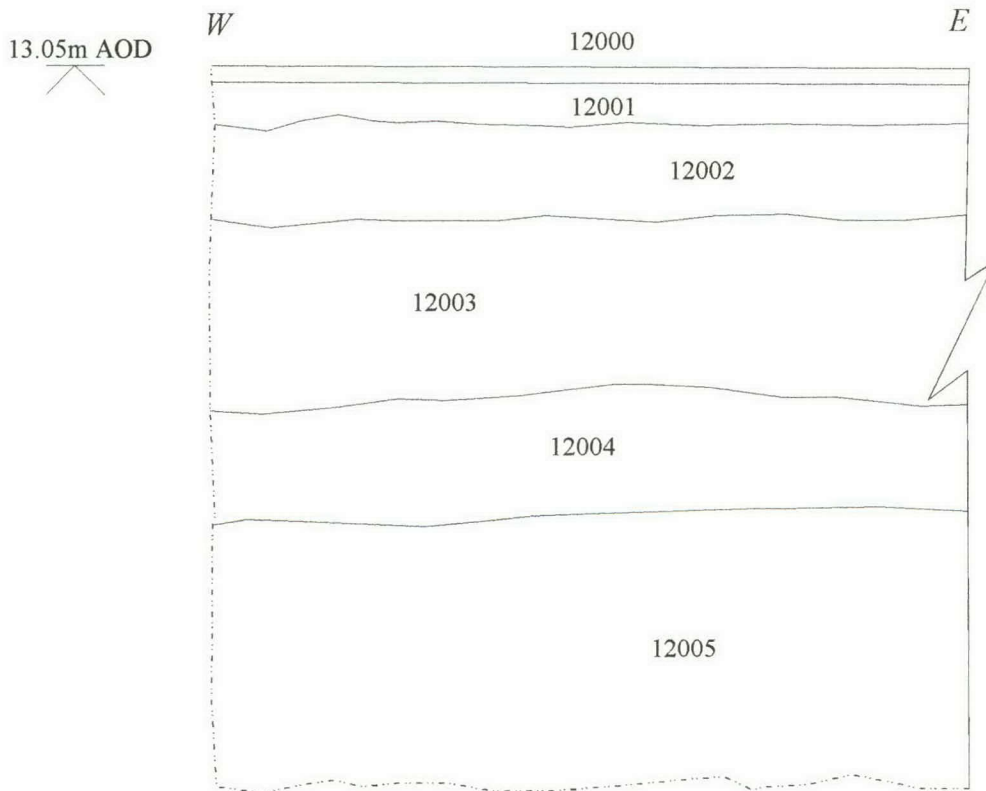


Figure 4 South facing Section 12

5.3 Section 13 (Figure 5)

5.3.1 The earliest deposit recorded in this section, which was behind the east cellar wall, was a mid yellowish-brown sand (13008) believed to be natural. It was overlain by a layer of mid yellowish-brown slightly loamy sand containing moderate quantities of small pebbles (13007) which may have been a dump deposit. Above (13007) was a build-up deposit of mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sandy loam (13006) followed by a probable dump of mid yellow sand (13005). Over this was a firm mid yellowish-brown sandy loam (13004), the upper half of which, although identical in composition, became quite loose and may be a separate deposit (13003). Both 13004 and 13003 are believed to be build-up deposits. Overlying 13003 was a mid brown sandy loam (13002) regarded as a build-up deposit.

5.3.2 Cut into 13002 was a feature (13001) of uncertain size and shape. It was at least 1.1m across and 0.3m deep with a quite gently sloping south edge and a flat base. It may have been a clearance cut associated with the current works. The backfill, which also formed the current ground surface at c.13.05m AOD, was dark grey loam with moderate amounts of brick (13000).

5.4 Section 14 (Figure 6)

5.4.1 In this section, behind the south wall of the excavated cellar, the earliest deposit noted was a loose mixture of light brown sand and mid orange sand (14011). Above it was a compact mid orange-brown very slightly clayey sand (14010), which was sealed by a mixture of mid orange sand and very pale brown sand (14009). All three deposits are believed to be natural.

5.4.2 Above 14009 was a possible dump composed of mixed mid orange sand and light brown sand (14008). It was sealed by a build-up deposit or dump of mid orange sand and light brown sandy loam containing moderate amounts of small pebbles (14007). Overlying 14007 was a layer of firm mid brown sandy loam containing moderate quantities of charcoal (14006). Above this was firm mid brownish-grey sandy loam also containing moderate quantities of charcoal (14005). Both of these contexts are thought to have been build-up deposits. Sealing 14005 was a firm mid greyish-brown loam containing many cobbles (14004), which may have been a floor surface.

5.4.3 Over 14004 was a thin layer of hard white mortar (14003), possibly a floor. Above it was a possible dump of loose mid brown loam and mid orange sand containing many small pebbles (14002). A build-up deposit of compact mid greyish-brown sand loam (14001) sealed it. The uppermost deposit in this area was a loose mid to dark brown loam containing moderate amounts of brick, tile, and mortar. It was probably a build-up deposit with modern demolition material pressed into it and formed the existing ground surface at c.13.10m AOD.

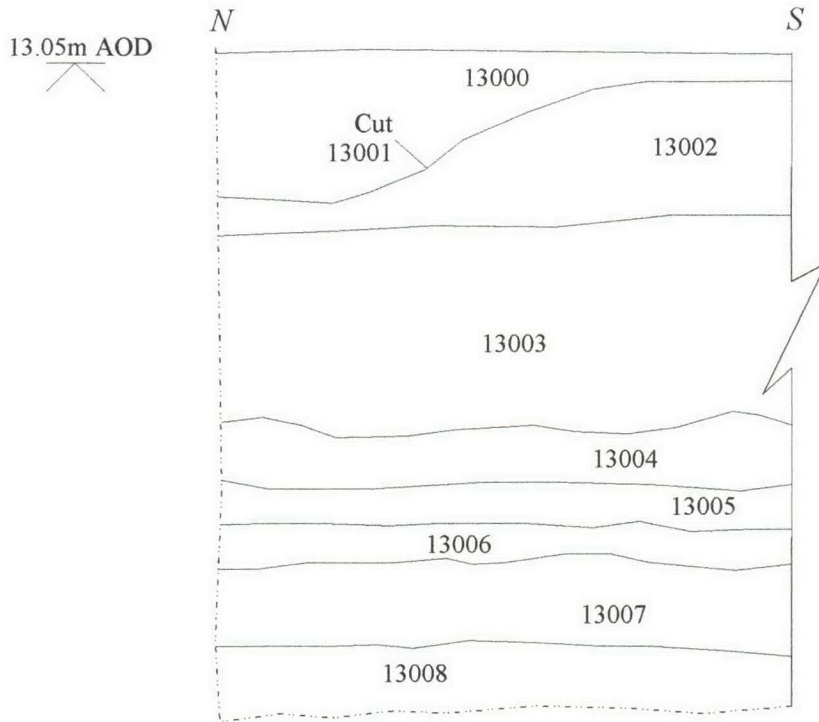


Figure 5 West facing Section 13

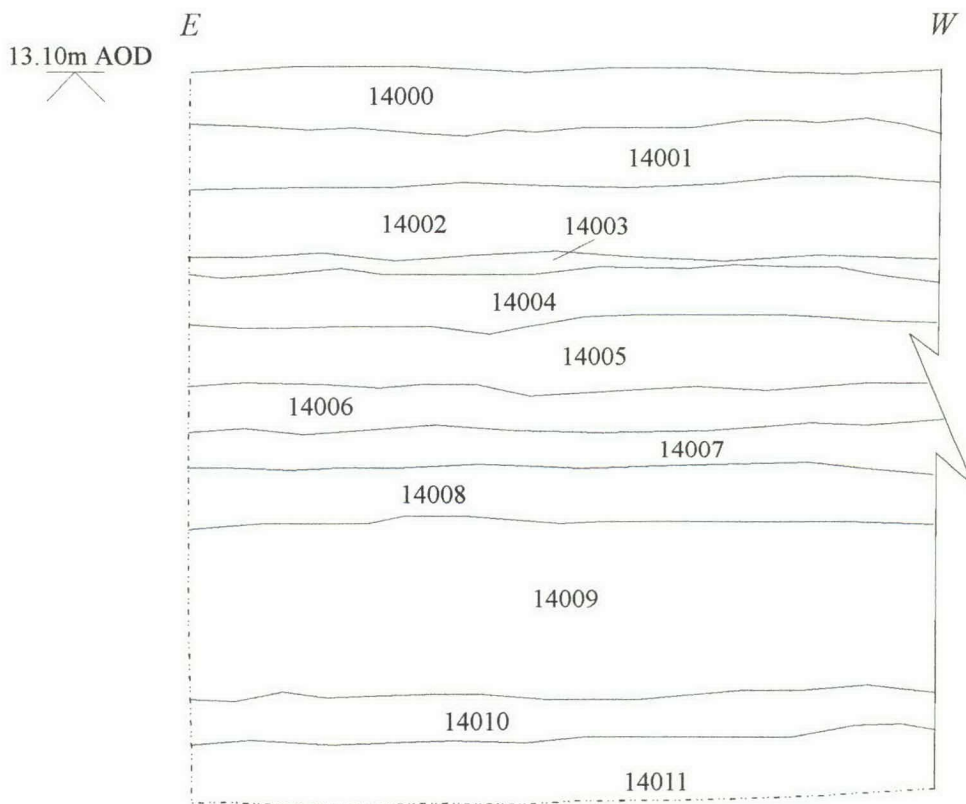
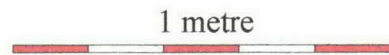
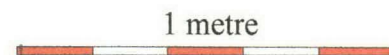


Figure 6 North facing Section 14



5.5 Section 15 (Figure 7)

5.5.1 The earliest context encountered in this area section behind the west cellar wall, was a mixture of pale orange sand and light brown sand (15009) which is believed to have been a natural deposit. Overlying 15009 was a possible dump of mid greyish-brown slightly clayey sand (15008). This was sealed by a layer of mid brown clay (15007), which may also have been a dump deposit. A build-up deposit of mid orange-brown slightly clayey sandy loam (15006) lay above 15007 and 15006 was sealed by mid brown slightly sandy loam (15005), also a build-up deposit.

5.5.2 Above 15005 was a layer of hard white mortar (15002), which formed the bedding for a short stretch of mortared brickwork (15001) of uncertain function. Believed to be slightly later than 15001 was a feature (15004) of unknown function. It was at least 0.65m across and 0.15m deep with quite steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It had a backfill of dark greyish-brown loam (15003). Sealing 15003, and forming the present modern ground surface at c.13.10m AOD, was a probable build-up deposit of loose dark grey loam (15000).

5.6 The Excavation, Area 16 (Figures 8 and 9)

5.6.1 A variety of natural deposits was identified during the site strip and in two locations a stratified sequence through these was recorded. Towards the south-west corner of the excavation the lowest of these deposits was a firm band of gravel in a mixture of light brown and mid orange sand (16084). Above this was a layer of light orange-brown sand (16083) and sealing this was a deposit of dark orange-brown sandy gravel (16080). Overlying 16080 there was a compact light to mid brown sandy silt (16081). Above 16081, and the uppermost probable natural deposit in this area, was a layer of mid orange sand containing many small cobbles (16082).

5.6.2 In the south-east corner of the stripped area the lowest natural deposit identified was compact light orange sandy gravel (16115). Two deposits overlay this, one was mid brown clay (16114) and the other consisted of many cobbles in coarse mid brown sand (16111). Above 16111 was a layer of mid yellow-orange sand (16107) and above 16114 was mid orange sandy gravel (16113). A deposit of mid orange sand (16112) sealed 16113 and light orange-brown sand (16110) sealed 16107. Overlying 16110 was coarse mid orange sand (16109) and a layer of compact mid orange sandy gravel (16108) sealed both 16109 and 16112. The uppermost natural deposit in this area was mid orange sand (16102).

5.6.3 Elsewhere in the open area, other deposits believed to be natural were; a loose pale yellow sand (16085), a mixture of mid orange-brown sand and light orange-brown sand (16087), a light to mid orange-brown sand containing lenses of mid brown sand (16093), and another layer of loose light yellow sand (16116).

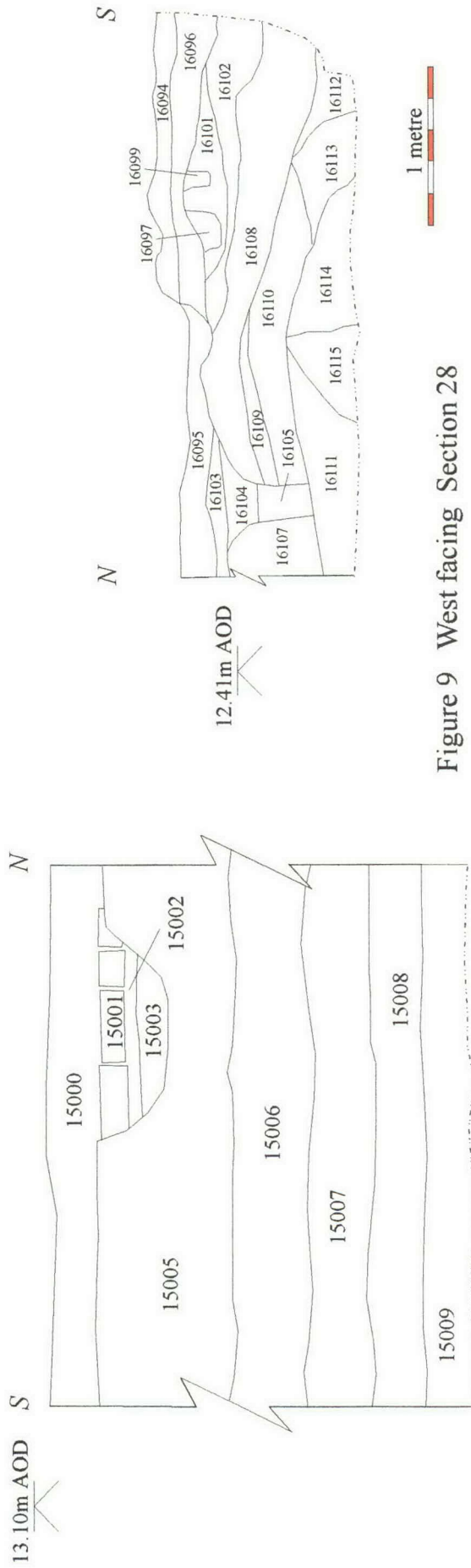


Figure 7 East facing Section 15

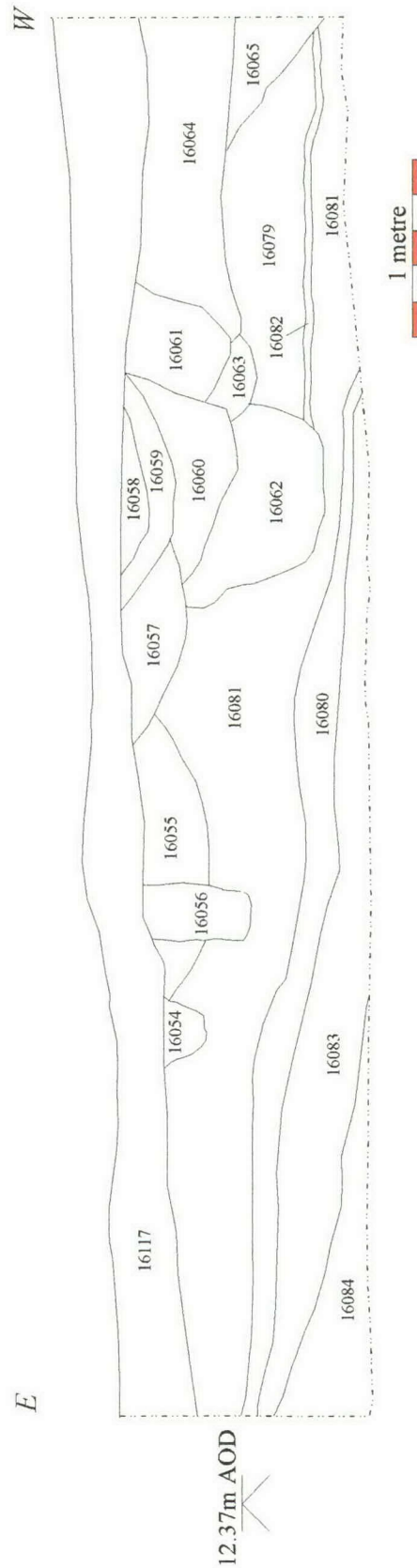


Figure 8 North facing Section 25

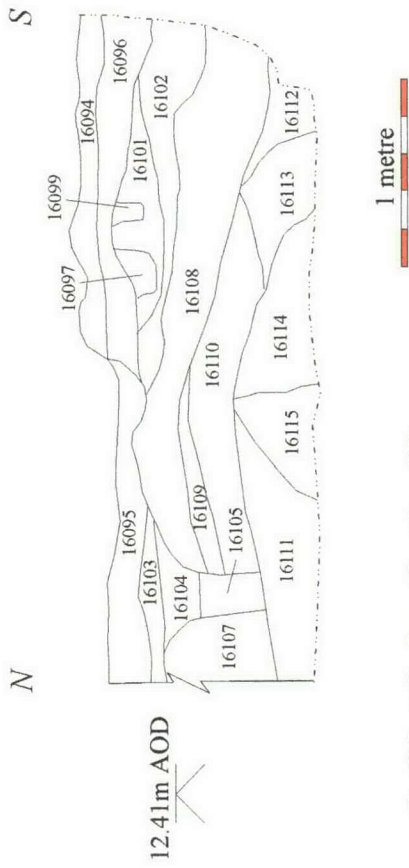


Figure 9 West facing Section 28

5.6.4 Cut directly into the various upper natural deposits was a large number of features. These could be broadly divided into two groups; those that were definitely stratigraphically below other features or deposits, and those that were not. The first group contained linear features (16030), (16034), (16038) and (16047), pits (16032) and (16068), a rectangular pit (16017) and a roughly rectangular pit (16004), a feature (16092), a roughly circular posthole (16021) and a roughly rectangular posthole (16006). The linear feature (16030), possibly a drain, was aligned approximately east-west, was c.0.8m wide and at least 0.1m deep. It had gently to moderately sloping sides, flattish base and a backfill of dark grey sandy loam (16029). Pit (16068) was at least 1.7m across and 0.5m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The lower backfill was dark brown sandy clay (16066) and the upper was dark yellowish-brown clayey sand (16067). Posthole (16106) was c.0.22m wide, flaring to c.0.6m at the top, and was 0.54m deep. It had nearly vertical sides except at the top where they were steep to moderate, and a flat base. The lower backfill was mid brown sandy loam (16105) and the upper mid greyish-brown sandy loam (16104). Pit (16032) was c.5.3m across east to west and c.5m north to south. It was not bottomed but had a depth greater than 1m. The sides were nearly vertical and this cut contained at least two backfills the lower of which was dark yellowish-brown silty sand (16031) and the upper loose light yellow sand (16039). Linear feature (16047) was possibly a drain or ditch, aligned approximately north-east to south-west. It was at least 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately sloping sides leading into a curved base. The backfill was mid greyish-brown sandy loam (16046). A feature (16092), possibly a ditch or pit, which was at least 1.05m across and 0.5m deep with very steeply sloping sides was also found. The base was not reached and the only backfill recorded was coarse mid orange-brown sand (16091). A rectangular pit (16017) measuring c.1.4m by 1.1m, was at least 0.7m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flattish base sloping down gently from south to north. It contained two backfills the lower being light to mid grey very sandy loam (16016), containing pot of the 11th/12th century, and the upper mid brown sandy loam (16015). A roughly circular posthole (16021) with a diameter of c.0.22m and a depth of 0.2m which had nearly vertical sides, a flattish base and a backfill of mid grey sandy loam (16020) was also recorded. This posthole lay within the south-eastern corner of pit 16017. A linear feature (16038), possibly another ditch, was aligned roughly north-east to south-west. It was c.1.4m wide and 0.45m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a backfill of mid to dark orange-brown silty sand containing moderate amounts of iron pan and patches of mid grey clay and mid orange sand (16037). Another linear feature (16034), possibly also a ditch, was aligned approximately north to south and was c.0.5m wide and c.0.25m deep. It had steeply sloping sides, a flat base, and contained a backfill of mid orange-brown silty sand (16033). A roughly rectangular pit (16004), c.1.6m by 0.8m, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base contained two backfills, the lower coarse light grey sand (16003) and the upper firm mid greyish-brown sandy loam (16002) which produced pottery of the 11th century. A roughly rectangular posthole (16006), c.0.1m by 0.06m and c.0.15m deep, with nearly vertical sides and a pointed base lay within the south-east corner of pit 16004 and had been backfilled with firm mid brownish-grey sandy loam (16005).

5.6.5 A group of features without recorded overlying deposits or without features cut into them, included a sub-rectangular feature (16023), possibly a pit base, c.1.1m by 0.9m and c.0.13m deep with gently sloping sides, a flattish base, and a backfill of dark brownish-grey clayey sand (16022). A circular posthole (16051), c.0.15m across and at least 0.17m deep with steeply sloping sides and a slightly pointed base which had been backfilled with dark grey sandy loam (16050) was also found. Also in this category were a roughly circular posthole (16053), c.0.08m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a flat base with a backfill of dark grey sandy clay (16052) and a sub-rectangular feature (16025), possibly a pit, c.1.1m by 0.7m and

c.0.16m deep, with gently to moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. The latter had been backfilled with mid greyish-brown very sandy loam (16024). A linear feature (16049), possibly a ditch, aligned approximately north-east to south-west was also recorded. This was between c.1.1m and 1.5m wide and c.0.3m deep with quite steeply sloping sides and an irregular base and it had been backfilled with mid greyish-brown sandy loam (16048). Also part of this group was the southern part of a grave (16028 = 9002) first seen and partly excavated during the evaluation. The remaining part of the skeleton, the whole of the right leg and foot (16027 = 9005), was lifted after removal of the remaining backfill, mid greyish-brown slightly loamy sand with many patches of light yellow sand (16026 = 9004).

5.6.6 Probably later than the features of 5.6.4 and 5.6.5 was a group of three probable build-up deposits. They were: compact mid brown sandy loam containing moderate amounts of charcoal (16079), compact dark grey loam (16103), and a mixture of mid orange sand and mid grey loam (16101).

5.6.7 A further group of features all cut the features or deposits of 5.6.4, 5.6.5 and 5.6.6. This group included a feature (16119) of uncertain size, shape, and function, but at least 0.4m across and 0.2m deep with a curved base. The only recorded backfill was friable dark brown sandy silt with frequent small and medium sized cobbles (16063). Another feature seen was possibly a ditch, of uncertain size and shape, but at least 0.75m across and 0.5m deep with a moderately sloping east edge (16078). The base of this feature was beyond the limit of excavation and the only backfill seen was compact mid brown sandy silt (16065). A posthole (16098), possibly circular, at least 0.24m wide and 0.2m deep with very steeply sloping sides and a flat base was also recorded. It contained a backfill of mid grey sandy loam (16097). Another possibly circular posthole (16100), at least 0.12m wide and 0.16m deep with nearly vertical sides and a flat base with a backfill of dark grey sandy loam (16099) was also seen. A large oval pit (16012) measuring c.2m by 1.3m and 0.7m deep which had quite steeply sloping sides and a roughly concave base was also part of this group. The lowest backfill was dark greyish-brown sandy loam (16011) above which was dark brownish-grey silty sand (16010). The uppermost fill was dark greyish-brown silty sand (16009). This deposit produced tile of the 14th – 16th century and pottery of the 15th century. A linear feature (16045), probably a ditch or drain, aligned approximately north-east to south-west was also recorded. This was at least 0.65m across and 0.4m deep with gently sloping sides and an undulating flattish base and it contained a backfill of light grey sandy clay (16044). A feature (16090), which may have been a drain, was possibly aligned north-east to south-west. It was at least 0.25m across and 0.32m deep with very steep sides and a flat base. It had a backfill of mid orange sand containing moderate amounts of iron pan (16089). Another linear feature (16041), possibly also a drain, was aligned roughly north-east to south-west. It was c.0.7m wide and c.0.25m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The backfill was firm mid greyish-brown very sandy loam (16040). Yet another linear feature (16036), possibly a drain, was aligned approximately north-east to south-west. Its width varied from 0.4m to 0.5m and it was c.0.2m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was backfilled with mid orange-brown silty sand with moderate patches of orange and grey sand and moderate amounts of iron pan (16035). A circular posthole (16001), c.0.23m across and at least 0.33m deep with nearly vertical sides is the final feature in this group. It had been backfilled with a mixture of dark grey loam and mid brown loam (16000).

5.6.8 A small group of later features could be isolated, all of which were cut into various features of 5.6.7. These included a feature (16076), probably a pit or ditch, which was at least 1.2m across and 0.65m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. It had a backfill of compact

mid brown sandy silt (16062) which contained tile dated to the 14th – 16th centuries. A roughly circular pit (16008), c.1.1m across and 0.28m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flattish base was also recorded in this group. Its backfill was dark brownish-grey clayey sand (16007) from which came tile of the 14th – 16th century and pot of the 13th century. Another roughly circular pit (16014), c.1.4m across and c.1.05m deep with very steeply sloping sides and a flattish base contained a backfill of dark brownish-grey clayey sand (16013) which contained pot of the 15th/16th century and tile of the 13th – 16th centuries. A linear feature (16043), probably a drain or ditch, aligned roughly north-east to south-west which was at least 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with gently to steeply sloping sides and an uneven, undulating, base was also recorded. Its backfill was dark grey sandy clay with moderate to frequent iron pan (16042). A further linear feature (16019), possibly a drain, was aligned roughly north-east to south-west. It was very variable in width and depth but was typically c.0.35m - 0.6m wide and 0.1m – 0.25m deep with moderately to steeply sloping sides and a flattish base. Three backfills were identified. The lowest was light to mid greyish-brown very sandy loam (16086) and the middle fill mid brown sandy loam (16018). The uppermost was mid brown slightly clayey sandy loam (16088). Of these only 16018 was present along the entire feature.

5.6.9 Probably later than all these features was a single build-up deposit of compact mid brown clayey sandy silt (16064). Cut into this was a feature (16077), possibly a drain or ditch, of uncertain size and shape. It was at least 0.7m across and 0.58m deep with a very steeply sloping west edge and a curved base. It had been backfilled with compact mid brown sandy silt (16062). This feature had been partly truncated by a possible pit (16075) at least 1.1m across and 0.6m deep with a very steeply sloping west edge and an irregular base. The backfill was compact mid orange-brown silty sand (16060) which produced tile of the 14th – 16th centuries. Probably contemporary with 16075 was a feature (16071) of unknown function. This was at least 1.6m across and 0.34m deep with gently sloping sides leading into a curved base and it contained a backfill of compact mid orange-brown sandy silty clay (16055).

5.6.10 Cut into 16055 was a feature (16073) of uncertain function, size, and shape but it was at least 1.1m across and 0.38m deep with gently sloping sides and a curved base. It contained a backfill of friable dark brown slightly clayey sandy silt (16057) and had been partially truncated by another feature (16074), possibly a pit, which was at least 1.2m across and 0.3m deep with quite gently sloping sides leading into a curved base. This contained two backfills, the lower being friable mid brown silty sand (16059), which became lighter and more orange at its base and the upper loose mid brown clayey sandy silt (16058) from which came tile of the 14th – 16th centuries. Probably contemporary with 16074 was a posthole (16072), which was c.0.32m across, and 0.6m deep with vertical sides and a flattish base. It had a backfill of compact mid orange-brown sandy silty clay (16056). Also probably contemporary with 16074 was a feature (16070), possibly a posthole, which was 0.36m across and 0.25m deep with steeply sloping sides and an irregular flattish base. It had been backfilled with compact dark orangey-brown clayey silty sand (16054).

5.6.11 Sealing features 16070, 16072, and 16074 was a build-up deposit of loose dark greyish-brown sandy silty loam (16117) forming the current modern ground level, at c.13.3m AOD, in the south-west corner of the site. Probably contemporary with 16117 was a build-up deposit of dark grey loam (16069) which was the uppermost deposit along part of the eastern side of the excavation. The top of this deposit lay at c.13m AOD. Another contemporary deposit, in the south-east corner of the excavation, was mid brown sandy loam (16096). This may have been a disturbed build-up deposit. Overlying 16096 were two deposits forming the current modern

ground surface. One was a build-up deposit of mid grey loam (16094) lying at c.12.9m AOD and the other was a dump of mid orange sand lying at c.12.7m AOD.

6. FINDS ASSESSMENT

6.1 The Pottery

Thirty-eight sherds of pottery were recovered from five contexts (16002, 16007, 16009, 16013, 16016) during this campaign. Pottery types typical of the Norman period were recovered from contexts 16002 and 16016; this comprised splashed and gritty wares typical of domestic assemblages. Lightly gritted wares of 13th century date were recovered from context 16007. The remaining contexts (16009 and 16013) produced nothing later than the 15th (or possibly early 16th century) although these centuries were only represented by 5-6 sherds of late Humber wares, Hambleton-type ware and some early post-medieval earthenwares, the remainder were residual earlier types.

The earlier campaign of work on this site had produced further evidence of Norman activity with a few sherds of medieval (14th century) wares but little which spanned the period from the late 14th century to the post-medieval period.

6.2 The Small Finds

Small Finds 36-42 were assessed and comprised coffin nails from context 16026, a possibly unfinished horseshoe of probable late medieval date, a tiny fragment of slag, and a virtually complete tanged spoon bit; this last object is of a form found from the Roman period through until fairly recent times, so a date is best provided by its context

6.3 Ceramic Building Materials

6.3.1 Introduction

Approximately one box of material was submitted for examination. The material ranged in date from the Roman to the post-medieval period. This report also discusses brick and tile recovered during the earlier evaluation on the site.

6.3.2 Roman material

There were two fragments of Roman material, both from context 8001 and both Imbrex (Roman roof tile).

6.3.3 Medieval material

The medieval material consisted of brick and plain roofing tile. The brick took the typical York format of a narrow thickness (between 32 and 38 mm) and a comparatively wide breadth (144mm). These are allied with indented borders. This form is found widely in York and may be 'wall tile,' which was used as infilling, or noggin, for timber framed buildings. These bricks seem to typically date between the 14th-15th centuries.

The majority of the material was plain roofing tile. In York, this typically takes the form of a single peg holed tile, and there are fragments of square peg holes from contexts 10004 and 16013. There is also one fragment of ridge tile, from context 16007. Plain roofing tile dates from the 13th-16th century, though it is used into the post-medieval period. Some of the material in context 16009 and 16058 was burnt and overfired.

6.3.4 Post-medieval material

Post-medieval material is represented by plain roofing tile, brick, pantile and land drain. The plain roofing tile from context 8000 may, due to refined manufacturing methods, be post-medieval rather than medieval. Post-medieval brick tends to be manufactured by using a wetted (slop) mould, giving the effect of smooth headers and stretchers. Also, the fabrics become progressively refined over time. The post-medieval brick is fragmentary from this site, but the slop moulding manufacturing techniques and fine fabrics are observable.

Pantile begins to be used in this country from around the 17th century. Land drains can date to the early 19th century, but the fragment present in context 10007 has an extremely refined fabric and is machine made, so it probably at least mid 19th or later in date.

6.3.5 Other material

There were five fragments of sandstone from context 8001. None of these fragments had a nail or peg hole, so they may have been used as paving or in wall courses.

A very large-scale rim sherd is present in context 16007. It is glazed on the inside and may have a pale slip on the outside. It is unlikely to be roof furniture (i.e. a chimney pot) and is possibly from a large storage jar.

6.3.6 Conclusion

This sample should be retained for further study, as it contributes to the study of York ceramic building materials and beyond.

6.3.7 Context Listing Table

Key

L = Complete length *B* = Complete breadth *T* = Complete Thickness *FH* = Complete Flange Height*Spot Date* = estimated date of context

* = only minimum measurement available

NB: This list indicates only forms present and any variations (such as slag attached, or pawprints). It does not list every fragment of CBM

CONTEXT	SPOT DATE	DESCRIPTION
8000	16 th +?	Plain roofing tile
8001	1-4 th ?	5 sandstone slabs possibly roof tile, Imbrex x two fragments
8005	17 th +	Pantile
8013	13-16 th	Plain roofing tile
9000	16 th +	Brick, post medieval, Plain roofing tile medieval
10003	17 th +	Pantile or possibly drain pipe refined fabric
10004	13-16 th	Peg tile with square peghole
10006	13-16 th	Plain roofing tile
10007	MID 19 th +	Plain roofing tile Land drain
10009	18 th +	Brick slop moulded
10013	18 th +	Large vessel rim glazed on inside probably not roof furniture
16007	14 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile, Ridge tile, Brick, Brick T40
16009	14 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile, Plain roofing tile burnt, Plain overfired and blown, Brick T33 and with indented border, Brick B144 T38 and indented border, Peg tile with square peghole, Brick T34, Peg with circular peghole, Brick T37, Plain roofing tile with mortar
16013	13 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile, Plain roofing tile overfired, Peg tile with square peghole
16058	14 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile, Peg tile, Peg tile overfired, Brick T32
16060	14 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile, Plain roofing tile in small fragments, Plain roofing tile with mortar
16062	14 th -16 th	Plain roofing tile

7. CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT

7.1 Aims and Objectives

This report aims to meet the requirements of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991) to produce a stable site archive (Phase2: Fieldwork). This has involved X-radiography and an assessment of the condition, stability and packaging of the finds. This report is in addition to the evaluation assessment report covering the finds from the Archaeological Evaluation, dated 23/05/2002

The potential of the assemblage for further analysis and research is also discussed (MAP2 Phase 3: Assessment). The condition of the various classes of material is summarised and indicators of unusual preservation are noted. There are recommendations for investigative conservation, for additional specialist support, and topics for further research are raised.

7.2 Procedures

All six iron objects were X-rayed using standard Y.A.T. procedures and equipment. Two sheets of film were placed in the cassette to produce a duplicate for archive purposes. The plates were laid out in number order as much as possible and the X-ray number written on each bag. Each image on the X-ray was labelled with its small find number. The plates were packaged in acid-free archival envelopes. The plate number and details were added to the Online Photo Archive and this was linked to the IADB record for each object. All categories of material were examined under a binocular microscope at X20 magnification as well as viewing the X-rays were they existed. The material identifications were checked and observations made the condition and stability of the finds. Assessments were recorded in the Conservation Work Record Field on IADB, the information can be printed out through SQL Query.

7.3 Quantification

A total of seven small finds was assessed and one X-ray produced. The number of objects in each material category is listed below:

Iron	6
Slag	1

7.4 Assessment

7.4.1 Iron

There are six iron small finds, three of which are nails and nail fragments. An aggressive, sandy burial environment has resulted in extensive corrosion with little or no metal core remaining in the case of the nails. The X-rays show complete central voiding has occurred in many cases and suggests that extremely limited surface detail survives. The nails and nail fragments, all from context 16026 have remains of mineralised wood surviving on them, with the grain direction visible on the x-rays. These nails are thought to be further coffin nails from the same grave mentioned in the evaluation report, (see above). Further study of the wood grain direction in relation to the nails may help to reconstruct the coffin if required. The iron appears to be stable

with only limited signs of corrosion activity since excavation. It should be suitable for long term storage in desiccated conditions.

7.4.2 Slag

One small fragment of spherical hammer slag was recovered. It is stable and suitable for long-term storage. No further treatment is recommended.

7.5 Statement of Potential

7.5.1 Indicators of preservation

As with those finds from the archaeological evaluation, the condition of the iron finds indicates an extremely aggressive burial environment which does not favour the preservation of metals. In contrast, mineralised wood in relation to the iron has survived relatively well.

7.5.2 Mineralised remains

The iron nails from context 16026 have remains of mineralised wood surviving on them. Further study of the wood may identify the species. Reconstruction of the thickness of the wood planks may be possible and may help to reconstruct the coffin if required.

7.6 Recommendations

7.6.1 Further Investigative Conservation and specialist support

No further investigative conservation, analysis or specialist support has been recommended by the Finds Researcher. Further study of the mineralised wood could be carried out if required.

7.7 Storage

7.7.1 Packaging

The finds have been packaged appropriately for long term storage. All materials used are archive stable and acid-free. Plastic bags have been pierced to allow airflow within microclimates, reducing the risk of condensation and mould growth. 'Jiffy', (polythene) foam inserts have been added to the bags to provide additional support and protect against mechanical damage during transit. Any replacement of packaging materials should be carried out in consultation with a conservator.

7.7.2 Storage Environment

Metals and slag are packed in polythene 'Stewart' boxes with silica gel to provide a dry microclimates of less than 15% Relative Humidity which will halt any further corrosion, (Knight, 1992). It is necessary to monitor the indicator strips regularly and replace any gel if any part of the strip turns pink.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

8.1 Summary

A very small assemblage of hand-collected bone was recovered from further excavations at 127 Lawrence Street, York. Most of the vertebrate remains were recovered from deposits of early post-medieval date. This material was submitted for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

The vertebrate remains formed too small an assemblage for much useful interpretation but mostly appeared to derive from domestic refuse, with a small component of butchery waste. The main domesticates, cattle, caprovids, pig and horse, were all recorded, but the bones of a young goose provided the bulk of the identified remains. Several fragments of fish bone were also noted. Although the small size of the recovered bone assemblage precludes any further detailed recording and interpretation, it is clear that most of the material was well preserved and from deposits which were tightly dated. This should be borne in mind in the event of further excavations at this site.

8.2 Introduction

Further excavations at 127 Lawrence Street, York (NGR SE 6160 5137) were undertaken by York Archaeological Trust at the end of August and the beginning of September 2002. Several bags (approximately 10 litres in total) of hand-collected vertebrate remains were recovered from medieval and early post-medieval deposits and this material was submitted to PRS for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

8.3 Methods

For the hand-collected vertebrate remains that were recorded, data were entered directly into a series of tables using a purpose-built input system and *Paradox* software. Subjective records were made of the state of preservation, colour of the fragments, and the appearance of broken surfaces ('angularity'). Other information, such as fragment size, dog gnawing, burning, butchery and fresh breaks, was noted, where applicable.

Fragments were identified to species or species group using the PRS modern comparative reference collection. The bones which could not be identified to species were described as the 'unidentified' fraction.

8.4 Results

Hand-collected vertebrate remains, amounting to 113 fragments (Table 1), were recovered from the excavations. Four deposits were represented, three of which were of 15/16th century date (Contexts 16007, 16009 and 16013) and produced most of the fragments (108). A further five bones were recovered from the fourth deposit, Context 16016, which dated to the medieval period (11/12th century). Generally, the bones were well preserved and fawn in colour, although several bones showed some black mottling. Evidence of butchery was not extensive, but included two sheep skulls (Context 16009) which had been split longitudinally, probably for the extraction of the brain.

Context 16009 produced the largest assemblage of bone amounting to 69 fragments. The bulk of the remains from this deposit were identified as the skeleton of a young goose. Most of the bird was represented, including ribs, vertebrae and skull fragments. However, only a single phalanx was recovered and no carpometacarpals, which suggests that the carcass may represent table waste — the tips of the wings and the feet removed prior to cooking. Alternatively, these elements are small and may have been missed during hand-collection. No evidence of butchery was observed. A goose tarsometatarsus, almost certainly from the same skeleton, was identified from Context 16007.

The main domesticates, cattle, caprovid, pig and horse were also present within the assemblage, together with three fragments identified as chicken. A single gadid post cleithrum was noted from Context 16007, whilst several fish fragments were recovered from Context 16009. These were probably gadid bones but were too fragile and eroded to be confidently identified.

Only two bones were measurable and there were two mandibles with teeth *in situ*.

8.5 Discussion and statement of potential

The vertebrate remains recovered from deposits at Lawrence Street were too few to be of much interpretative value, although it is more than likely that most of the fragments represented domestic refuse, with a small component of butchery waste. The good preservation of the remains suggests that they were quickly incorporated into the deposits and that they had not been dumped elsewhere first.

8.6 Recommendations

No further work on the current assemblage is warranted. Although the small size of the recovered bone assemblage precludes any further detailed recording and interpretation, it is clear that most of the material was well preserved and from deposits which were tightly dated. This should be borne in mind in the event of further excavations at this site.

8.7 Retention and disposal

The material need not be retained.

8.8 Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

Table 1. Hand-collected vertebrate remains from further excavations at 127 Lawrence Street, York. Key: No. frags. =total number of fragments.

Species		No. frags.
<i>Equus</i> f. domestic	horse	1
<i>Sus</i> f. domestic	pig	2
<i>Bos</i> f. domestic	cow	2
Caprovid	sheep/goat	8
<i>Anser</i> sp.	goose	22
<i>Gallus</i> f. domestic	chicken	3
Gadidae		1
Unidentified fish		7
Unidentified		67
Total		113

9. CONCLUSIONS AND PERIOD ANALYSIS

No prehistoric evidence was recovered from the site modern archaeological research but fieldwork has shown that material of the period, particularly of the later Iron Age, is somewhat more common around York than was formerly thought and could be found in the area. It is believed that Green Dykes Lane, a short distance to the east, marks the approximate line of one or more defensive or boundary banks of the later Iron Age. The lack of evidence for the Roman period is somewhat more surprising. The line of the main Roman road to the east is fairly well known and a trench dug in the driveway of 127 Lawrence Street in 1974 – 5 encountered buried road surfaces believed to be part of this road. This would have meant that the road ran underneath the southern part of the lawn but no coherent trace of it was found either during the evaluation or the present work. The southern part of the site appears, however, to have been lowered, probably in connection with the erection of the vicarage, and comparison of levels between the 1974 – 5 trench and the present lawn suggests that the road may have been completely removed from below the lawn during the 19th century works although it is equally possible that the medieval activity had removed much of it previously.

There was considerable evidence for the medieval period some of which confirms the conclusions made after the evaluation. However, a small number of features excavated during the open area excavation produced tile and pottery of probable 15th century date and possibly of 16th century date whereas the latest dating evidence from the evaluation appeared to belong to the 14th century. A closer investigation of the later dating evidence demonstrated that it came from features thought to be late in the medieval sequence. Also, none of it came from the ditches or postholes recorded on site but from features which could be confidently be identified as rubbish pits. It is therefore suggested that the broad conclusions reached from the evaluation are correct but that the site was not completely abandoned but used for rubbish disposal during the 15th and possibly 16th centuries. The problem of the single isolated burial, encountered during the evaluation and the present work, remains unresolved since it still appears to belong to the period when the site was actively occupied rather than being used for waste disposal.

The post-medieval period appears to have seen the site used for agriculture, certainly the archaeological and cartographic evidence points to this although a number of features including postholes and pits below the modern topsoil but apparently cutting medieval levels were identified in the southern and eastern sections. These may have been followed by, or possibly associated with, a brief episode of quarrying for sand after which the resulting holes were partly backfilled with domestic refuse and possibly building debris prior to the construction of St Lawrence's vicarage c.1877. It is possibly at this time that the site was levelled, a process which lowered the southern end of the site by up to c.0.9m. The site has probably not changed to any significant degree since the erection of the vicarage.

9.1 Prehistoric and Roman (pre 1st – 5th centuries AD)

No evidence of any type for prehistoric activity on or close to the present site was recovered from the evaluation. No clear trace of the Roman road known to lie in the area was found and none of the features seen or excavated could be dated to the Roman period. It is, however, possible that some of the gravel deposits seen in the southern and eastern sections may have been derived from the Roman road known to lie close by.

9.2 Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian (5th – 11th centuries AD)

There was no definite evidence of any type recovered from this site to suggest any occupation or other form of activity in the immediate area belonging to either period although some activity of the Anglian period is attested in the vicinity of the present site.

9.3 Medieval (11th – 16th centuries AD)

Evidence for this period was relatively plentiful with ditches, gullies, pits, postholes and deposits of the period identified within the open area. Although postholes were present no clear structures could be identified. The gullies and ditches clearly belonged to at least two phases and possibly acted as boundary ditches defining a certain area of activity. Although this activity could not be closely dated the pottery evidence pointed to much of it belonging to the late 11th century to, perhaps, the early 14th century followed by a period of pit digging during the 15th century and possibly into the 16th century.

9.4 Post-medieval (16th – 19th centuries AD)

No conclusive evidence for this period was found but some of the features seen in the south and east limits of excavation could have belonged to this period and could possibly, although there is no supporting evidence, belong to the civil war period when there is known to have been activity in the immediate vicinity.

9.5 Modern (19th – 21st centuries)

Evidence for this period was recovered from all areas. It was mainly in the form of deposits but a small number of postholes may be of this period.

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