
NEWGATE MARKET REFURBISHMENT, YORK.

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION.
OSA REPORT No: OSA13WB32

July 2015

OSA

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Report Summary.

REPORT NO: OSA14WB32

SITE NAME: Newgate Market refurbishment

COUNTY: York

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: SE 60443 51843

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Post excavation & report preparation
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PERIODS REPRESENTED: Medieval (?) - modern

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1.0 Abstract.

An archaeological investigation was carried out by On-Site Archaeology at the site of the former Newgate Market (now renamed 'Shambles Market') during refurbishment works from July 2014 to March 2015. Most of the refurbishment work had a limited impact on buried archaeology and was subject to an archaeological watching brief. A mid-project redesign of the new kiosks, located in the southwestern part of the site, involved greater below ground impact and was the subject of an open area excavation as recommended by John Oxley, City Archaeologist.

A variety of features were revealed during the refurbishment works most of which dated to the early modern period or later as might have been expected. However a small number of structural features – usually stone-built – may be of earlier date. The low depth of excavation involved in most of the groundworks limited opportunities for investigation and absolute dates were hard to establish.

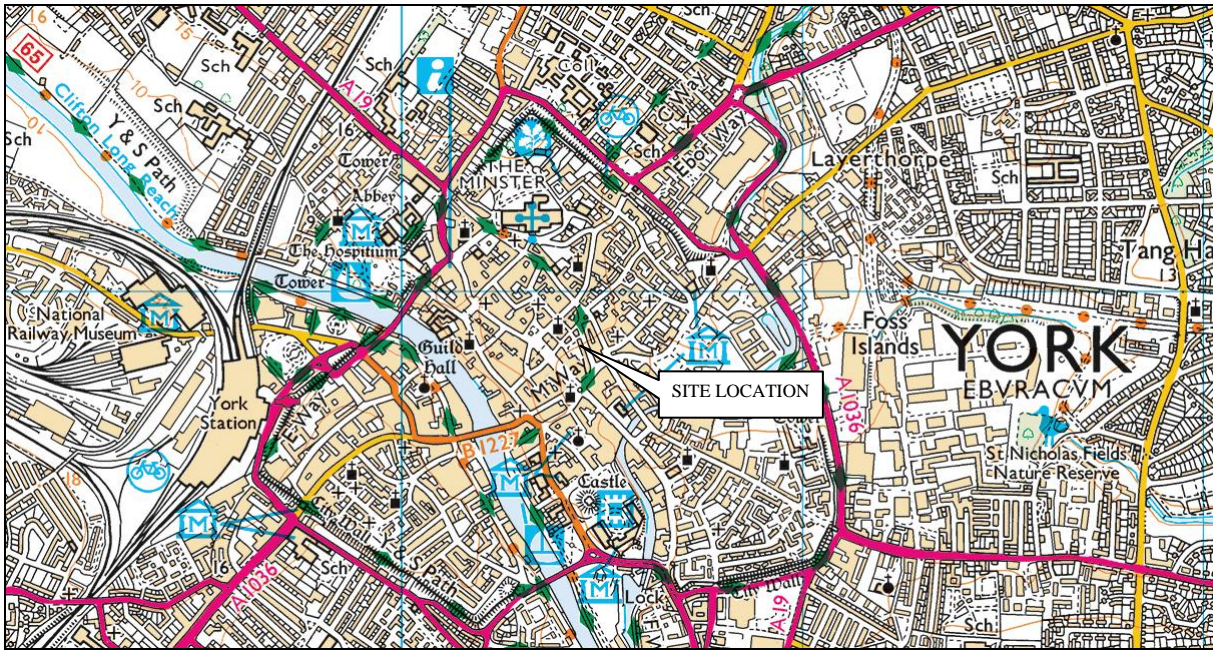


Figure 1. Site location (NGR SE 60443 51843)

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2.0 Site Location, Geology, Topography and Land Use.

The site of the former Newgate Market (now rebranded as ‘Shambles Market’) is in the centre of York, centred at approximately SE 60443 51843. The site is bounded to the east and southeast by the rear of properties fronting Shambles, to the southwest by the rear elevation of the Marks and Spencer's building, to the west by other commercial properties and to the north by the northeast-southwest aligned Newgate. At the commencement of the works the market was surfaced by a mixture of York stone slabs, concrete slabs and concrete or tarmac. Ground level throughout the market area is around 12m AOD

3.0 Archaeological Background.

3.1 *General*

The site lies in the central historic core of York, within the Conservation Area and the Area of Archaeological Importance. The centre of York in the vicinity of Newgate market is known to contain areas of deep archaeological stratigraphy, with remains dating back at least as far as the Roman period, often with exceptional preservation due to the presence of waterlogged ground conditions. However, it was not anticipated that the refurbishment works would penetrate deeply enough to encounter the most significant archaeological stratigraphy.

The following summary is drawn from the brief prepared by the City Archaeologist (Oxley 2014).

Newgate Market was created in the early 1950s. Up to 1951, the site of Newgate Market was crossed by the medieval street of Little Shambles. Medieval and late medieval timber framed buildings and buildings of 18th and 19th century date on both sides of Little Shambles, on the south side of Newgate and at the rear of the Shambles and Pavement were demolished in two phases, first in the mid-1930s and second in the early 1950s.

A former burial ground extending across the parish boundary between All Saints Pavement, St Crux and St Sampson's lies to the south of Newgate Market. The cemetery probably belongs to a lost church, perhaps dedicated to St Swithun. Finds made in late 19th century and 1929 under premises in Parliament Street and Pavement (now part of Marks and Spencer's store Parliament Street) suggests a large cemetery with coffined burials extending back from Parliament Street possibly into Newgate Market at the rear of Marks and Spencer's. Finds of carved stones and a papal bulla of Honorius III suggest the cemetery was in use from 9th/10th century to at least 1217. It is not known at what depth elements of this cemetery will be preserved.

At least two phases of post-1950s resurfacing and “improvements” have been carried out. These will have had an impact on archaeological features and deposits. This will mean that deposits are likely to be encountered at different depths across the site depending on the extent of excavations for these earlier improvement works.

An archaeological watching brief on a series of small trial pits indicates that there will be archaeological features located immediately below make-up and construction levels for the market surface (YAT 2014).

The site therefore has the potential to preserve features and deposits relating to the medieval and later buildings, their associated yard surfaces and outbuildings, and street surfaces and features relating to the development of Little Shambles, Newgate, Silver Street and Jubbergate. It is possible that deeper excavations in the area to the rear of Marks and Spencers may encounter burials. Deeper excavations across the site may also encounter wet, organic deposits.

3.2 *Old maps*

Old maps elucidate the history of the Newgate Market area. Pre-Ordnance Survey depictions of York depict a limited amount of detail, but the general geographical area is shown. The earliest map, that of John Speed in 1611, shows the southern part of the market area to be buildings backing onto a green space where Parliament Street now lies (Figure 2). The former street of Little Shambles clearly shown with more buildings to its north, beyond which is Newgate. Braun and Hogenberg's 1617 evolution of Speed's map shows the same. Horsley's 1697 plan shows Newgate Market to be a built up area, with Little Shambles cutting through it (Figure 3). A building, identified in his map key as 'Butchers Hall' (i.e. guildhall) is shown; it is unclear whether elements of the building are within the western side of the site. Gent's map of 1730 and Cossins' 1748 map also show the guildhall (unlabelled), lying just below and to the east of the junction of Jubbergate, Newgate and Little Shambles (Figures 4 and 5). Both show the area as built-up but do not show individual buildings. Chassereau's 1750 map only shows the basic elements of the area, but Jeffereys' 1771 depiction labels, but does not illustrate, the position of the Butchers Hall (Figure 6).



Figure 2. Speed's 1611 map (approximate site of Newgate Market in red)



Figure 3. Horsley's 1697 map (approximate site of Newgate Market in red)



Figure 4. Gent's 1730 map (approximate site of Newgate Market in red)

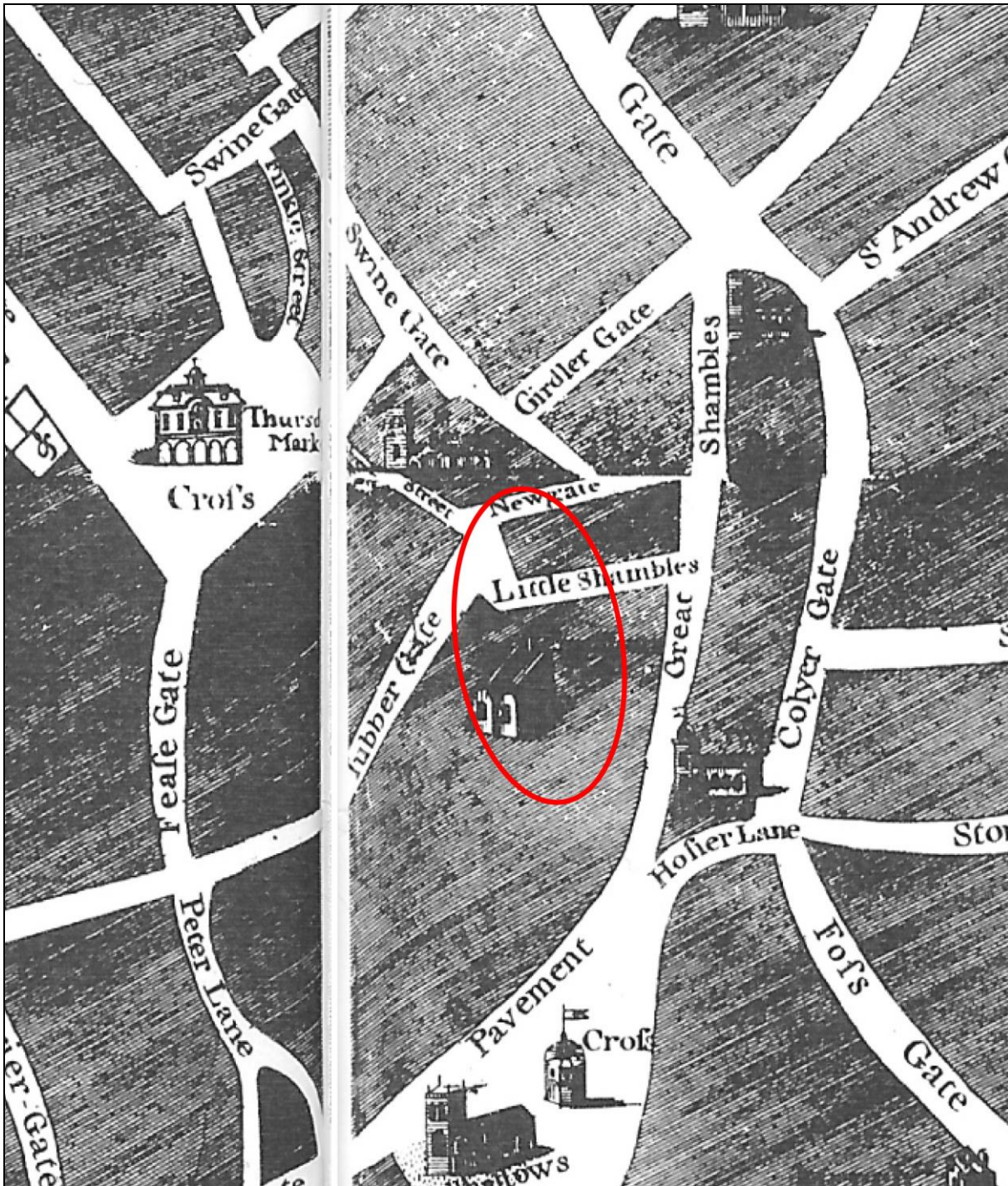


Figure 5. Cossin's 1748 map (approximate site of Newgate Market in red)



Figure 7. 1852 Ordnance Survey large-scale plan of York, with investigation areas overlain

4.0 Methodology.

Initially the groundworks for the market refurbishment were to be subject to an archaeological watching brief, in accordance with a specification prepared by the City Archaeologist (Oxley 2014). The aim of the watching brief was to record in plan all archaeological deposits disturbed during the course of groundworks and to establish the date and character of the deposits in any deeper intrusions that might occur as a result of the refurbishment works.

The design of the refurbishment evolved as the work was underway. A window sampling exercise was undertaken in the southwest part of the site in advance of piling work for the erection of new kiosks, which was observed archaeologically. As a result of a late redesign, the area of new kiosks in the southwestern part of the site required deeper ground reduction than had been planned. At the recommendation of the City Archaeologist, this area was excavated archaeologically as a small open area excavation to the required depth to allow the deposits encountered to be recorded in full.

The results section below is divided into logical areas, but this may give a misleading impression of regularity to the investigation. With the exception of the open area kiosk excavation the investigation was driven by the working methodology and timetabling of the various sub-contractors who were involved in the work and the City of York Council staff. In practice this meant that attendance was largely dependent on City of York Council staff informing the archaeologists. Investigations took place in piecemeal fashion, often entailing many return visits after the commencement of work, and in some cases the same features and areas were part-recorded at widely spaced intervals. Discrete areas were not necessarily fully exposed at the same time, and may have been part covered in modern concrete foundation material when work commenced in a different part of the area. Having been excavated to a certain depth, some areas were then re-excavated to a deeper level either on the same day or at varying intervals due to the changing plans for the finished job, or the needs of different sub-contractors. This sometimes made it difficult to accurately record the relationships of features.

Standard *On-Site Archaeology* techniques were followed throughout the investigation. These involved the completion of a context sheet or trench record sheet for each deposit, structure or cut encountered, along with plans and/or sections drawn to scale. Heights above Ordnance Datum (AOD) were calculated by taking levels from a temporary benchmark (TBM) supplied by the City of York Council engineer. A photographic record of the deposits and features was also maintained.

Ultimately the investigation covered three elements (Figure 8):

- A) a watching brief on the principal area of re-paving (c.550sq.m) recorded as Areas 1, 2 and 7;
- B) the excavation for the kiosk foundations (50sq.m) recorded as Area 3;

C) other smaller watching brief areas of re-paving, service-related or drain excavation, and a small area of foundation for a new rubbish compacter enclosure, recorded as Areas 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9.

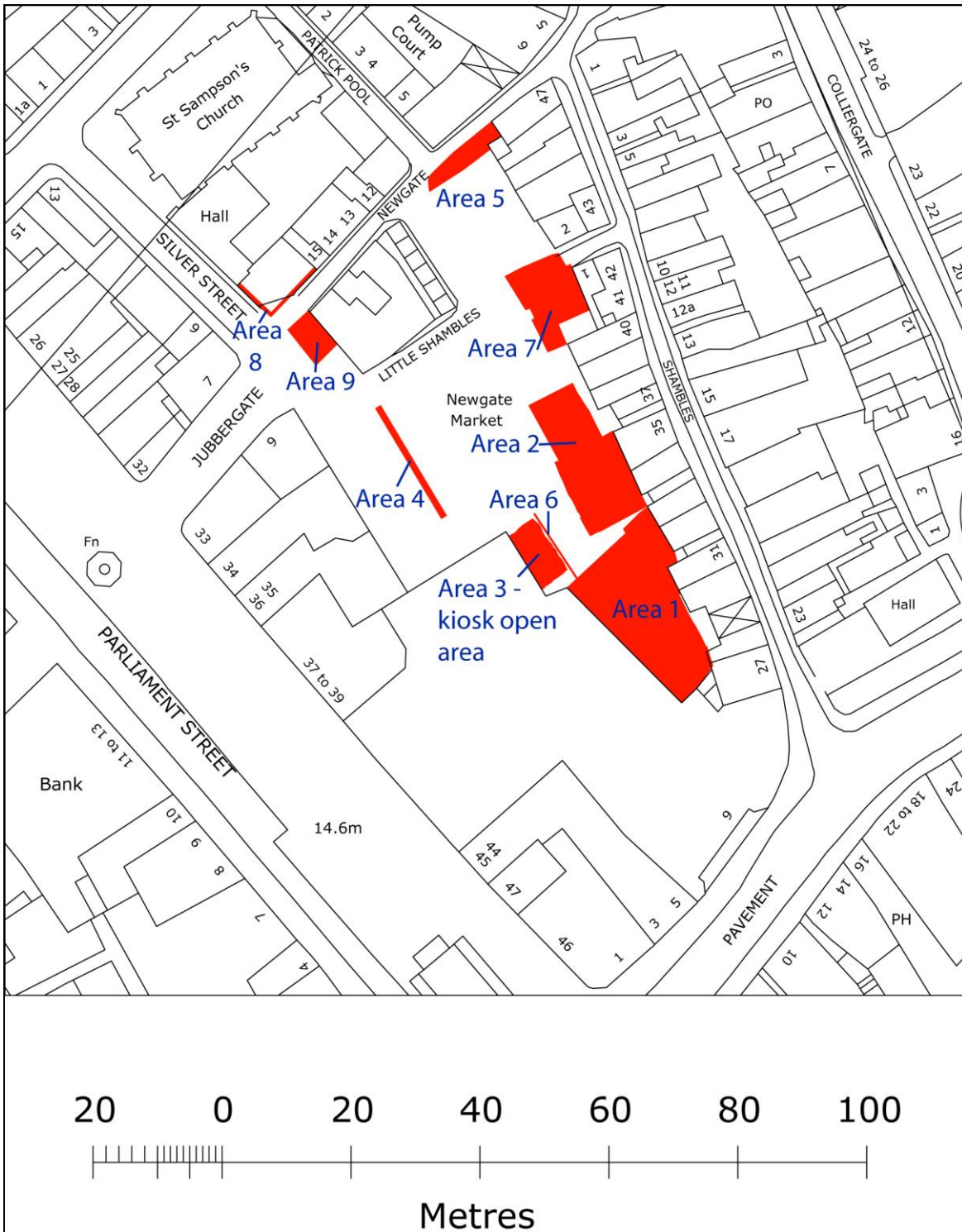


Figure 8. Investigation areas

5.0 Results.

All deposits, cuts and other archaeological features are issued with unique context numbers for ease of reference. It is standard practice to distinguish between *deposits* or *structures* (identified by the use of round brackets) and *cuts* (shown by the use of square brackets).

5.1 *Principal re-surfacing area watching brief*

The main resurfacing area occupied the northeastern side of Newgate Market, extending from the southeastern end of the open space to the northeast-southwest line of Little Shambles, encompassing an area of approximately 70m x 10m. This area was completely repaved, which involved the removal of the existing surface and the machine excavation of the former foundation material to allow a new foundation to be laid for the new paving. The specification for the new paving was different in different areas (and also changed through the life of the project) so some areas were excavated to a greater depth than others. The maximum depth was around 500mm below the original surface. This work also included two of the alleys linking Newgate Market to Shambles, although the depth of excavation was considerably less and the alleys had been resurfaced in the late twentieth century with concrete foundations. Consequently no archaeological features were found in these.

The remainder of Newgate Market, principally an area on the west side between the northwest wall of the Marks and Spencer's building and Little Shambles was also subject to repaving. Work here was done on an *ad hoc* basis and involved resetting the existing surface, mainly involving no excavation work. However, limited excavations took place for a variety of reasons in this wider area and these are discussed below.

Throughout most of the area the excavation revealed a layer of demolition rubble or levelling deposits containing early modern brick fragments, ash, cinders (101/120) and including occasional artefacts from the medieval period to the twentieth century. It is likely that this rubble dated from the 1950s/60s creation of Newgate Market. Protruding through this layer, and stratigraphically earlier were a number of archaeological features, largely in the form of walls/foundations. Cutting through this layer were several drains and other service trenches. The limited depth of the excavation and the number of modern intrusions complicated the interpretation of the archaeological structures and, for the most part, definitive dating of these features was impossible.

5.1.1 *Southeastern part of the main resurfacing area (Area 1)*

A variety of structures were identified in this area and they are described, working from south to north. Modern features such as manholes and services are not described unless they interact with archaeological features. (See Figure 9).

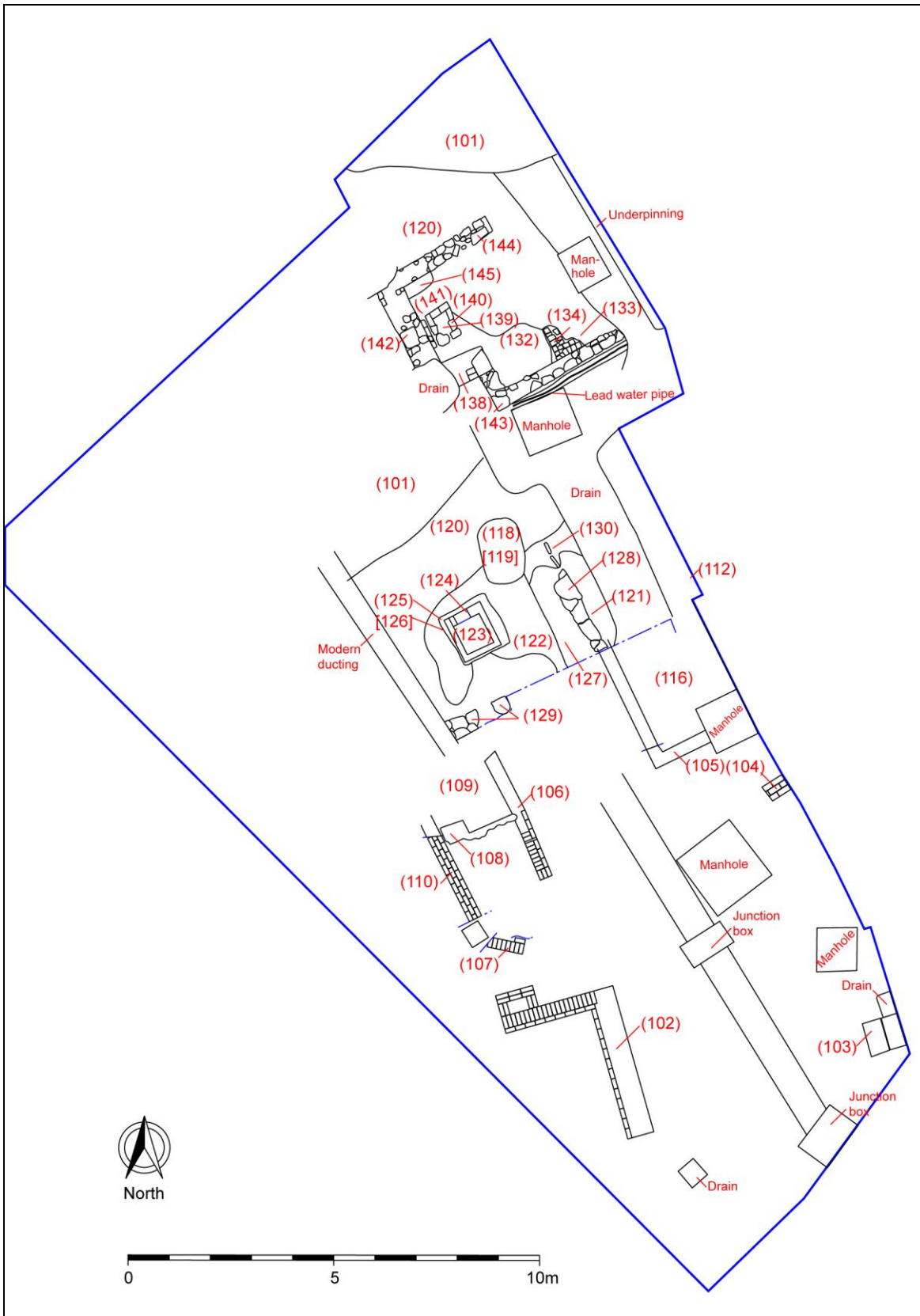


Figure 9. Plan of Area 1

At the southeastern tip of the site, two York stone slabs (103) measuring 800mm x 500mm were thought to be covering the entrance to a cellar at the rear of 29 Shambles. To the west of these slabs a section of modern brick foundation wall was found (102). Northwest of (102)

were three sections of wall, all made with modern brick (107), (106) and (110). Wall (107) was an isolated segment, but walls (106) and (110) appeared to be the remains of a modern cellar with an associated concrete ramp (108). The cellar entrance was backfilled with rubble containing twentieth century material (109). The full extent of the cellar entrance was not exposed. However the structure lay perpendicular to Shambles and was not aligned with the Marks and Spencer building, suggesting that it was an earlier twentieth century construction dating to before the clearance of the area.

To the east of the modern cellar entrance was a short section of foundation wall (104), exposed in a small section of deeper excavation (Plate 1). It was made up of a mixture of handmade brick and limestone rubble bonded with lime mortar. Just over 0.5m length of this wall was exposed, which was 375mm wide. An overlay of the 1852 Ordnance Survey map suggests that this was the northern foundation wall for a building that formerly stood fronting Shambles and extending into the market area in this position, which is now a wide alley.

At the rear of the present-day 29 and 31 Shambles were a number of features. What appeared to be a small backfilled cellar was defined by walls (105) and (112). Between these was rubble infill containing twentieth century material (116). Walls (105) and (112) were made of brick, of late nineteenth or early twentieth century form, bonded with lime mortar. The cellar occupied the approximate area of a small outbuilding shown on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map to the rear of 29 Shambles.

Adjacent to the cellar and to the rear of 31 Shambles was the remains of a room with an ash pit in the centre (Plate 2). The room – in the approximate position of an outbuilding shown on the 1852 OS map – was defined by two fragments of wall (129) and (128). Both were crudely built of single-skinned limestone rubble with lime mortar. In the approximate centre of the enclosed space was an ash pit consisting of a foundation trench [126], backfilled with dark brown sand with mortar and brick fragments (125). The ash pit (124) was constructed of mortared hand made brick creating an internal space of 800mm x 700mm. It was filled with the remains of a fire, ash cinders and other burnt material (123). The purpose of the ash pit was unclear; it may have been simply used for a stove or cooking oven, or it may indicate the use of the room for small-scale industrial processes requiring a forge or furnace.

The ash pit cut through dark greyish black sand with fragments of charcoal, shell and broken brick and/or tile (122). It also contained eight sherds of pottery, exclusively of medieval date with the latest being of fourteenth to fifteenth century date. The deposit is potentially of medieval date. It was only occasionally revealed below more modern demolition rubble but may have been the original surface, or foundation for the surface, of the room. A similar deposit (127) was present alongside wall (128) that may have had a similar interpretation. Surface (122) was also cut by a sub-rectangular pit [119], filled by chalk rubble and charcoal (118). The pit measured 1.6m x 1m and its function was uncertain.

At the rear of 33 Shambles, another room was revealed containing another ash-pit and a furnace base. The room was within a range of outbuildings shown on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map behind the present-day 33 Shambles. Its northwest wall was (144), the southeastern wall was (143) and the southwestern wall was (142) (Plate 3). The southwestern

wall lies within a building as shown on the 1852 map and must have been a party wall. Its southeastern end was lost when a modern drain was inserted. However a northwestern return on wall (143) suggested the presence of an entry lobby at this point, presumably allowing access to this room and the room that must have lain to the southwest. All three walls were made up of limestone rubble bonded with lime mortar in the form of a rough double skinned wall. Incorporated within the walls were four fragments of well-finished ashlar stone, including a pillar base, clearly re-used from a higher status building (Plate 4).

At the possible entrance threshold was a fragment of floor made up of hand-made brick (138) (Plate 5). Traces of limestone were visible below, perhaps indicative of an earlier wall/foundation. A similar surface (141) was seen in the northern half of the room. In the southern quarter of the room this surface was missing, revealing a deposit of greyish brown clayey sand containing occasional flecks of brick/tile, shell and bone (132) as well as a single sherd of mid-twelfth to mid-thirteenth century pottery. This material was reminiscent of cess pit fill, but it was impossible to confirm this due to the limited excavation (Plate 6). It was potentially of medieval date.

An ash pit/fire box (140) cut through floor (141). It was made of hand-made brick and limestone rubble with an internal space of 500mm x 400mm and contained a fragment of eighteenth or nineteenth century bottle glass within its construction. It contained a burnt ash deposit (139). As before, the purpose of the ash pit was unclear. Traces of a well-laid tile floor (134) were found in the eastern corner of the room laid on a bed of orange sand (133). The small neat and reddened tiles contrasted with the floor (141)/(138) found elsewhere in the room. It is possible that this was the floor of a fire or furnace, although this is conjectural.

5.1.2 Central part of the main resurfacing area (Area 2)

Area 2 contained a number of masonry structures. (See Figure 10)

Just to the northwest of Trench 1 were the remains of an outbuilding shown on the 1852 map lying behind the Leopard Public House. The outbuilding was defined by two walls. The southeastern wall (200) was roughly 500mm wide and was made of roughly dressed limestone blocks with a rubble core, bonded with lime mortar (Plate 7). Occasional flat roof tile of probable medieval or early post-medieval date was noted within its core. The northwestern wall (214) was of similar construction, except that it was unusually wide at c.880mm. It incorporated a fragment of a well-carved pillar, presumably re-used and originally from a high status building (Plate 8). To the northeast and southwest both walls were truncated by twentieth century drains or other services.

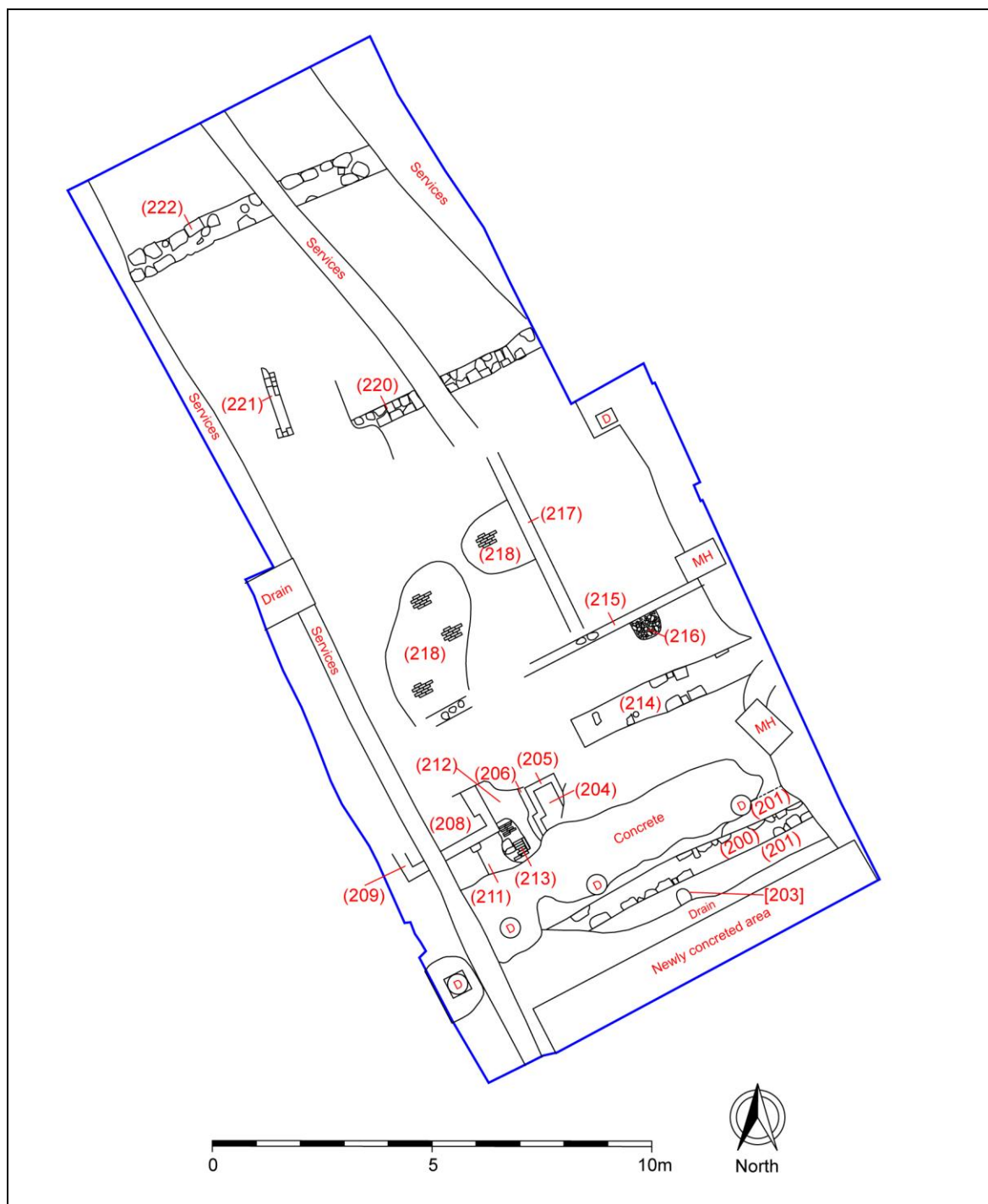


Figure 10. Plan of Area 2

A number of features were evident within the room defined by the two walls. The earliest archaeological feature was a layer of mortar (201), either forming a floor or the foundation for a now removed tile floor. It contained frequent flecks of charcoal and four fragments of medieval pottery, the latest dating from the mid-fourteenth to mid-fifteenth century. This layer was patchy and was not fully revealed, being buried below more recent deposits and heavily truncated by modern services. It lay both within the footprint of the buildings shown in 1852, and beyond its southeastern wall in an area shown as a narrow alley. It is possible that this floor, likely to have originally been an interior floor, may belong to an earlier phase of buildings with a different configuration.

Floor (201) was cut by a small posthole [203] (Plate 9). There were no artefacts in the posthole fill (202), but its position in an alley (as shown on the 1852 map) is unusual, and may suggest that this was part of the wall of an earlier phase of building that predated the formation of the alley.

Overlying floor (201) was another surface, preserved mainly in the central part of the building (212). This consisted of mixed clay and silt and contained frequent charcoal flecks and eight sherds of medieval pottery, dating to the mid-fifteenth century at the latest.

Cutting through surface (212) were three structures, although it is unlikely that the three were contemporary despite their similar stratigraphic position. The earliest feature was probably the hearth (213) made of end-on flat roof tiles and fragments of limestone (Plate 10). Judging by the style of tiles used, this feature was of medieval or early post-medieval date and contained copious ash deposits within its structure. It was unclear whether it was cut into surface (212), or whether the surface was formed around it.

The second feature to cut surface (212) was a wall (209) made of lime mortared 2” brick and sitting within a tight foundations cut [210]. The wall formed a rectangular shape 1.7m wide and c.1m deep, presumably butting up to the northwest wall of the room (not revealed during the watching brief). The form of this wall is suggestive of either a small cellar or the base of a large fireplace. Within the rectangle formed by the wall was a rubble fill (208) containing ash, clay pipe fragments and finds of eighteenth or nineteenth century date.

The final feature cutting (212) was an ash pit of lime-mortared brick (205) set within a mortar filled (206) cut [207]. The ash pit contained a deposit of ash and cinder (204). It was probably of late post-medieval or early modern date.

Northwest of the outbuilding defined by walls (200) and (214) was a further building, lying behind the present-day shrine of Margaret Clitherow as shown on the 1852 map. Only the southeastern of its major walls survived (215). This was made of a single skin of lime-mortared limestone blocks and was crudely-built (Plate 11). Between it and the building to the southwest was an alley, according to the 1852 map, and a small patch of cobbled surface was exposed here over a limited area (216). A subdivision of the building shown on the 1852 map was marked by a lime mortared brick wall of early modern appearance (217). In the southwestern room of the sub-divided outbuilding was lime mortared brick floor (218), again probably of early modern date.

Northwest of this building, and on the other side of an alley as shown in 1852 (on the line of the existing alley between Margaret Clitherow’s Shrine and 37 Shambles), was a further building. Shown on the 1853 map as a complex series of outbuildings (with at least three rooms and two small yards shown within the area of the watching brief), only three small areas of structural remains were evident.

The southeast wall of the complex of outbuildings shown in 1852 was a 500mm wide limestone wall, bonded with lime mortar (220) (Plate 12). It was noted that the wall was well-faced to the southeast, but rubble finished to the northwest (i.e. inside the building) (Plate 13).

Running parallel to wall (220) was a further wall, this time slightly wider at 700mm (222) (Plate 14). The external face was roughly shaped, but the internal face was crude and numerous voids had been packed with cobbles and mortar. No dating evidence was present in either of the walls.

A third section of wall was revealed, made of lime mortared 2” brick (221). The alignment of this wall was different from the rest of the building, suggesting that rather than an internal division, this may have been the remains of some kind of internal fitting although there was no clue as to its function.

5.1.4 Northern part of the main resurfacing area (Area 7)

The northwesternmost part of the main resurfacing area encompassed an area formed by the angle of 40-42 Shambles and 1 Little Shambles. It lay over the former course of Little Shambles but the required excavation depth was particularly shallow at this point and no trace of the former street was found. (See Figure 11)

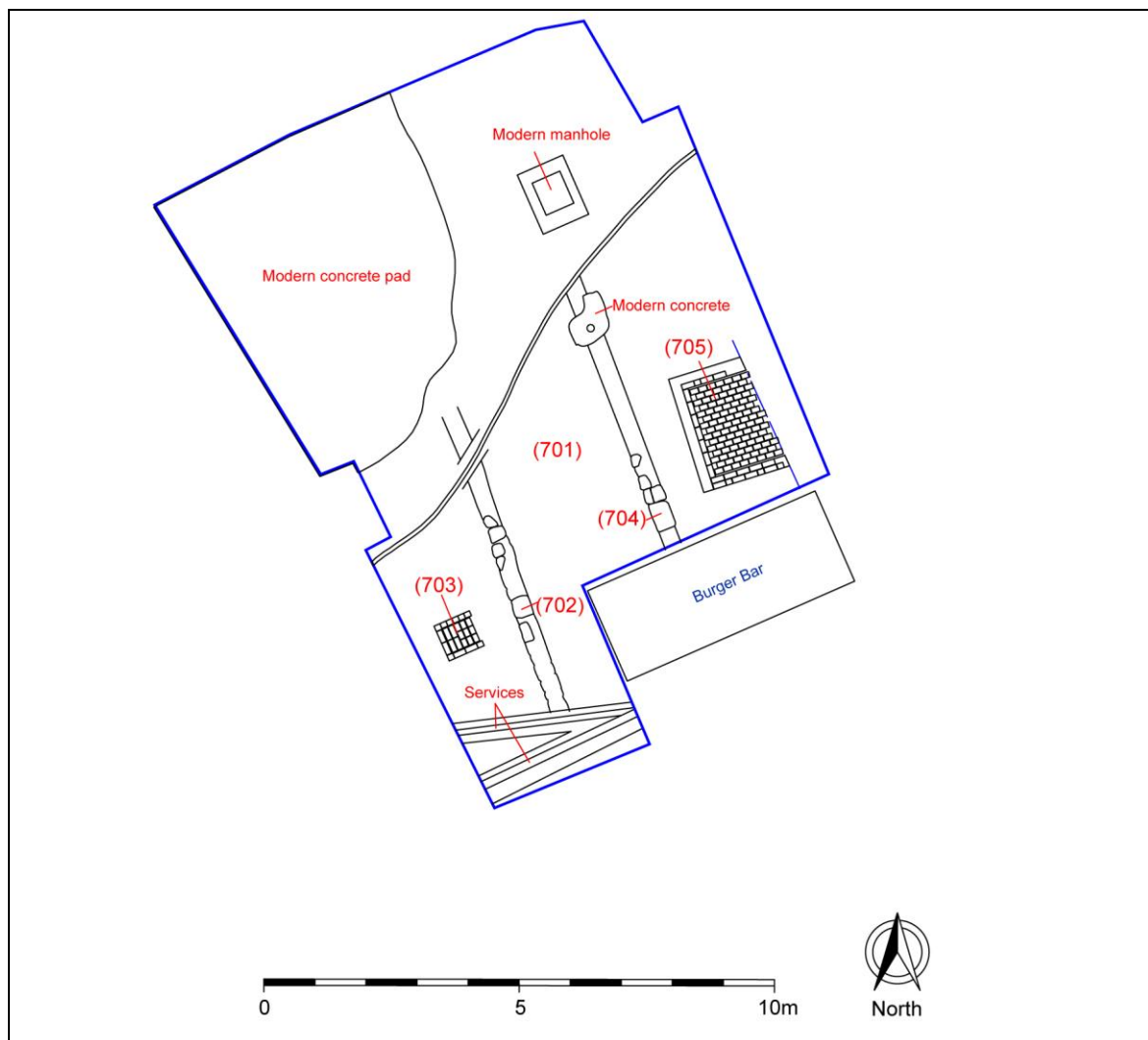


Figure 11. Plan of Area 7

Two walls were found that represented a former building that stood fronting Little Shambles at the time of the 1852 Ordnance Survey map. Wall (702) was of lime mortared sandstone

The earliest features identified were contemporary cobbled surfaces (308), (309) and (310). Surface (308) lay in the area south of wall (303) (Plate 17). Its southern edge was obscured by the large modern concrete drain that ran across the centre of the trench. Comparing this to the 1852 Ordnance Survey map, it must have lain within the building formed by wall (303) and wall (313), forming the internal surface of a room that was approximately 3m wide. It was largely composed of small rounded cobbles, but at its junction with surface (309) there were larger flat cobbles forming a neat junction or threshold.

Surface (309) was of very similar construction, but analysis of the 1852 map shows that (309) and (310) were the surface of an external alley, 2.2m wide, leading between the buildings defined by walls (303) and (313) to the northeast and former buildings standing approximately in the same position as the rear of the Marks and Spencer's building to the southwest. Both surfaces were primarily made up of grey river cobbles, but occasional limestone cobbles were also present. The quality of surface (310) seemed superior to that of (309) and (308), the cobbles being flatter (almost setts) and laid more evenly although the surface had suffered differential sinking creating an uneven surface. It was set at a lower level than (309) and (308), lying c.100mm lower and may have formed a road surface, with (309) forming a footway. As the seemingly earliest features in the trench, the date of the surfaces was clearly of importance. Unfortunately none of the three surfaces were dated by artefacts, although flecks of tile or brick and lime mortar were occasionally present within their construction.

The building that lay in the northeastern corner of the trench consisted of a stone wall (303). This was composed of large limestone blocks, infilled with smaller blocks and bonded with lime mortar. The wall was only a single course wide and appeared to be a fairly crude construction, suggestive of a lightweight building. A small building is shown in this position on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map. Flat tile of medieval or early post-medieval date and a single sherd of medieval pottery were found within its construction, but these may have been residual.

Wall (303) appeared to be trench-built within foundation trench [305], which was visible (as a cut that was c.300mm wider than the wall) on its western side and on its southern side (where the cut was much tighter to the wall). This apparent foundation trench was filled with dark brown silty sand containing copious limestone or sandstone fragments and frequent broken pieces of flat roof or floor tile (304). The foundation trench cut through the cobbled surface (308)/(309).

Within the small building defined by wall (303) was a rough cobbled surface (306) (Plate 18). This comprised a single layer of cobbles (70% grey river cobbles, 30% limestone cobbles) and was later than or contemporary with wall (303). Two sherds of late medieval pottery were recovered from the cobble layer. The surface was missing in places exposing the foundation layer for this surface, which consisted of brown silty sand with occasional fragments of flat tile (307).

To the southeast of the building defined by wall (303) was a large (up to 1.3m wide) concrete drain that ran from east to west across the entire trench. South of this drain was a further section of wall (313) defining the southern and western sides of a building. The 1852

Ordnance Survey map suggests that this wall was the southern corner of an outbuilding whose northwestern wall must have been wall (303), despite the latter's cruder construction technique. The building formed part of a range extending behind the Leopard Public House, which fronted Shambles. It is possible that this building was a stable, and that cobbled surface (308) was the internal floor of the stable. Wall (313) was made up of well-cut limestone blocks up to 530mm in width forming a double-skinned wall (Plate 19). Flat tile fragments were found in small numbers within the construction and the whole was bonded with lime mortar. The excavation was not deep enough to reveal any internal floor to the southeast of the concrete drain.

Approximately 1.3m southeast of wall (313) was a further stone-built structure, which the 1852 map shows to have been part of a range of outbuildings. This building was defined by a wall (312) of similar construction to wall (313). The wall was of double-skinned rubble construction, bonded with lime mortar although in this case the stone was slightly smaller (up to 400mm wide) and consisted of a mixture of limestone and fine-grained sandstone (Plate 20). At least three courses of stone were visible and at least one piece of stone appeared to be a re-used architectural detail (from a large column or possibly a door/window surround) (Plate 21). Occasional fragments of flat tile were incorporated into the wall's construction but no other artefacts were found. Only parts of the northern and western walls were present within the trench, but the building had an internal space of over 2.7m (north-south) and 1.9m (east-west). As with the building defined by wall (313), the internal floor was not exposed.

It was noted that the alley between walls (313) and (312) continued the line of an existing alley between buildings fronting Shambles, and is shown on the 1852 map. The alleyway surface, and any surface to the west of walls (313) and (312), was not found. The area was covered by dense rubble (311) composed of early modern (or older) brick fragments, flat roof tile, cobbles and limestone fragments and including a (presumably residual) sherd of medieval pottery. This butted against the walls, suggesting that it was contemporary or more recent. Although this may have been a crude yard surface, it is more likely that this material was demolition rubble, probably dating to the twentieth century demolition of the area.

Stratigraphically above all the remains described previously was a layer of demolition rubble (300/301). This was removed in the vicinity of wall (303) during the course of excavation to the required depth, but remained in place within the buildings defined by walls (313) and (312), indicating either that their respective surfaces were deeper or that they had been removed at an earlier date. The rubble was of a different character to layer (311), found between and to the west of walls (313) and (312), and mainly comprised fragments of early modern brick with patches of lime mortar and rare artefacts of medieval to early modern date. A number of modern drains were found in the trench and at least some of these (where relationships could be discerned) appeared to cut through this layer. It is possible that this layer is a relic of the construction of the market in the 1950s/60s, although it may also relate to earlier rebuilding.

5.3 Other watching brief areas

A number of additional watching briefs were undertaken beyond the main resurfacing area, as required by the construction works. Few archaeological features were present.

5.3.1 Service trench on southwest side of Newgate Market (Area 4)

A service trench 20m long, 1m wide and 700mm deep was machine excavated in the southwest part of the market area (Plate 22). No archaeological features were revealed.

5.3.2 Resurfacing area off Newmarket (Area 5)

An area 16m x 3.3m was stripped of its existing surface on the south side of Newmarket to a maximum depth of 350-400mm. Only one feature of interest was revealed, a northwest-southeast orientated brick and sandstone box drain (503). This consisted of lime-mortared brick base and sides (2" bricks) with sandstone capping slabs (Plate 23). Externally the structure was 400mm wide and 300mm deep. It is likely to have been of early modern date, although a late post-medieval date is also possible. (See Figure 13)

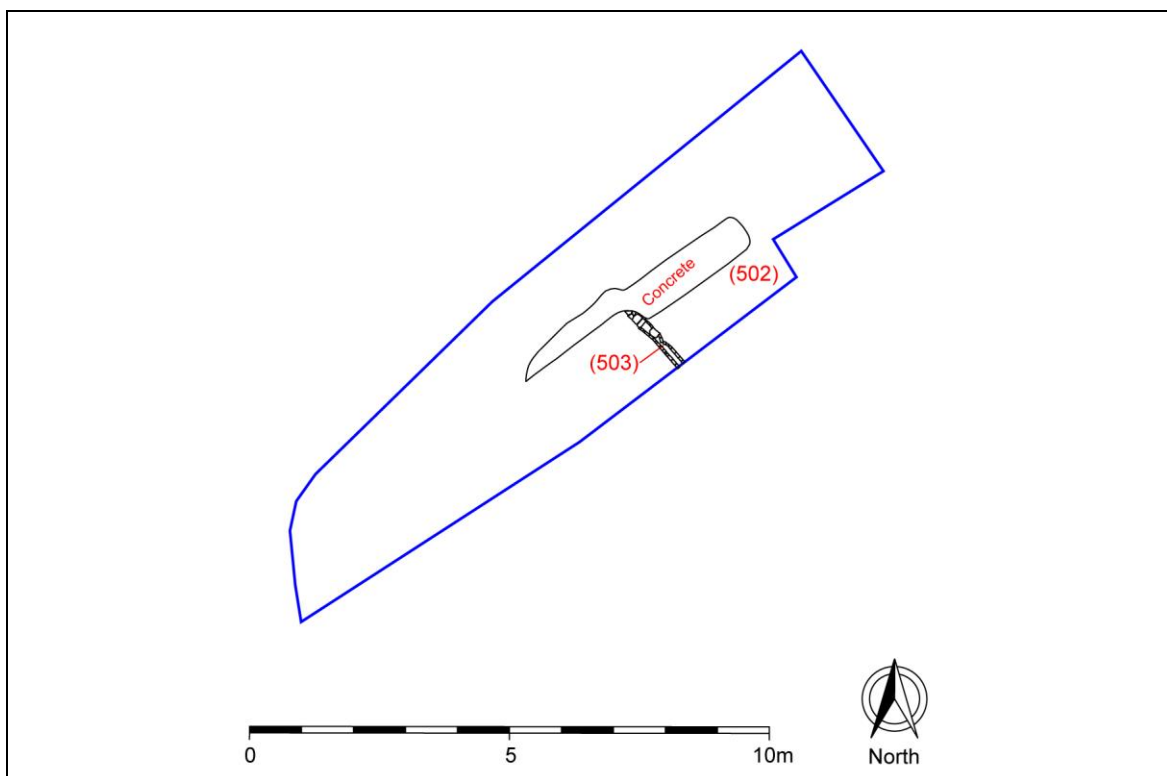


Figure 13. Plan of Area 5

5.3.3 Service trench adjacent to new kiosks (Area 6)

A twelve metre long service trench was excavated immediately adjacent to the kiosk open area excavation (i.e. Area 3). The trench was 300mm wide and was up to 1m deep (Plate 24). No archaeological features were observed and it was noted that a wall of modern brick had truncated any earlier features in the central part of the trench.

5.3.4 *Waste compactor wall foundation (Area 8)*

A foundation for a new wall around a cardboard waste compactor site at the junction of Silver Street and Newmarket was excavated without archaeological supervision, although the archaeologist was given the chance to look down the foundation after a layer of concrete had been poured. The foundation was 600mm wide and had originally been dug to c.600mm depth. No archaeological features were observed in the exposed sides of the trench. Along the Silver Street axis, a layer of older concrete was apparent that had been cut into by the new foundation trench. On the Newgate axis, demolition rubble deposits of similar character to the upper deposits elsewhere on the site were noted. These may date to the creation of Newgate Market in the 1950s/60s.

5.3.5 *Small water pipe repair on Newgate (Area 9)*

A small area of ground was hand excavated to allow a repair to be carried out on the southeast side of Newgate. No archaeological features were found and the disturbance was largely confined to an existing area of twentieth century disturbance.

5.3.6 *Miscellaneous (Not shown on Figure 8)*

A small number of additional episodes of ground disturbance were observed, none of which turned up features or deposits of archaeological interest. Two of the alleyways linking Shambles with Newgate Market were resurfaced. Excavation work was shallow and it was evident that in both cases the alleyways had previously been resurfaced and the new work exposed only previous late twentieth century deposits. Four window sample boreholes were sunk in the area of the kiosk excavation, but despite their c.4m depth little of archaeological relevance was noted (beyond the obvious fact that semi-waterlogged deposits were present at a depth of greater than a metre below ground level) as the sequence was much disturbed by obstructions and voids in the recovered material. A small number of test pits were excavated in the southwestern market area and along Silver Street a small number of ‘tie-down’ anchor points were installed. None revealed archaeological deposits.

6.0 Discussion and Conclusions.

6.1 *General*

The watching brief and open area excavation at the former Newgate Market revealed a number of archaeological features of early modern date, although some of the structural elements may be foundations that date back to the medieval or early post medieval period. A number of building foundations (and associated floors or surfaces) were found, all of which were identifiable on the 1852 Ordnance Survey map, the earliest detailed plan available of the area.

The inclusion of the walls on the map clearly demonstrates that these were standing buildings at the time of the survey but does not indicate the date at which they were originally built.

Some of the buildings shown on the 1852 map may well have had medieval origins (as is the case with many standing buildings in York to the present day), and the results of the archaeological investigation shows that this may have been so. However, given the limited nature of the watching brief and even the open area excavation it is impossible to offer definitive dates for the features found. All archaeological excavation was conducted within the limits of the requirements of the construction plans. In practical terms this meant that the depth of investigation was almost universally shallow, up to 500mm below ground level and often less, which prevented the widespread retrieval of artefacts and did not allow stratigraphic relationships to be explored fully. Although the open area excavation in the kiosk area was more controlled than a watching brief, this too was limited in depth by the planned foundations of the kiosks.

Nevertheless it is possible to speculate that at least some of the structural remains may be of medieval or early post-medieval date based on the form of the structures and the artefacts – though few in number – found in or associated with them. Sherds of medieval pottery may be regarded as commonplace in many sub-surface deposits in a medieval city such as York and do not, in themselves, offer sufficient evidence that the deposit they are found within is medieval in date. They are frequently found residually in later deposits that have inadvertently incorporated medieval material, as was the case during this investigation. Deposit (120) and its equivalent rubble deposits in various areas of the site are likely to have dated from the 1950s/1960s clearance, despite the discovery of medieval pottery within, albeit in conjunction with artefacts of early modern date.

In fact it is sometimes the *absence* of later artefacts that is the clue to a potentially medieval or early post-medieval origin of a deposit or structure. After the medieval period, the disposal of rubbish – either in an organised way or incidentally – becomes increasingly ubiquitous and it is rare to find a post-medieval or early modern deposit that lacks artefacts of its own date. The corollary is also true, in that if a deposit in an urban context lacks post-medieval or early modern finds there is a chance that it is earlier in date. In the context of the Newgate Market investigation, this rule of thumb should not be applied too dogmatically as there was very little opportunity to excavate the potentially medieval deposits, so the sample of any deposit that was searched for artefacts was small, often limited to the cleaning of the top of the deposit.

6.2 Potentially medieval remains

In the open area kiosk excavation (Area 3), the remains of two buildings and associated cobble surfaces (both internal and external) were found, and these were some of the best-investigated features on the site. Where pottery sherds were present, these were exclusively medieval in date as was the case with wall (303) (a single sherd) and floor (306) within the northwestern building (two sherds of medieval pottery). Wall (303) and deposit (304) that filled its foundation trench, floor (306), and below it foundation layer (307) and wall (313) to the southeast all contained varying amounts of broken flat roof tile. While not exclusively medieval in date, flat roof tile nonetheless is likely to date from the medieval or early part of the post-medieval period. As there were no artefacts of later date, it is possible that the two buildings are medieval in origin. By extension, this would mean that the well-made cobble

surfaces around them (308, 308, 310) would also be medieval as they were seemingly cut by the foundation trench of wall (303). Of course these remains are only the foundation courses of buildings, and the buildings shown in this position in 1852 may have been of later construction, but built on potentially medieval foundations. However, all trace of those superstructures was lost when the area was cleared in the 1950s/60s.

In the southern part main resurfacing area watching brief (Area 1), the isolated foundation fragment (104) of hand-made brick and limestone rubble may be of anything from early post medieval to early modern date. However, the room/building delineated by walls (128) and (129) is made of mortared limestone rubble and is of potentially medieval form. More tellingly, within the room was a layer of dark grey/black sand that contained 8 sherds of medieval pottery and fragments of flat tile. In the absence of any later finds, it is quite likely that this deposit was of medieval date. It was cut by a post-medieval/early modern ash pit.

Walls (142), (143) and (144) defined a further building. Each was of lime-mortared limestone rubble and they were potentially medieval, although no artefacts were recovered. Inside the building, below a brick floor of post-medieval/early modern date, was a grey-brown clayey sand deposit containing numerous flecks of tile/brick, shell and charcoal. It also contained a single sherd of medieval pottery and no later artefacts. The deposit was very suggestive of the fill of a cess pit and may have been of medieval date.

In the central part of the main resurfacing area, further features of potentially medieval origin were also found. A building delineated by walls (200) and (214), which contained no dating evidence other than flat tile observed in their construction but that are of a form that could be medieval in origin. Within the building, the earliest deposit was mortar floor (201) (or foundation for a tiled floor). This deposit contained 4 sherds of medieval pottery, and no later artefacts. It extended beyond the building into an alleyway as shown in 1852, strongly suggesting that this floor belonged to an earlier phase of building dating from before the alley was established. It was cut by posthole [203], also in the alleyway shown in 1852 and also likely to belong to an earlier phase of building. The floor and posthole are likely to have been medieval in date.

Above the mortar floor was deposit (212), made up of clay and silt and containing eight sherds of medieval pottery. It is possible that this was a later floor surface, and that it too was medieval. It was cut by – or may have been contemporary with – a hearth (213) of medieval or early post-medieval form, made up of flat roof tiles laid upright.

Northwest of this building was another building, only the southeastern wall (215) of which survived. This was made of mortared limestone rubble and may be medieval or early post medieval although no artefacts were present.

To the northwest lay a complex of outbuildings and yards as shown on the 1852 map. In part this was made up of two parallel walls (220) and (222) that were made of limestone, and were well-faced on their external surfaces. Again, a medieval or early post medieval origin is possible.

In the northern part of the resurfacing area (Area 7), potentially medieval/early post medieval features were limited to two parallel walls (702) and (704), defining a plot fronting the former street of Little Shambles. These were made of lime mortared sandstone rubble, but no dating evidence was found.

Finally, it is worth noting the presence of a number of blocks of ashlar or architectural forms like pillars, which were re-used in the otherwise vernacular-styled walls. One such fragment was in wall (312), four pieces were found in walls (142/143/144) and a fragment of pillar was found in wall (200). With the exception of walls (220) and (222), which were well-faced on their external surfaces, all of the stone-built walls found in the investigation were either roughly-shaped or were true rubble in their form, albeit in walls built with varying degrees of skill. The ashlar and architectural features must have originated from a high status building, probably in the vicinity, whose remains were re-used in the foundations/walls described above. It is tempting – albeit entirely conjectural – to link these fragments with the hypothetical church that may once have stood nearby, connected to the former burial ground found previously to the south of Newgate Market.

7.0 Bibliography.

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http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

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Watching Brief

York Archaeological Trust 2014 Archaeological Watching Brief at Newgate Market:
Watching Brief Report

8.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts.

Duplicate numbers and context numbers issued to modern features (drains, service trenches, modern paving etc) have been omitted.

Context no.	Description
101	Twentieth century rubble
102	Modern brick foundation
103	Two York stone slabs
104	Brick/limestone wall
105	Early modern brick wall
106	Modern brick wall
107	Modern brick wall
108	Concrete ramp
109	Twentieth century rubble
110	Modern brick wall
112	Early modern brick wall
118	Fill of pit
119	Sub-rectangular pit cut
120	Twentieth century rubble
122	Grey black sand
123	Ash deposit in ash pit
124	Brick ash pit
125	Fill of ash pit foundation
126	Foundation cut for ash pit
127	Grey black sand
128	Limestone rubble wall
129	Limestone rubble wall
132	Grey brown clay silt
133	Orange sand
134	Tile floor
138	Handmade brick floor
139	Ash deposit in ash pit
140	Brick ash pit
141	Handmade brick floor
142	Limestone rubble wall
143	Limestone rubble wall
144	Limestone rubble wall
200	Limestone wall
201	Mortar floor
202	Posthole fill
203	Posthole cut
205	Brick ash pit
206	Mortar surround of ash pit
207	Cut for ash pit
208	Rubble fill
209	Wall
210	Foundation trench for wall
212	Clay silt surface

213	Tile hearth
214	Limestone wall
215	Limestone wall
216	Cobbled surface
220	Limestone wall
221	Brick wall
222	Limestone wall
300	Modern rubble
301	Modern rubble
303	Limestone wall
304	Fill of foundation trench
305	Foundation trench for wall
306	Cobble surface
308	Cobble surface
309	Cobble surface
310	Cobble surface
311	Early modern rubble
312	Limestone wall
313	Limestone wall
503	Brick and stone box drain
702	Sandstone wall
703	Brick floor
704	Sandstone wall
705	Brick floor

9.0 Appendix 2 ~ Drawing Register.

Drawing no.	Description	Scale	Initials	Date
1	Area 1 plan	1:50	BMcC	21.7.14
2	Area 1 plan	1:50	BmcC	21.7.14
3	Plan structure 128/129	1:20	BMcC	22.7.14
4	Plan 142/143	1:20	BMcC	23.7.14
5	Plan 141/145	1:20	BMcC	23.7.14
6	Area 2 plan	1:50	DP	21.8.14
7	Area 2 plan	1:50	JO'B	14.9.14
8	Area 3 plan	1:20	DP	3.10.14
9	Area 3 plan	1:20	JS	3.10.14
10	Area 5 plan	1:50	JO'B	14.10.14
11	Area 7 plan	1:50	JO'B	9.2.15

10.0 Appendix 3 ~ Pottery, CBM, Glass and Slag Assessment Report.

by *Berny McCluskey*

An assemblage of finds was recovered by *On-Site Archaeology Ltd* from an archaeological investigation at Newgate Market, York. This report details the provisional identification and assessment of the finds from this investigation. The finds were quantified and catalogued and are presented within Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1

Type	Number of sherds/fragments	Number of vessels/objects
Pottery	36	28
CBM	4	-
Glass	4	3
Industrial residue	1	-
Total	45	31

10.1 Pottery

The pottery assemblage comprised of 36 sherds that represented 28 vessels. The pottery ranged in date from the medieval to the mid-18th to 19th centuries.

Medieval pottery

The medieval assemblage comprised of 28 sherds that represented 21 vessels. The earliest pottery form was a single sherd of mid-12th to mid-13th century York Glazed ware retrieved from context (132). The majority of the medieval pottery assemblage is of a mid-14th to 15th century date and comprised of Walmgate ware, Brandsby ware, Humber ware and Red Sandy ware. These were recovered from contexts (120), (123), (132), (201), (212), (303) and (306). Five medieval pottery sherds of indeterminate form were recovered from contexts (122), (201), (212) and (311).

Mid-18th to 19th century pottery

The remainder of the pottery assemblage was dated to the mid-18th to 19th centuries and was retrieved from two contexts, (120) and (208). The pottery types comprised stoneware, brown glazed earthenware, creamware and white stoneware.

10.2 CBM (*ceramic building material*)

Three fragments of flat roof tile recovered from contexts (120), (122) and (303) are probably of a medieval or early post-medieval date. Flat roof tile was gradually phased out in favour of pantiles during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. A single fragment of medieval or post-medieval brick was recovered from context (120).

10.3 Glass

A fragment of undated window glass was recovered for context (120) along with bottle glass. Bottle glass was also recovered from contexts (121) and (140).

10.4 Industrial residue

One fragment of indeterminate industrial residue was retrieved from context (130).

10.5 Conclusion

The majority of the pottery assemblage has been dated to the mid-14th to 15th centuries with a hiatus until the mid-18th to 19th centuries. The medieval pottery and CBM from context (120) is most likely residual.

10.6 Retention

All finds from stratified deposits should all be retained for potential future study.

10.7 Bibliography

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Table 2.

Context no.	Type	Common name	No. sherds/fragments	No. vessels	Part	Comments	Date range – centuries/period
120	CBM	Brick	1	-	-	Brick fragment, 50mm thick	Medieval/post-medieval
120	CBM	Flat roof tile	1	-	-	Flat roof tile no peg holes, 15mm thick	Medieval/post-medieval
120	Glass	Window & bottle glass	2	1	-	Amber coloured bottle sherd & clear window glass sherd	19 th – 20 th
120	Pottery	Walmgate ware	3	1	Handle, body sherd	-	mid 14 th – 15 th
120	Pottery	Stoneware	1	1	Neck	Brown/green high gloss glaze	18 th - 19 th
120	Pottery	Brown glazed earthenware	1	1	Body sherd	-	18 th – 19 th
120	Pottery	Creamware	1	1	Plate fragment	Blue and white transfer printed	mid-18 th – 19 th
121	Glass	Bottle glass	1	1	Body sherd	Heavy devitrification, pale green colour	18 th – 19 th
122	CBM	Flat roof tile	1	-	-	Flat roof tile no peg holes, 13mm thick	Medieval/post-medieval
122	Pottery	Walmgate ware	6	4	Body sheds	-	mid 14 th – 15 th
122	Pottery	Brandsby type ware	1	1	Body sherd,	-	Mid-12 th – mid-13 th

Context no.	Type	Common name	No. sherds/fragments	No. vessels	Part	Comments	Date range – centuries/period
122	Pottery	Earthenware	1	1	Body sherd	Indeterminate pinkish fabric	Medieval
130	Industrial residue	Slag	1	-	-	Dense fragment brown with copper coloured residues	Medieval?
132	Pottery	York Glazed ware	1	1	Body sherd	-	mid-12 th – mid-13 th
140	Glass	Bottle glass	1	1	Body sherd	Slight devitrification, pale green colour	18 th – 19 th
201	Pottery	Humber ware	3	1	Body sherds	-	mid-14 th – 15 th
201	Pottery	Glazed earthenware	1	1	Body sherd	High gloss glaze dark green grey fabric.	Medieval
208	Pottery	Brown glazed earthenware	2	1	Rim, body sherd	-	18 th - 19 th
208	Pottery	White stoneware	3	3	Rim & body sherd	Blue and white transfer printed	mid-18 th – 19 th
212	Pottery	Humber ware	6	5	Body sherds, rims, handles	Thumbed impressed rims	mid-14 th – 15 th
212	Pottery	Glazed earthenware	2	2	Rim & body sherd	High gloss glaze pale green grey fabric.	medieval
303	CBM	Flat roof tile	1	-	-	Flat roof tile no peg holes, 13-15mm thick	Medieval/post-medieval
303	Pottery	Red Sandy ware	1	1	Body sherd	-	mid-14 th – 15 th
306	Pottery	Humber ware	1	1	Body sherd	-	mid-14 th – 15 th
306	Pottery	Brandsby-type ware	1	1	Body sherd	-	mid-13 th – mid-14 th
311	Pottery	Glazed earthenware	1	1	Body sherd	High gloss glaze yellowish-green buff/grey fabric. (Similar to Winksley type ware)	Medieval

11.0 Appendix 4 ~ Clay Tobacco Pipe Assessment Report.

By Graham Bruce

11.1 Assessment

The investigation produced a total of 44 fragments of clay tobacco pipe, collected from two contexts. With the exception of a single stem fragment from a nineteenth or early twentieth

century water pipe trench all of the remaining material was recovered from context (208), a nineteenth century rubble deposit. This figure includes fragments of 6 bowl parts, which were attributed to types according to Atkinson and Oswald (1969). These are detailed in Table 1 below.

The diagnostic pipes were predominantly dated to the 19th century, although occasional residual earlier examples were present. On the basis of the clay pipe assemblages the two contexts from which they were recovered date from the 19th century.

None of the bowl fragments included a maker's mark.

Decoration was present on all of the 19th century bowl fragments, typically in the form of fluting, although a single example of Prince of Wales Feathers was also present.

Whilst no statistical analyses have been undertaken on the collection of stem fragments the bore diameters were mixed, and comparable with those observed on the dated bowls.

11.2 Bibliography

Atkinson D & Oswald A, (1969), *London Clay Tobacco Pipes*. In: Journal of British Archaeological Association Vol. 32, pp 171-227.

Table 1 Clay Pipe Catalogue.

Context	Part	No.	Type	Date	Comments
135	stem	1		19thC	Brown glazed mouthpiece
208	Bowl	4	At & Os 29	Mid-late 19 th C	1 near complete and 3 fragmentary bowls, with fluted decoration
208	Bowl	1	At & Os 28	Early to mid 19 th C	Partial bowl with abraded Prince of Wales Feathers decoration
208	Bowl spur, and part stem	1	At & Os 8	Early to mid 17 th C	
208	Stem	37	-	Mixed assemblage 17thC -19thC-	Includes x 7 fragments with brown glaze on mouthpieces. Various bore diameters.

12.0 Appendix 5 ~ Animal Bone Assessment Report.

by Kate Langley

12.1 Summary

A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from an archaeological watching brief undertaken by On-Site Archaeology at Newgate Market in York. Eleven fragments of animal bone were found in four stratified contexts and ten further fragments recovered were unstratified. The identified species were *bos* (cow), *ovis/capra* (sheep/goat), *canis* (dog) and *aves* (bird), domesticated species used for meat and milk that indicate these fragments may have been from a habitation site.

12.2 Results

This assemblage consisted of 21 fragments of animal bone, of which 85% could be identified to species level. *Bos*, *ovis/capra*, *canis* and *aves* were the identified species within this collection. These species indicate animals found on urban habitation sites.

Eleven of the fragments of bone were recovered from four separate contexts; three layers and the fill of an ash pit/fire box. Layer (120) was a demolition layer of modern date and the ash pit fill (140) was of 18th/19th century date. The other two layers ((122) and (132)) were dated to the medieval period. The only identified species within these two contexts was *bos*; therefore, limited information can be gained about this period from the zooarchaeological material gathered.

Although the assemblage dates from periods that cover 800 years the zooarchaeological material all appears to be domestic refuse of animals found on urban habitation sites..

12.3 Bibliography

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Table 1: Inventory of zooarchaeological material

Context	Species	Element	Portion	Side	Notes
120	Bos	Rib			Unfused
120	Ovis/Capra	Rib	Mid shaft		
120	Canis?	Caudal Vertebra			Unfused
120	Canis?	Caudal Vertebra			Unfused
120		Unidentified fragment			
122	Bos	Pelvis fragment			
122		2 x unidentified fragments			
132	Bos	Rib			Gnawing marks
140	Bantam	Carpo-Metatarsus	Proximal end and proximal part of shaft	Left	
140	Aves	Radius	Shaft		
U/S	Bos	Mandible + P3, P4, M1, M2 + M3		Left	Adult
U/S	Bos	Metatarsal	Distal end and distal part of shaft		
U/S	Bos	Tibia	Distal end and distal part of shaft	Left	Unfused
U/S	Bos	Femur	Proximal end of shaft	Left	
U/S	Bos	Radius	Mid shaft		
U/S	Bos	Rib	Mid shaft		
U/S	Bos	Rib			
U/S	Ovis/Capra	Mandible + P3, P4, M1 + M3		Left	Adult
U/S	Ovis/Capra	Mandible + P3, P4, M1 + M2	All but distal part	Right	Adult
U/S	Ovis/Capra	Humerus	Proximal end and shaft	Left	Almost fully fused

13.0 Appendix 6 ~ Plates.



Plate 1. Wall (104), looking NE



Plate 2. Walls (128) & (129), ash pit (124), deposit (122), looking SE



Plate 3. Wall (142), (143) and (144), looking SE



Plate 4. Pillar base from wall (142), (143) & (144)



Plate 5. Entrance (138) and ash pit (139), looking NW



Plate 6. Wall (143), floor (134), deposit (132), looking SE



Plate 7. Wall (200), looking SW



Plate 8. Pillar fragment from wall (214)



Plate 9. Posthole [203] cutting floor (201), looking NW



Plate 10. Hearth (213), looking NE



Plate 11. Wall (214), looking NE



Plate 12. Wall (220), looking NE



Plate 13. Wall (220) detail, looking NW



Plate 14. Wall (222), looking NE



Plate 15. Wall (702), looking NW



Plate 16. Area 3 overview, looking N



Plate 17. Wall (303), cobbled surface (308), floor (306), looking S



Plate 18 Wall (303), cobbled surfaces (308), (309), (310), floor (306), looking N



Plate 19. Wall (313), looking NE



Plate 20. Wall (312), looking SE



Plate 21. Architectural fragment from wall (312)



Plate 22. Area 4 under excavation, looking NW



Plate 23. Drain (503), looking NW



Plate 24. Area 6 under excavation, looking NW