BRITISH HOME STORES,

FEASEGATE, YORK.

REPORT ON AN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

AND A WATCHING BRIEF

CONTENTS

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ABSTRACT

Between the 8th and the 16th January 1998, York Archaeological Trust carried out an excavation at the BHS retail outlet, Feasegate, York, on behalf of Shepherd Construction Ltd., contracted to carry out the scheme of works by British Home Stores Plc. The two areas excavated lay within the store and the work was carried out in advance of the construction of escalator pits. The excavation revealed the extremely well preserved remains of the Roman Legionary Fortress wall standing to just beneath the concrete floor of the store in one of the trenches and evidence for the survival of deposits from the Roman to the medieval periods. Occupation on the Feasegate street frontage was demonstrated together with the persistence of the fortress wall as a landscape feature well in to the medieval period. A watching brief on a third escalator pit, nearer the Coney Street entrance to the store demonstrated that medieval deposits had been truncated when the store was built in the 1950's.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

In January 1998, York Archaeological Trust carried out an excavation in the BHS Store, Feasegate, York (NGR SE 6300 5183 - Fig. 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of Shepherd Construction Ltd., in advance of the proposed construction of two new escalator pits within the York store. The proposed development area was approximately 33.5 square metres and the excavation was carried out to a specification prepared by John Oxley, Principal Archaeologist for the City of York Council. In June 1998, a watching brief was carried out on the hand excavation, by Shepherd Construction Ltd., of a third escalator pit.

1.2 Methodology

The excavation was based on a 100% sample of the development area and consisted of two trenches (Figure 1). Trench 1 measured 6.40m long and 3.387m wide and Trench 2 was 6.745m long and 1.76m wide. Both were specified to be excavated to a total depth of 1.36m below the concrete floor slab of the ground floor of the store. Trench 1 was situated at the base of the steps leading down into the store from the Feasegate street frontage and Trench 2 was situated close to the store's western wall.

The concrete slab and hard-core were removed by Shepherd Construction Ltd. prior to the archaeological excavation commencing. The trenches were then cleaned by hand and the remaining archaeological deposits were hand excavated to determine their extent and nature and to retrieve finds. All archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:20 using the single context planning system. All significant features, deposits and structures were recorded in section at a scale of 1:10 and photographed using colour print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the York Archaeological Trust Context Recording Manual (1996).

The watching brief trench, Trench 3, measured 5.6m x 2.0m and was located adjacent to the existing escalator, close to the Coney Street entrance to the store. This trench was hand excavated by Shepherd Construction Ltd. and the deposits encountered were recorded in section.

All finds and the site records are currently stored with York Archaeological Trust under the Yorkshire Museum accession code YORYM:1998.2

2. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site is situated to the west of Feasegate, which links St Sampson's Square (Thursday Market) with Market Street (formerly Jubbergate) and Coney Street at the commercial heart of York. At present the Feasegate street level is situated at c. 15.20m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) whereas the ground floor slab of the BHS Store is at 13.44m AOD. The difference in levels was caused by ground level reduction work which was carried out during the 1950's construction of the store and the insertion of the concrete slab 1.76m below street level. The solid geology of the area is Bunter Sandstone (British Geological Survey (England and Wales) Sheet No. 63 1967) laid down in the Triassic period, 225 million years ago (Warrington, 1974). This is overlain by warp and lacustrine clays, formed by peri-and post-glacial activity within the vale of York and river alluvium within the River Ouse basin. The latter form a thick band of deposits that slope down rapidly to the south-east towards the river. The area under investigation lay just to the west of Feasegate. The ground floor slab is relatively flat and extends west towards New Street and southwards as far as Coney Street.

3. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Evidence of Roman occupation on the site has been known for many years and includes the line of the south west wall of the Roman Legionary Fortress, which bisects the site. This has been the main focus of much of the excavation work that has been carried out on the site and in the near vicinity. Feasegate appears to have its origins in the Viking period and is first mentioned as *Fesegayt* in c. 1259. An alternative form *Fesegayl* occurs in 1299, which Raine (1955) suggests as showing that it was very narrow. The name probably derives from Old Norse *fe-hus* or *fios*, meaning 'cow-house', and suggests that cattle were lodged here prior to going to the Thursday Market, now called St. Sampson's Square. In the 13th century the Vicars Choral of York Minster, the Mayor and the Commonalty all owned property in the street (Raine, 1955). Cattle may have still been stabled here as late as 1680, when two aldermen were asked to go and view the haystack at the back of a property for its potential fire risk. John Speed's map of 1610 shows houses on both sides of the street.

One of the most important inns and coaching houses in York in the 18th century, the Old Black Swan Inn, was located on the site of the BHS store. It occupied the majority of the area extending from the Coney Street frontage to the back of properties fronting on to Feasegate and first appears on Chassereau's map of York in 1750. Baines map of 1822 and the 1852 Ordnance Survey map show the majority of the area as built up apart from the inn yard of the Black Swan and several small alley ways. The inn itself was a 17th century structure, wholly re-fronted and partly re-built in 1790 and its yard was entirely surrounded by buildings in 1850 (RCHM, 1981). By 1955, when it was demolished, the buildings round the rear part of the yard had disappeared and those that remained were mainly 19th century in date.

In 1954 excavations in Coney Street revealed three early clay ramparts associated with the Roman Legionary Fortress which pre-dated a late 2nd century rebuild of the fortress wall in

stone (Ramm, 1956). The latter was also suggested to have been partially re-built again in the 4th century AD.

During the construction of the British Home Stores building between 1955 and 1957 a small trench was hand excavated and the machine excavation of pile holes was monitored and recorded (Wenham, 1961). The excavation exposed several medieval structures which comprised a series of steps, a timber revetment and a cobble and limestone floor which may have formed a basement, cellar or sunken passageway probably dating to the 13th or 14th century (Wenham, 1961). Below this a layer of undated gravel and an organic deposit sealed the concrete foundation for the Roman Legionary Fortress Wall. This was comprised of twenty-four intact courses (c.2.6m high) and a further twelve courses (c.1.6m), including the red tile course band, of the wall core. Pile 104, which was excavated through the Roman wall, revealed the fortress wall surviving to a height of thirty-six courses (c.3.65m), including two courses of red tile. The core contained rough fragments of limestone and a few pieces of red tile and cobble bonded with a mortared aggregate. The foundation was also of mortared aggregate inserted into a steep sided foundation trench, c.1.37m deep, cut into the clay subsoil. Oak piles were exposed below the foundations, driven into the natural subsoil at the base of the foundation trench prior to the insertion of the concrete. A rampart of brown clay was also discovered behind the wall standing to a height of c.2.6m above the wall foundation level. This and the wall were both thought to date to the 4th century AD (Wenham, 1961).

Site clearance revealed the eastern wall of the interval tower SW1 just to the west of the British Home Stores boundary as well as part of the south angle corner tower and c.38m of the fortress wall. A mortared cobbled surface was also located, at 9.06m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum), between c.9.14m and 16.76m south of the wall in piles 74 and 84 and was dated to the 3rd century AD (Wenham, 1961).

Excavations were also carried out at the junction of New Street and Davygate between 1955 and 1958, in which eight small trenches were hand-excavated prior to site clearance and re-development. Further evidence for occupation from the Roman, Viking and Medieval periods was located. The Roman occupation evidence included six phases of rampart building from the early 2nd century onwards. Both timber and stone-built interval towers (SW3), and the foundations for timber and stone buildings (the latter interpreted as 4th century barrack blocks) were located. Internal floor surfaces, external (intervallum) road surfaces and associated drains, a culvert and an oven floor were also revealed. These were sealed by a layer of organic material and the rough foundations for a building of 9th or 10th century date. Pits and organic dumps dated from the 12th to the 15th centuries were also found sealing the latter deposits.

Research in recent years (Ottaway, 1996) has suggested that a number of works were carried out to improve the south-west wall of the Roman Legionary fortress, including its total reconstruction incorporating stone walls and towers, a remodelling and widening of the rampart and the re-cutting of the ditch. The date of this still remains uncertain but doubt has been cast on the traditionally accepted late 3rd/early 4th century date and an early 3rd century date has been suggested as equally likely. It has also been suggested on a re-analysis of the artefactual evidence that an early 3rd century date for this reconstruction phase is more likely than the late 3rd/ early 4th century date suggested by Wenham and Ramm (Ottaway,1996).

The reconstruction of the fortress defences is at present thought to have taken place over a relatively short period at the end of the 2nd century and /or early in the 3rd century.

In 1965 contractors clearance for the erection of the Davygate Centre encountered further portions of the Roman wall and some small parts of interval tower SW2.

Excavation by York Archaeological Trust in 1997 during the re-development of the Davygate Centre located well preserved organic deposits and features of the medieval period close to the New Street frontage and to the south of the Roman wall, part of the Roman fortress wall itself and the two interval towers SW1 and SW2 (Evans, 1997).

4. THE EXCAVATIONS

The trenches (Figure 2) are discussed in numerical order. Within each trench the contexts (numbers in brackets) are considered in chronological order, from the bottom up.

4.1 Trench 1

The trench was positioned at the base of the stairs leading down from the Feasegate street frontage, and the concrete and hard-core were removed by Shepherd Construction Ltd., to a depth of c. 0.40m. Below this all deposits were excavated by hand.

4.1.1 Natural deposits were not reached in this trench. The earliest deposit, located at 13.11m AOD was a stretch of limestone wall (1005) on a north-east to south-west alignment, which diagonally bisected the trench. It was 1.52m wide and was constructed of dressed rectangular blocks, with a limestone rubble core, bonded with pinkish white lime mortar. The outer face was in very good condition with facing stones in position to the full height of preservation but the inner (northern) face had been completely robbed out. The date of this event was not recovered as evidence for the base of the robbing cut was below the excavation limit. The inner rubble core appeared to have random courses of tile inserted at intervals, perhaps to aid the pointing of the wall structure. These courses appeared not to run the full length of the exposed wall and it was also unclear whether they extended to its entire width. The former observation may suggest that the wall was built in sections and it should be noted that they did not extend through to the southern face. This impressive structure was interpreted as a section of the Roman legionary fortress wall, linking the south corner tower of the Roman fortress with interval tower SW1.

4.1.2 The trench depth limitation prevented the excavation of Roman or Anglian deposits. The next earliest deposits excavated consisted of a complex series of occupation deposits which had built up on both sides of the Roman fortress wall. The earliest of these appeared to be of 10th or 11th century date and they were located on the southern side of the wall. To the north, the date of the earliest occupation deposits could not be precisely ascertained as only residual Roman finds were retrieved from them. The latter will be dealt with first, so as not to disrupt the description of the occupation deposits to the south of the wall.

Plate 1. Trench 1 – Roman Legionary Fortress Wall below BHS steps

Plate 2. Trench 1 – External face of Roman Legionary Fortress Wall

4.1.3 The earliest deposit located to the north of the fortress wall (1005) consisted of a compact mid orange clay floor (1068) which formed an uneven deposit, 0.25m thick, across the base of the trench, initially appearing at 12.41m AOD. Sealing the junction between the clay floor and the fortress wall, and also forming a thick coat to its inner robbed out uneven face, was a firm mid brownish orange clay (1072). This was 0.04m thick at the top and 0.10m thick at the base and formed a primitive rendering to the surface of the wall. Neither of these deposits was excavated but they were thought to be contemporary and to have either formed the floor and render within a room of a medieval building, perhaps located on the Feasegate street frontage, or the base and lining of a medieval clay lined tank, perhaps in a backyard of the same property. A more precise interpretation could not be reached due to the confines of the trench.

4.1.4 Overlying the clay floor (1068) and sealing the clay rendering (1072) was a layer of friable mid grey sandy silt (1027), 0.70m thick, which contained moderate small to large patches of pale orange and grey clay and occasional charcoal and iron pan flecks. This was interpreted as a levelling deposit to raise the ground surface within the immediate area. On the northern edge of the excavation area this deposit was truncated by a partially visible steep sided sub circular pit (1026), the nature and function of which was unclear. It was filled with a primary deposit of friable mid grey brown gritty clay silt (1039) and a secondary fill of similar composition (1019), but containing more orange brown mottling. Both contained occasional to moderate inclusions of pebbles or cobbles, limestone fragments, small brick and tile fragments and mortar, suggesting the possible use of the pit as a disposal point for some excess levelling or construction footing material. The upper fill of the pit (1019) was in turn sealed by a further layer of friable mid grey brown clay silt (1004), 0.60m thick, with similar inclusions to (1027). This formed a second levelling phase, utilising a similar source of material to the first, and raised the deposits to the north of the Roman fortress wall up to the top of preserved archaeology at 13.06m AOD.

4.1.5 To the south of the wall the earliest deposits were located in the south-east corner of the excavation area and consisted of a series of trampled floor surfaces dateable to the 10th and the 11th centuries AD. The lowest deposit reached was a plastic dark brownish grey clay silt (1097) which was overlain by a compact light creamy grey sandy lime mortar (1094). Both were left unexcavated at the base of the trench at 12.36m AOD, but were thought to represent possible floor surfaces within buildings behind the Feasegate street frontage. A compact brownish orange mortar (1095) sealed (1094) and banked up against the fortress wall. This was dated by pottery to the 10th or 11th century AD and was interpreted as a dump of waste material, perhaps from an episode of wall robbing. Two cuts (1091) and (1093) close up against the fortress wall truncated (1095) and were backfilled with friable dark grey brown clay silts (1090) and (1092) respectively. The function of these remained unclear as they were only partially revealed during the excavation, but a possible interpretation as shrinkage gaps created as the underlying deposits pulled away from the fortress wall was the best hypothesis proposed for their origin. The whole area was then sealed to a depth of 0.29m by a compact mid to dark grey brown clay silt (1085), which contained frequent small mortar fragments, occasional small limestone chips and charcoal flecks. Thirty-two kilograms of this deposit were bulk sieved and produced a large quantity of animal bone. Mammal bone included cattle, pig, sheep/goat, cat, dog and vole/mouse; bird bone included jackdaw, duck and chicken; and fish bones included ling, haddock, eel,

herring and cod. Brick/tile, pottery and glass, charred grain and nutshells were also present and the pottery would suggest an 11th century date for the deposit. Its mixed appearance and the quantities of mortar within the deposit initially suggested its interpretation as a yard or surface for outbuildings behind the Feasegate frontage. However, the diversity of the bone assemblage may indicate that, rather than buildings on the street frontage in this period it may have been an area of stalls in a gap in the still upstanding Roman Legionary fortress walls close to the Thursday Market. This would also explain its heavily trampled appearance. Deposit (1085) was truncated by a moderately steep sided linear feature (1081) which appeared at the extreme southern edge of the excavation area. It was filled with friable dark greyish brown clay silt (1080) and was suggested to be the edge of a shallow domestic rubbish pit. A small shallow stake-hole (1083) was also revealed at this level but this was best correlated with the base of a later stake-hole (1013) (see 4.1.12). The whole area was then sealed to a depth of 0.10m by a compact sticky dark grey brown clay silt (1078) which contained moderate small mortar and limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. This layer was interpreted as a reversion of activity to that carried out during the formation of the earlier deposit (1085), a further episode of heavily trampled mortar being deposited as a floor surface within a yard or outbuilding. The origin of the mortar in all of the above floor/trample deposits may be from frequent wall robbing activities during this period along this section of the Roman fortress wall.

4.1.6 The next phase of activity was recognised in the south-west corner of the trench and involved a complicated series of inter-cutting pits and levelling deposits dating from the late 11th or early 12th century to the mid 13th century. This clearly defines a change of use of the area and may indicate the point when houses were constructed on the Feasegate street frontage. The earliest of these was a heavily truncated (and thus semi-circular) steep sided pit (1096) which was revealed on the extreme eastern side of the pit complex. It had a diameter of 0.60m, a depth of 0.37m and was completely filled with compact light grey clay (1089) within a friable dark grey silty clay matrix. This pit backfill was subsequently truncated by a second large, possibly sub-rectangular, pit (1088) orientated north-east to south-west and situated on the southern side of the pit complex. It too was heavily truncated to the north and only its southern edge was revealed to be steep sloping in character. The pit was found to be over 1.78m long and 0.56m deep and was completely filled with friable mid/dark grey brown organic clay silt (1087). Both of the backfills of these pits were ceramic dated to the 11th or 12th century. An environmental sample was analysed from (1087) and suggested that the surrounding area was disturbed/cultivated ground, which may have contained some small wetland areas.

4.1.7 Within the base of the trench a number of dump deposits were recorded. These could not be allocated to specific features due to truncation by later pit digging and the depth limitation imposed by the development. However, they form a horizon within the pit excavation activity when dumping rather than digging was taking place. This appears to be dateable to the early and mid 12th century and episodes of dumping up against the Roman fortress wall (1005) were of a similar date. The deposits relating to the former interpretation, (1070) and (1075) consisted of mid to dark grey and grey brown organic clay silts, which varied in their consistency and contained moderate mortar, wood, pebbles, small brick and tile fragments and occasional limestone fragments. These may relate them to the dumping of construction/demolition waste. Deposits which appear to have been dumped up against the fortress wall (1005) included, in stratigraphic sequence, (1084),

(1086), (1079), (1077), (1074) and (1073). These were mainly medium to dark brown or grey silts, silty clays or clay silts, which varied in their inclusions and their organic content. The majority of these contained similar inclusions to (1070) and (1075), which makes a similar interpretation for their formation processes probable. The only exception was (1079) which consisted of a friable creamy brown crushed mortar in a matrix of light brown silty sand. This deposit also contained the bottom half of a 12th century, gritty ware, vessel, the contents of which were examined. It contained faecal matter, probably of animal origin, and amphibian, pig, goose, fish and bird bones. This was thought to be similar in origin to the context surrounding the pot, which may have had its origins in a dump of domestic waste.

4.1.8 A second phase of pit excavation then took place, truncating the earlier deposits. The primary event was the excavation of pit (1071) which, although heavily truncated to the south, was found to be sub-rectangular in plan, with steep sloping sides and a flat base. It was aligned with the Roman fortress wall (1005) on a north-west to south-east axis, measured over 1.22m long and 0.27m deep, and was filled with three deposits (1069), (1067) and (1066), which varied from a friable dark grey organic gritty clay silt, to a sticky dark grey or brown organic silty clay. The inclusions seemed to suggest a domestic or workshop origin for the material which included leather off-cuts, animal bone, oyster shell and pottery (dateable to the 11th or 12th centuries) as well as mortar and limestone fragments, perhaps suggesting that wall robbing debris or construction waste was being incorporated into the dumps prior to deposition. A sample taken from (1069) was investigated and may suggest that the deposit originated from the dumping of outdoor waste, perhaps material from a domestic rubbish tip that had been building up elsewhere on site, and manure into the pit (the insect assemblage was in an excellent state of preservation). This pit was subsequently truncated to the north-west by a small shallow post-hole or pit (1065) and to the south by a secondary larger pit (1061). The former was semi-circular in plan, 0.40m in diameter, 0.20m deep and only partially exposed on the western edge of the excavation. It had steeply sloping sides, a rounded base and was completely filled with friable dark brown clay silt (1064) with occasional medium limestone fragments, and mortar flecking. The limestone fragments possibly represent the remains of packing for a timber post, the function of which could not be ascertained. The latter feature (1061) was sub-rectangular in plan, and was also only partially revealed on the western side of the excavation area. It was orientated on a similar axis to (1071), measured over 1.10m long, 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep and had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. This pit had been backfilled with a large number of small deposits of very similar character, which appeared to have been tipped into the pit from both south and north sides. These were either silty clays (1047), (1049), (1050), (1052), (1054), and (1055) or clay silts (1045), (1050), (1051), (1053), (1057) and (1058) (not in stratigraphic order) which varied from dark browns and greys, to reddish and orange browns. The primary fill (1058) also suggested that a layer of decayed wood or wattle may have lined the south side of the pit, hinting at an industrial function for it prior to backfilling. The inclusions within the backfills appear to have mainly originated from domestic or workshop contexts and included animal bone, oyster shell, leather off-cuts (including a clumped turnshoe sole seat of 12th/13th century date from (1050) and a turnshoe sole edge from (1052)), wood fragments and charcoal flecks. An overall analysis of the pottery assemblage from this pit suggested that it was dug around the mid to late 12th century and was backfilled by the early 13th century. These contexts are suggested to be both dumps of domestic waste and the gradual dumping of small amounts of material

created from the cleaning or brushing of clay floors within medieval buildings on the street frontage. Occasional to moderate quantities of mortar and limestone fragments and flecks within the fills may also suggest continued construction or wall robbing episodes within the area.

4.1.9 A number of small spreads of dumped material were then deposited within the pit-complex area. These included mid to dark brown and grey clay silts (1040), (1044), (1056), (1059), (1060) and (1062); and medium to dark grey and reddish brown silty clays (1043), (1046) and (1063), not in stratigraphic order. The only exception was a small dump of friable pale brown mortar (1059) in a matrix of pale grey silty clay, situated on the southern edge of the excavation area. Charcoal, mortar and limestone flecks and small fragments, as well as oyster shell, cobbles, pebbles, leather (including turnshoe sole fragments of 12th/13th century date), wood, animal bone, brick and tile fragments and small patches of clay were all present in small concentrations of varying density within these deposits. This suggests a similar origin for the majority of this material to that found within the backfills of pits (1071) and (1061). It was thought that these deposits represented either the final levelling up and infilling of the tops of the earlier pits within the pit complex area, or the residue spreads created by the digging of further pits outside the trench area. Much of the pottery assemblage retrieved from these contexts dated to the 11th, 12th and early 13th centuries, favouring the latter interpretation for their formation. A shallow post slot (1042) of uncertain function, located just to the south of the centre of the pit complex, was the only feature found truncating one of these levelling deposits (1040). It was oval in plan with steeply sloping sides, which tapered into a smooth V-shaped profile, and was 0.45m long, 0.25m wide and 0.24m deep. A friable dark brown clay silt (1041) completely filled the feature which seemed to have been angled at c.45 degrees, perhaps to support an angled post or timber strut. The majority of the pit complex area was then sealed by a layer of dark grey organic clay silt (1037) 0.10m thick which contained moderate mortar and charcoal flecks and occasional brick and tile fragments and animal bone. This was thought to have been a final levelling dump utilising domestic waste and organic materials to try to consolidate the area of the pit complex. The ceramic assemblage from this context dated it to the 12th century and suggests that the deposit utilised reworked organic material from elsewhere on the site to try to consolidate and seal the pit complex.

4.1.10 A further shallow circular feature (1036), with steep, near vertical, sides and a rounded base was then excavated close to the position of the sealed post-slot (1042), perhaps as its replacement. It measured 0.50m in diameter and 0.15m deep, and was completely filled with friable grey brown silty clay (1035). The backfill of the feature was then sealed by a linear spread of mid rusty brown decayed wood (1021), which was over 1.40m long, 0.48m wide and 0.10m deep. This was interpreted as a very decayed timber plank laid on top of the ground. Due to its deteriorated state it could not be identified further, but it was suggested to have formed a temporary bridge across the boggy organic backfills of the underlying pit complex. A further layer of dark grey brown organic silty clay (1020) 0.20m thick was rapidly dumped to level up the whole area to the south of the Roman fortress wall (1005). This may have been a more concerted attempt to consolidate the area, and used a residual organic mix of domestic and workshop waste, of similar date and origin to (1037). A turnshoe sole fragment of probable 12th to 13th century type supports the probable early 13th century date.

4.1.11 However, pit excavation had not completely ceased. A further sub-rectangular pit (1038) truncated (1020) on the western side of the trench just south of, and again aligned on, the Roman fortress wall (1005). This measured 1.20m long, 0.70m wide and 0.36m deep and had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. A layer of tenacious reddish brown very organic silty clay (1025) appeared to line the entire surface of the sides (0.02m thick) and base (0.05m thick). This was interpreted as a decayed clay or wattle lining. On the eastern side of the pit and sealing (1025) was a 0.01m thick skim of crumbly light grey silty clay (1008), which may be the heavily eroded remnants of a secondary lining. It is possible that this pit, with its timber and clay lining, may be evidence for industrial activity within the area in the early 13th century. The industrial process may have involved the retention of liquid within the pit possibly relating to textile dyeing or leather tanning. However, the modest size of the feature and the lack of any other structural evidence means that it is difficult to interpret it further. Once the pit had lost its industrial function it was completely backfilled with friable dark greyish red-brown organic clay silt (1007) which contained frequent limestone flecks, occasional large limestone fragments, charcoal flecks, small tile fragments, animal bone, leather (including fragments of medieval turnshoe sole) and wood fragments. This was interpreted as a dump of domestic and workshop waste, ceramic dated to the early 13th century which had been used to level off the disused pit.

4.1.12 Four alignments of post and stake-holes were then located at the eastern side of the trench and were thought to be either roughly contemporary with or later than the functioning of the industrial pit (1038). These did not appear to be aligned with the Roman fortress wall (1005) and may suggest that by the early 13th century, dumping and wall robbing on both sides had reduced the wall to such an extent that it ceased to form a boundary in the area, certainly towards the Feasegate street frontage. Of the four alignments, three are thought to relate to each other, the fourth being on a different orientation. Fence A, on a NNE to SSW alignment, consisted of a large and a small square post-hole (1011) - 0.40m in length and 0.36m deep and (1012) - 0.11m in length and 0.40m deep respectively and a small circular stake-hole (1033 - 0.08m in diameter and 0.15m deep. All had steep near vertical sides apart from post-hole (1011) which was stepped in character, the latter physically truncating the Roman wall (1005), its socket being dug into and removing its fabric. Set at ninety degrees to fence A were two further fence alignments, B and C. Fence B utilised three small circular stake-holes (1015) - 0.07m in diameter and 0.07m deep, (1017) - 0.05m in diameter and 0.10m deep and (1018) - 0.05m in diameter and 0.15m deep. The first two had steep vertical sides but the third was angled at only c.10 degrees above the horizontal plane, perhaps forming an angled support strut at the end of the fence. Fence C incorporated two very small square stake-holes (1029) - 0.04m in length and 0.15m deep and (1030) - of similar dimensions, which had vertical sides. This alignment may be a redefinition of fence B once the latter had fallen out of use or vice versa. The fourth alignment, fence D, incorporated three large circular stake-holes (1013) - 0.13m diameter and 0.15m deep, (1015) - 0.07m in diameter and 0.07m deep and (1016) - 0.07m in diameter and 0.14m deep. These were orientated north-east to south-west and all had steep vertical sides. Fence D may be the earliest as it seems to respect the Roman fortress wall, rather than truncating it (see fence A). Two further stake-holes (1031) - 0.04m in diameter and 0.15m deep and (1014) - 0.10m in diameter and 0.16m deep, probably acted as supports for either fence A or fence D. These fence lines may have delineated plot boundaries or functional zones (such as pens for animals) within the backyards of properties on the Feasegate street frontage and

suggest the demise of the Roman fortress wall as a property boundary by the mid 13th century.

4.1.13 The whole area to the south of the Roman fortress wall was then sealed by a tenacious dark grey brown organic silty clay (1006), which suggested that once the fence alignments went out of use the area was levelled up again with organic domestic waste. This layer was ceramic dated to the early 13th century and contained fragments of medieval turnshoe sole.

4.1.14 A gully or beam slot (1003) on a similar alignment to fence D was then excavated on the western side of the trench, truncating the earlier industrial pit (1038) and terminating at the Roman fortress wall (1005). This had steeply sloping sides, a flat base and measured 0.30m wide and 0.35m deep. It was completely filled with tenacious mid greyish brown silty clay (1002) which contained similar domestic waste described in features and levelling deposits above, including a turnshoe sole fragment (see 4.1.11 - (1007)) and pottery dated to the early 13th century. It was difficult to elucidate an exact function for this gully or slot and three possible interpretations are suggested here. It may have acted as a beam slot for a sill beam within an early 13th century timber framed building that utilised the fortress wall as part of its structure; it may have been a property boundary defining the junction between plots close against the fortress wall; or it could have been a drainage gully for some industrial activity. The third interpretation is favoured here.

4.1.15 In the extreme south-western corner of the excavation area, a shallow steep sided square pit (1009) with a flat base, completely filled with a mixture of friable mortar (1010) was recorded. This was interpreted as a construction cut for a small area of 18th or 19th century hard-standing. The site was then completely sealed by a construction disturbance layer, hard-core (1001) and the concrete floor slab (1000) from the construction of the British Home Stores retail store in the late 1950's.

4.2 Trench 2

The trench was positioned on the western side of the store, just to the north of the existing escalator. The concrete floor slab and hard-core were again removed by Shepherd Construction Ltd. to a depth of c. 0.60m. Below this all deposits were excavated by hand.

4.2.1 Natural deposits were not reached within this trench. The earliest deposit reached was a spread of friable grey brown clay silt (2040), 0.05m thick, at the southern end of the trench, which contained moderate quantities of rough medium to large limestone fragments as well as occasional cobbles, animal bone, mortar and wood fragments. Located at 12.43m AOD and dated to the 11th century AD it appeared to respect several later features (2022) (2025) and (2031) (see 4.2.4), lapping up against them.

4.2.2 Overlying this were three further spreads of material (2035), (2032) and (2030) ceramic dated to the 11th or 12th century which also appeared to respect the later features (2022), (2025) and (2031). The first of these lay just to the south of (2022) and consisted of an east-west aligned linear deposit of grey brown organic clay silt (2035), which was over 2.22m in length, 0.40m wide and 0.08m deep. This was sealed to a depth of 0.20m by a compacted yellow and grey brown organic silt (2032), which was thought to be the degraded

remains of straw twigs and small wood fragments and which appeared to have built up between the two later features (2022) and (2031). A GBA sample of (2032) revealed that the deposit contained stable manure and suggested that this material could have been used as bedding for animals. Overlying (2032) on the western side of the trench area, and between the later features (2025) and (2031), was a further build-up of friable organic material (2030) 0.14m thick which appeared to consist mainly of decayed wood fragments. These, and the earlier (2040), seem to have been in situ use deposits possibly within an outbuilding. The material appears to be best interpreted as bedding within a byre or stable building.

4.2.3 In the middle and north of the trench, three other spreads of material were also noted (2038), (2041) and (2039). At the northern end of the excavation area a spread of reddish brown organic clay silt (2041) 0.14m thick, with moderate wood fragments and medium sized limestone fragments, was the earliest deposit located. It was found at 12.49m AOD and seemed to rise and thin out to the south. This was completely sealed by a layer of mid to dark brownish grey clay loam (2038) 0.11m thick, which contained occasional mortar and wood fragments. This may have been dumped to raise and level off the area, prior to constructing the byre/out-building (see 4.2.4). GBA samples taken from both deposits suggested a stable manure origin. A heavily truncated east-west aligned ridge of very dark grey organic clay silt (2039), was the only surviving remnant of a dump of organic material located between later features (2034) and (2022).

4.2.4 Truncating the earlier dumps and build-ups was a series of inter-cutting linear slots and gullies. These were interpreted as beam slots, or rather the robber trenches of beam slots, for the sill beam walls of a timber-framed byre or stable. This went through a number of structural changes during the early to mid 12th century.

4.2.4.1 At the extreme southern end of the trench and aligned WNW to ESE, a shallow narrow slot or gully (2031) was located. This measured over 1.20m long, was 0.24m wide and 0.25m deep, had steeply sloping sides and a rounded base and was completely filled with a friable dark grey clay silt (2028). Two spreads of material then sealed this backfill deposit. The primary build-up was a friable, very dark grey brown, organic clay silt (2027), which sealed the whole area to a depth of 0.09m as far north as (2022) and (2025). A secondary deposit (2026), 0.10m thick, very similar in composition to (2027) but dark brown in cast, then built up over the western side of the trench. These dumps or build-ups appear to respect the line of the later gullies or slots (2022) and (2025). This indicates that (2031), although possibly originally contemporary with these later features, went out of use, was robbed out, backfilled and sealed by further dumps of material while (2022) and (2025) continued in use. A bulk sieved sample of (2027) produced a wide variety of material including twigs, charred grain (mostly barley/wheat), nutshell (hazel), large and small mammal bone, amphibian bone, bird bone, fish bone and shellfish.

4.2.4.2 On the northern edge of the trench, a second slot or gully (2033) was located. This was aligned approximately east to west, with moderately steep sloping sides, a rounded base and measured over 1.60m long, 0.26m wide and 0.11m deep. Its western end incorporated a circular shaped cut, which measured 0.50m in diameter and was 0.11m deep. The latter may have represented a post socket for a substantial timber upright along the length of the beam slot. The whole feature was completely filled with compact very dark brown organic silty clay (2029) which appeared to spill over the top of the earlier levelling deposit (2038).

4.2.4.3 On the extreme eastern side of the trench a semi-circular feature (2036) was located against the eastern section. This had steep sides, a rounded base and measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.18m deep. A deposit of dark reddish brown organic silt (2037) filled the feature which was interpreted as either the terminus of a beam slot that extended to the east under the section, or a post socket similar to that located within slot (2033). Truncating the backfill of this feature was a shallow slot or gully (2034), on an approximately east-west alignment across the centre of the trench. It had moderate to shallow sloping sides and a curved base, and measured over 2.02m long, 0.40m wide and 0.12m deep. A possible, very shallow, circular post-setting (unnumbered) was also observed within this cut, at its western end. Both the slot and the post setting were completely filled by (2024) which was very similar to (2037), differing only in that it contained limestone inclusions. A further very short narrow slot or gully (2025) on the western side of the trench may then have been excavated to replace the original beam slot (2034). On a similar alignment to (2034), it measured over 0.45m in length, 0.24m in width and 0.17m deep, and had moderately steeply sloping sides and a rounded base. This also appears to have gone rapidly out of use, the beam being removed and the slot backfilled with a dark yellow brown clay loam (2023), prior to a final slot or gully (2022) being excavated to the east. Excavated on a similar alignment to the previous slots (2025) and (2034), beam slot (2022) also contained a terminus or post-setting at its western end. The slot measured over 1.76m long, 0.32m wide (narrowing to the west to 0.18m) and was 0.14m deep, while the post-setting was 0.40m in diameter and 0.18m deep. Both contained moderately steeply sloping sides and rounded bases which were filled with compact dark grey silty clay (2019). An environmental sample analysed from this deposit could not elucidate the origins of the deposit. The multiplicity of re-cutting, robbing and backfilling of these beam slots or gullies in the centre of the site suggests that it formed either an important property boundary or a structural element within a timber framed building. It is suggested that this central series of slots, as well as the slots to the south and north of them, represent the beam slots for sill beam walls within a 12th century byre or stable to the south of the Roman fortress wall. The subsidence of lower deposits, or the make shift nature of the structure itself, may have caused the constant renovation that seems to have been required to keep the building functional, and may have forced the building to move further north up slope towards the fortress wall. This interpretation would also explain the abandonment of slot (2031) and the subsequent dumping of material (2027) and (2026) whilst the central beam slot alignment was still being utilised.

4.2.5 The whole of the excavation area was then sealed by a thick dump of very dark grey brown organic clay silt (2018) which contained moderate densities of charcoal flecks and wood fragments as well as occasional mortar and limestone fragments, cobbles and oyster and snail shell. This 0.40m thick dump of domestic waste and organic matter levelled up the trench to 12.50m AOD at the south end and 12.80m AOD at the north, sealing the backfilled robber trenches for the timber framed buildings foundation beam slots. It is suggested that the building was demolished and the foundations removed and backfilled prior to this major levelling activity across the site, which was dated by the pottery to the 12th century.

4.2.6 Truncating the levelling deposit (2018) on a NNW to SSE alignment was a short linear feature (2017). This measured over 1.06m long, 0.38m wide and 0.26m deep, had irregular steep sides and a rounded base which the excavator suggested may have been formed by

several episodes of re-excavation. However, it was completely backfilled by a friable very dark brown sandy loam (2016) which suggested a single phase of backfilling. The feature may have been a multiple cut pit, backfilled in one episode or an irregular drainage gully, perhaps for some industrial process.

4.2.7 North-east of the pit/gully a large sub-circular depression (2014) was also excavated into the levelling deposit (2018). This was c.1.30m in diameter and 0.07m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base. Backfilling this feature were a number of thin interleaved deposits. The primary fill was a light brown silty sand (2012), which was overlain by a series of four alternating deposits of creamy white or grey mortar (2011) and (2009) and orange brown to dark grey organic loam and silt (2010) and (2008). These were then sealed by three layers of friable brown to dark grey brown clay silts (2007), (2005) and (2006) which had increasing densities of inclusions of brick, tile and wood fragments, mortar and charcoal. An environmental sample taken from (2007) suggested that this backfill deposit contained a high percentage of wood chips as well as possible food remains such as charred barley grains, hazel nutshells, bone and eggshell. The insect assemblage was superbly preserved and included numerous aquatic and waterside species, dung beetles, plant feeders (possibly imported in hay) and it was thought that the deposit might have included stable manure. It was concluded that the sample represented a mixed occupation deposit containing rubble, food waste, manure and possibly small quantities of fen peat. The bone report also suggests that the deposits backfilling the feature may be of a specialised nature. Eight cattle horncores, (with a further ten from the cleaning layer above) suggests that the depression could be linked with industrial processes connected to hornworking. It was difficult to be certain of the precise function of the depression, but a number of suggestions for its use have been put forward. It might have been a shallow pit dug for the disposal of waste materials; it could have been a mortar mixing area, used during the construction of a nearby building; it may have been a subsidence depression that had to be continually levelled up with shallow spreads of material; or it may have been an area of hard-standing where large vats, perhaps used in some industrial process, were positioned. The latter interpretation is preferred. The thin interleaved deposits contained a ceramic assemblage which dated from the early 12th to the early 13th centuries. This may associate it with the industrial processes taking place in the clay and wood lined pit (1038) in Trench 1 and the possible drainage gully (2017) to the west.

4.2.8 In the north-west corner of the excavation area, a small sub circular pit (2021) was then excavated through the backfill of the earlier multiple pit cut/drainage gully (2016). This measured 0.78m in diameter and 0.18m deep, with a gently curving side and a rounded base and was completely filled with friable mid brown organic silt (2020). To the north-west a second pit (2015) truncated this backfill. It was sub-rectangular in plan, measured over 1.43m long, 0.75m wide and 0.37m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. 2015 was filled with mixed grey brown organic clay silt (2013) which contained occasional tile, animal bone, mortar, pebbles, charcoal, wood and small patches of light grey clay. Both pits were best interpreted as domestic rubbish pits, dated to the early 13th century.

4.2.9 The western side of the excavation area was then truncated by a modern sewer pipe trench (2004) which was backfilled with friable very dark grey brown sandy silt (2003). The whole trench was then sealed by a mixed site disturbance layer (2002), a layer of hard-core (2001) and the concrete floor slab (2000) from the construction of the 1950's British Home Store.

5. THE WATCHING BRIEF

5.1 Between June 1st and June 8th 1998 a watching brief was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on a third trench at the BHS store. This involved the observation and recording of a pit dug for the base of a new escalator adjacent to the existing escalator in the present store. The trench measured c.5.6m by 2m and was dug to a level of c.1.4m below the modern ground level, which was represented by the concrete floor of the store. This was level and lay at c.13.50m AOD. All excavation was by hand.

5.2 In the north-east part of the trench the earliest deposit encountered was a dark greyish-brown organic silty loam mixed with green ?cessy clay and grey silty clay (3007) at c. 12.10m AOD. The south-west part of the trench had been disturbed by modern activity down to the depth limit but a number of large patches, up to c.0.50m across, of dirty mid brown clay (3011) were observed underlying the obviously modern deposits. These may have originally joined to form a floor or dump roughly contemporary with 3007 but further excavation was not possible and uncertainty remains about the stratigraphic position and function of 3011.

5.3 Sealing 3007 was a deposit of dark brown organic silty loam (3006) 0.20m thick. Above this was a layer of black slightly clayey silty loam (3005) which was up to c.0.20m thick.

5.4 All contexts above 3005 were believed to be modern. They were; a 0.25m thick deposit of very dark grey loam (3004) containing moderate amounts of concrete fragments and occasional pieces of brick. This was cut by a linear feature (3010) aligned approximately east-west. Only part of the north-west edge of this feature was observed leaving its full shape and size uncertain but it was at least 4.4m wide and 0.75m deep with a vertical edge. The backfill was a dark grey loam (3009) which contained brick, concrete, plastic sheeting and large pieces of cardboard. Cut into the top of 3009 was a reinforced concrete ground beam (3008) c.0.50m wide and 0.40m deep. It appeared to run parallel to, and c.0.50m south-west of, the edge of 3010. The next layer up, crushed limestone (3003) sealed 3008, 3009, 3004 and occupied the entire trench. It was up to c.0.30m thick and was very compact. It was sealed by light brown sandy silt (3002) which contained occasional pieces of crushed limestone. Above this was a thin, c.0.05m, layer of black loam (3001) containing moderate amounts of crushed limestone. The uppermost context was reinforced concrete (3000) up to c.0.23m thick.

5.5 Although much of the archaeology had been removed by modern activity a c.2m by 2m square at the north-east end of the trench produced a c.0.40m depth of stratified deposits. The quantity and nature of the finds from these deposits suggests that they were dumps of

mainly domestic waste to the rear of properties fronting onto Coney Street and Feasegate. The clay in the base of the south-west part of the trench may also be a part of this dumping but alternatively could be a floor within a structure none of which was encountered within the trench. Despite the modern destruction, well preserved organic deposits of archaeological significance remained at a depth of between 0.9 and 1.4m below the existing ground level.

5.6 Watching Brief Context List

Context	**Type**	**Section No**
3000	Floor-reinforced concrete	Tr 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3001	Levelling deposit-black loam	Tr 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3002	Levelling deposit-brown sandy silt	Tr 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3003	Levelling deposit-crushed limestone	Tr 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3004	Dump/demolition-dark grey loam+concrete	Tr 3.1, 3.2
3005	Build-up/dump-black silty loam	Tr 3.1, 3.2
3006	Dump deposit-dark brown organic silty loam	Tr 3.1,3.2
3007	Dump deposit-dark greyish-brown organic loam	Tr 3.1, 3.2
3008	Structure make-up-concrete ground beam	Tr 3.3
3009	Dump/levelling deposit-dark grey loam	Tr 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3010	Clearance cut/unknown-linear cut	Tr 3.2
3011	Floor/dump-dirty brown clay	Tr 3.3, 3.4

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

6.1 Summary

Samples of sediment and a small assemblage of hand-collected bone, recovered from excavations within the BHS store in Feasegate, York, have been assessed for their potential in post-excavation analysis.

The plant and insect remains were well-preserved and, together, would provide a useful reconstruction of conditions, and to an extent activity, at the site. Further investigations of the diatoms may give additional information about deposit formation.

Whilst the possible Roman vertebrate assemblage was very limited, the early medieval material shows some potential for both zooarchaeological and archaeological interpretation. This group consisted mainly of domestic and primary butchery refuse, with a small amount of waste from craft activities. The moderately large assemblage of fish remains recovered from this site is of interest as other small excavations in the same area have produced very little fish.

It is recommended that further analysis be undertaken on all the material from this site as it will, when combined with evidence from nearby excavations in Davygate, provide a picture of this previously poorly represented area.

6.2 Introduction

An archaeological excavation was carried out by York Archaeological Trust within the BHS store, York, in January 1998. Two trenches were excavated to a depth of 1.36 metres. Trench 1 was located next to the entrance to the store in Feasegate, whilst Trench 2 was adjacent to the north-west boundary of the store. The Roman fortress wall was encountered within Trench 1, with 10th-13th century deposits against the external face of the wall. Deposits from Trench 2 were dated to the 11th-13th centuries, with features mainly confined to pits and layers.

A total of thirty 'environmental' samples (20 GBAs, 9 BSs and one spot sample, *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) and 5 boxes of hand-collected animal bone from these deposits were submitted for assessment of their bioarchaeological potential.

6.3 Methods

6.3.1 Sediment samples

All the sediment samples were inspected in the laboratory and on the basis of this inspection and information supplied by the excavator 10 of them were chosen for further work. A description of the lithology of all samples was recorded using a standard *pro forma*. Subsamples were taken from the seven 'GBA' samples selected for further work, for extraction of macrofossil remains, whilst three samples were bulk-sieved (to 500 µm) following procedures of Kenward *et al*. (1980; 1986).

Plant macrofossils were examined from the residues, washovers and flots resulting from processing, and the flots were examined for invertebrate remains.

Six of the samples were examined for microfossils using the 'squash' technique of Dainton (1992).

Table 1 shows a list of samples and notes on their treatment.

6.3.2 Vertebrate remains

Vertebrate remains were recovered from a total of 71 deposits (five boxes of approximately 20 litres each). For the purposes of this assessment, material from 46 contexts (approximately 4.5 boxes) was chosen and recorded in detail. These contexts were selected to represent a range of periods, or on the basis of number of fragments (i.e. more than six fragments) Material from the remaining deposits was briefly scanned.

The vertebrate assemblage was recorded electronically directly into a series of tables using a graphical input system and *Paradox* software. Briefly, semi-subjective data were recorded for each context regarding the state of preservation, colour and appearance of broken surfaces ('angularity'). In addition, semi-quantitative records were made concerning the size of the fragments, dog gnawing, butchery, fresh breakage and burning.

Identification was carried out using the reference collections of the Environmental Archaeology Unit. Records were made for each species within each of the selected contexts, which consisted of the total number of fragments, the number of each anatomical element present, along with the numbers of 'A' bones i.e. mandibular teeth and mandibles for age at death analysis, measurable fragments, and the number of unfused and juvenile fragments (Dobney *et al*. forthcoming).

Fragments not identifiable to species were grouped into categories: large mammal (assumed to be cattle, horse or large cervid), medium-sized mammal (assumed to be caprovid, pig or small cervid) and bird. In addition to counts of fragments, weights of identifiable species and unidentified categories were recorded.

6.4 Results

6.4.1 Sediment samples

Context 1002 [Fill of gully - E13th C]
Sample 1 (description only)

Just moist, mid grey, crumbly to unconsolidated (working soft and slightly sticky), clay silt, with mm-scale lumps of off-white and light grey brown clay. Some 'lumps' of sediment rather jumbled with a mix of minor components and the main matrix. Very small (2-6 mm) and small (6-20 mm) stones, rotten mortar, brick/tile, ?charcoal, ?very rotten wood and bird bone were present in this sample.

Sample 2 (description only) As Sample 1.

Context 1007 [Fill of pit - E13th C]
Small find 32

This spot find appeared to be a mineralised concretion, which was layered and slightly calcareous. No parasite eggs were present, which suggested that the layer was unlikely to include large amounts of human faecal material. However, it could have formed by mineralisation of faeces of livestock.

Context 1007 [Fill of pit - E13th C]
Sample 3 (description only)

Moist, very dark grey brown black, crumbly (working soft), clay silt, with white mineral flecks and lumps. Very small (2-6 mm), small (6-20 mm) and large (>60 mm) stones, leather, charcoal, rotten wood, twigs, large mammal and fish bone were present in this sample.

Sample 4 (description only) Same as Sample 3.

Context 1008 [Fill of pit]
Sample 5 (description only)

Moist, black and light grey, crumbly, mostly ash with poorly preserved wood.

The sample was too small for further action to be worthwhile at this stage.

Context 1025 [Fill of pit - E13th C]
Sample 6 (description only)

Just moist, mid brown to mid grey brown, crumbly to unconsolidated (working soft), clay silt, with abundant white mineral flecks. Very small (2-6 mm) stones and wood present.

Context 1043 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 7 (description only)

Moist, mid to dark grey brown to dark grey, crumbly to unconsolidated (working soft), slightly sandy, clay silt, with white mineral flecks and coating on stones. Very small (2-6 mm), small (6-20 mm) and medium (20 - 60 mm) stones, brick/tile, pot, rotten wood and bird bone were present in this sample. The sample in the tub was contaminated by modern mould growth on the surface.

Sample 8 (description only) Same as Sample 7.

Context 1069 [Fill of pit - 11th/12th C]
Sample 9 (2kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey brown, crumbly, slightly sandy slightly clay silt, with abundant white mineral flecks. Very decayed, orange (oxidised) wood fragments, together with pottery and large mammal bone were present in this sample.

Strongly decayed wood fragments (to 40 mm) were very frequent in the moderate-sized washover (which formed 15%, by volume, of the original sample). Pieces of charcoal (to 10 mm) were noted as 'frequent' and fragments of dicotyledon leaves were also present. A range of weed taxa indicative of waysides/wasteland and disturbed/cultivated ground was identified, including oraches (*Atriplex* sp(p).), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album* L.), small nettle (*Urtica urens* L.), stinging nettle (*U.dioica* L.), hemlock (*Conium maculatum* L.), knotgrass (*P. aviculare* agg.), pale persicaria (*Polygonum lapathifolium* L.), fool's parsley (*Aethusa cynapium* L.), corn marigold (*Chrysanthemum segetum* L.), long prickly-headed poppy (*Papaver argemone* L.), dead-nettle (*Lamium* Sect. *Lamiopsis*) and thorow-wax (*Bupleurum rotundifolium* L.). The sample also contained significant numbers of *Chenopodium* Sect. *Pseudoblitum* seeds, indicative of highly organic substrates such as rubbish tips or manure heaps. The presence of some grassland species such as blinks (*Montia fontana* ssp. *chondrosperma* (Fenzel) Walters) and a range of small grass seeds may represent the hay component of manure, or turf. In common with many urban archaeological deposits, the sample contained a range of wetland types, including sedges (*Carex* sp(p).) nutlets, lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula* L.) achenes, common spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris s.l.*) nutlets, toad rush (*Juncus bufonius* L.) seeds, and willow (*Salix* sp(p).) bud-scales. Possible food remains were represented by a single charred barley (*Hordeum* sp(p).) grain and a single raspberry (*Rubus idaeus* L.) seed.

The moderate-sized residue was dominated by coarse quartz sand and contained occasional rounded pebbles (to 22 mm), oolitic limestone fragments (to 40 mm), pottery shards (to 70 mm), brick/tile (to 20 mm), fish bones, mineralised wood fragments, and charcoal (to 17 mm).

The rather small flot included a large proportion of insect remains in an excellent state of preservation. There were assorted species associated with a range of decaying-matter habitats (although with rather little evidence of foul matter). Some 'outdoor' taxa were present, as were various species found in dead wood and under loose bark. The implications of this group were not obvious, although the fauna from a larger subsample (perhaps 5 kg) would probably be more clearly interpretable.

The microfossil 'squash' was mostly inorganic with some organic detritus. No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

The bone comprised single gadid and eel (*Anguilla anguilla* (L.)) vertebrae, three other fish fragments (together weighing 2.3 g) and three unidentifiable mammal fragments (weighing 8.2 g).

Context 1070 [Fill of pit - 12th/13th C]
Sample 10 (description only)

Just moist, mid to dark grey brown, crumbly (working soft), clay silt, with white mineral flecks and orange patches from oxidised rotted organic matter (possibly rootlets). Oolitic limestone (to 90 mm), large stones (>60 mm), pot, rotten wood and marine molluscs were present in this sample.

Context 1079 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 11 (description only)

Just moist, light brown and mid brown, crumbly to unconsolidated, clay silt, possibly ashy, with white mineral flecks. All classes of stones (2- >60 mm), pot, charcoal and large mammal bone fragments were present.

Context 1079 [Fill of pot <28>]
(Spot sample - included bag (650 g) of sediment, and separate bags of bone, fruit stones, charcoal and lumps of ?faecal concretions)

Just moist, light brown and mid brown, unconsolidated, clay silt, possibly ashy, with white mineral flecks.

The sediment within the pot appears to reflect the surrounding matrix. Concretions recovered from within the pot were examined by microfossil 'squash'. No parasite eggs were seen but, subjectively, they seem to be faecal in nature—the absence of parasite eggs does not rule out this possibility but, almost certainly, implies that it is not human in origin.

The bones recovered from inside the pot included single amphibian, pig and goose bones, five fish, three bird and 12 unidentified fragments.

Context 1085 [Layer/floor - 11th C]
Sample 12 (description only)

Same as Sample 13 but more jumbled and with orange veining (possibly oxidised rootlets).

Sample 13 (BS whole sample 32 kg)

Moist, mid brown to mid grey brown, crumbly (working soft and sticky), clay silt. Oolitic limestone, very small (2-6 mm), small (6-20 mm) and medium sized (20-60 mm) stones, mortar/plaster, ?rotten brick/tile, charcoal and large mammal bone were present.

An extremely small wash over was recovered, which contained mostly sand, with a small number of weed seeds indicative of disturbed ground.

The large residue (approx 10 litres, partly sorted) consisted chiefly of stones, mortar, and dried clay lumps. Brick/tile, pottery and glass were present. Charcoal was abundant (to 15 mm), charred grain, nutshell, large and small mammal bone, bird bone, fish bone and shellfish were also present.

A considerable quantity of bone was recovered, including mammal, bird and fish remains. The identified mammal fragments (weighing 273 g) included cattle, pig, sheep/goat, cat (*Felis* f. domestic), canid, vole/mouse (microtine/murine), and mouse (*Mus* sp.). The numerous unidentified mammal fragments weighed 325 g. The bird remains (weighing 4.4 g) included ?jackdaw (cf. *Corvus monedula* L.), ?duck (cf. Anas sp.) and chicken (*Gallus* f. domestic) fragments. The fish remains (weighing 12.8 g) included ?ling (cf. *Molva molva* (L.)), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus* (L.)), eel (*Anguilla anguilla* (L.)), herring (*Clupea harengus* L.), ?cod (cf. *Gadus morhua* L.), cyprinid and gadid fragments.

Context 1087 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 14 (2kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey, crumbly (working plastic), slightly sandy, clay silt with abundant white mineral flecks, orange veining (oxidation) and patches of light greyish brown clay silt. Small (2-60 mm) and large (>60 mm) stones, very decayed wood and marine mollusc fragments were present in this sample.

The very small washover (<1% of the original sample) contained a more restricted range of weed taxa compared with the washover from Context 1069. The main group of species present was indicative of disturbed/cultivated ground. Wetland taxa included sedges and bulrush (*Scirpus lacustris s.l.*). Other components of the washover included occasional charcoal fragments (to 3 mm), unidentified amorphous charred material, small bark fragments (to 7 mm), degraded wood fragments (to 5 mm) and a small quantity of monocotyledonous plant detritus.

The moderately large residue (30% of the original sample) was mainly composed of coarse sand and charcoal (to 10 mm). Other constituents of the residue included occasional pieces of brick/tile, grey pottery shards, oolitic limestone (to 30 mm) and fish scales. Stone fragments (to 40 mm) were recorded as 'frequent'. Further remains of weed taxa, similar to those encountered in the washover, were also noted.

Only a few insects were present in the flot, and their preservation was moderate to poor. A trace of decomposers was noted, with rare outdoor forms (the latter including a terrestrial *Helophorus* sp. and a click beetle larva). The implications of this fauna were not clear, but a subsample of 6 kg or so might provide an interpretable group.

The bone comprised single cattle and pig fragments, two sheep/goat fragments and 24 unidentified mammal fragments (together weighing 88.8 g). A single chicken fragment and three unidentified bird fragments (together weighing 0.6 g) were noted. In addition a gadid (possibly cod (cf. *Gadus morhua* L.)) vertebra and four other fish fragments were recorded (weighing 4.2 g).

Context 2007 [Fill of depression - 12th/13th C]

Sample 200 (2kg GBA)

Moist, dark greyish brown, crumbly (working slightly plastic), moderately humic, sandy, clay silt, with woody and herbaceous detritus and white mineral flecks. Pot (to 30 mm) fragments, wood (?chips) and twigs were present in this sample.

Wood chips (to 60 mm) dominated the moderately large washover (40% of the original sample). All other macrofossils were poorly represented though the assemblage contained a relatively wide range of disturbed/cultivated ground weed taxa and a few species indicative of manure heaps, grassland, wayside and fen habitats. Food species were represented by a single charred barley grain and rare hazel nutshell fragments.

The main constituents of the residue (15% of the original sample) were coarse quartz sand and small degraded wood fragments (to 20 mm); occasional pieces of oolitic limestone (to 40 mm), charcoal (to 5 mm) and mineralised twigs (to 15 mm) were also recorded. Possible food materials included bone fragments (to 40 mm) small pieces of eggshell, charred barley grains, and further small pieces of hazel nutshell.

The flot was quite large, but consisted mostly of insect remains. Preservation was superb, and some extremely delicate remains had survived, including wings and an entire (but clearly ancient) aphid. The insect assemblage appeared to be very diverse in its ecological origins. Aquatics and waterside species were rather common; they seemed to be too numerous to have originated in background fauna unless from very close by. Subjectively, there were more dung beetles (*Aphodius* spp. and *Geotrupes* sp.) than might occur in background fauna, too. There were some plant feeders which may have been imported in hay (unless there was grassland at the site), and some unusual remains may have belonged in this category. This deposit may have included stable manure (hence dung and hay) and have lain in the open for some time before burial. A subsample of 3-4 kg would provide an excellent assemblage which should (with plant remains) clarify the origin of the layer as well as having its own intrinsic interest as a sample of fauna of the period.

The microfossil 'squash' was approximately half organic detritus and half inorganic material. Many diatoms (>3 forms) were noted. No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

This sample represents a mixed occupation deposit containing rubble, food waste and possibly small quantities of fen peat. The peat could have been used as flooring material (in a stable, perhaps?) or fuel. Although there are limited numbers of seeds belonging to taxa that grow on organic rubbish and manure heaps, there is only limited evidence to suggest that the sample contained an appreciable quantity of manure.

Context 2018 [Layer/dump - 12th C]

Sample 201 (description only)

Same as Sample 202 (see below) but also with eggshell and fish bone present.

Sample 202 (1 tub of 3 described, BS whole sample)

Moist, dark brown (internally dark grey brown), brittle (working soft, rubs brown), clay silt, with occasional small lenses of pale grey and buff clay and white mineral flecks. Very small (2-6 mm) and medium sized (20-60 mm) stones, mortar flecks, brick/tile, pottery, waterlogged wood, twigs, ?rotten nutshell and ?insect fragments were present.

No washover was recovered from this sample.

The large residue (approx 10 litres, partly sorted) consisted chiefly of sand and stones. Brick/tile, pottery, slag, coal, leather and metal (?gold wire) were present. Wood fragments in various stages of decay (to 6 cm) and charcoal were abundant. Twigs (including *Prunus* sp.), charred grain (wheat/barley and oats), nutshell (hazel), large and small mammal bone, amphibian bone, bird bone, fish bone, insect fragments, fly puparia, eggshell and shellfish (oyster) were also noted.

A considerable quantity of bone was recovered from the residue including mammal, bird, amphibian and fish remains. The identified mammal remains (weighing 126 g) included cattle, pig, sheep/goat, hare (*Lepus* sp.) and red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris* L.). A single, burnt, cattle horn tip was recovered. The numerous unidentified mammal fragments weighed 224.6 g. The bird remains (weighing 2.4 g) included ?chicken (cf. *Gallus* f. domestic), goose (*Anser* sp.) and "wader type" fragments. The fish remains (weighing 9.7 g) included herring (*Clupea harengus* L.), eel (*Anguilla anguilla* (L.)), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus* (L.)), flatfish (pleuronectid) and gadid fragments. A single fish vertebra had a 'squashed' appearance, characteristic damage consistent with passage through the gut. Three amphibian bones were recovered (weighing 0.1 g).

Context 2019 [Slot fill - 11th/12thC]
Sample 203 (2kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey brown, crumbly (working slightly plastic), slightly humic, slightly sandy clay silt. Angular limestone (to 150 mm), brick/tile (to 70 mm), wood and nutshell fragments were present in this sample.

The washover from this sample was very small (>1% of the original sample) and contained a limited range of disturbed/cultivated ground species including corncockle (*Agrostemma githago* L.), oraches, stinging nettle, chickweed (*Stellaria media* (L.) Vill.), knotgrass, henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger* L.), small nettle, dead nettle, 'turnip' (*Brassica rapa* L.) and common sow-thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus* L.). Occasional pieces of charcoal (to 3 mm) and wood fragments (to 5 mm) were also present.

Much of the large residue (60% of the original sample) comprised coarse quartz sand. Other common constituents included poorly preserved wood fragments (to 40 mm) and charcoal (to 7 mm). Pieces of brick/tile (to 70 mm), rounded pebbles (to 35 mm), limestone

fragments (to 30 mm) and hazel (*Corylus avellana* L.) nutshell fragments were all recorded as infrequent. Further weed seeds similar to those in the assemblage noted from the washover were encountered, accompanied by occasional seeds of elder (*Sambucus nigra* L.) and rush (*Juncus* sp(p).).

The modest-sized flot yielded a rather small group of only averagely well preserved insect remains. Most were decomposers, but the character of the material which might have supported them was not clear; they may have exploited small amounts of somewhat damp decaying matter. It is not certain that even a quite large subsample would clarify the interpretation, but it would be worthwhile attempting this if a particular archaeological problem exists.

The microfossil 'squash' was approximately three parts inorganic material to one part organic detritus with a few diatoms (1 form). No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

Context 2026 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 204 (description only)

Moist, mid to dark grey brown, crumbly (working soft), clay silt, with abundant but scattered white mineral flecks. Very small (2 -6 mm) and medium sized (20- 60 mm) stones, micaceous sandstone rotten mortar and large mammal bone were present in this sample.

Context 2027 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 205 (description only)

Same as sample 206 but also with shellfish and white mineral flecks present.

Sample 206 (BS whole sample)

Moist, mid to dark purplish brown to mid to dark grey brown internally, brittle to crumbly (working soft), clay silt. Oolitic limestone, all classes of stones (2- >60 mm), wood and twigs were present in this sample.

The moderate washover consisted chiefly of decaying plant matter including a large quantity of decayed wood and charcoal fragments. A number of species indicative of disturbed or cultivated ground were present including dock (*Rumex acetosella L.*), poppy (*Papaver argemone* L.), small nettle (*Urtica urens* L.), oraches (*Atriplex* sp.), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica* L.), corncockle (*Agrostemma githago* L.) and *Centaunea*/*Icnautia* fragments. A number of fragments of *Chenopodium* Sect. *Pseudoblitum* were noted suggesting a component of manure/organic rubbish in the deposit. A few species typical of wetland habitats were also identified including celery-leaved crowfoot (*Ranunculus scleratus*), rushes (*Juncus* sp(p).), and *Daphnia* egg cases. In addition, the following species were present: elder *(Sambucus nigra* L.), chickweed (*Stellaria media*), thistle (*Cirsium/Carduus*) and *Ranunculus* sp. Earthworm egg capsules, fish scales and fly puparia were also noted.

The large residue (approx 10 litres, partly sorted) consisted chiefly of sand and stones. Brick/tile, pottery, mortar, ?slag and glass were present. Wood fragments in various stages of decay (to 10 cm) and charcoal (to 25 mm) were abundant. Twigs, charred grain (mostly

barley/wheat), nutshell (hazel), large and small mammal bone, amphibian bone, bird bone, fish bone and shellfish were present.

A considerable quantity of bone was recovered from the residue including mammal, bird, fish and amphibian remains. The identified mammal fragments (weighing 81.9 g) included cattle, pig, sheep/goat, mole (*Talpa europea* L.) and rat (*Rattus* sp.). The numerous unidentified mammal fragments weighed 198.5 g. The bird remains (weighing 2.8 g) included a single chicken (*Gallus* f. domestic) fragment.

The fish remains (weighing 14.2 g) included herring (*Clupea harengus* L.), salmonid and gadid fragments. A single fish vertebra showed characteristic damage consistent with being chewed. Three amphibian bones were recovered (weighing 0.1 g).

Context 2029 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 208 (description only)

Just moist, mid purplish brown, brittle to crumbly (working soft), slightly clay silt. Small (6-20 mm) stones, rotten mortar, tile/pot, wood (?chips), twigs and large mammal bone were present in this sample.

Context 2032 [Dump - 11th/12thC]
Sample 207 (description only)

Same as Sample 209 (see below) but slightly purplish in colour.

Sample 209 (1kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey brown, crumbly and slightly layered, very humic, sandy clay silt, with variable fine and coarse herbaceous detritus. Partly mineralised wood fragments and fish bone were present in this sample.

The rather large washover (40% of the original sample) was dominated by monocotyledon stem and root fragments. Charcoal (to 13 mm), degraded pieces of wood, and wood chips (to 70 mm) were noted as 'frequent'. Other vegetative macrofossils included occasional pieces of dicotyledon leaf and dicotyledon stem. Several species suggestive of grassland were encountered including selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris* L.), frequent small grass seeds and violet/pansy (Viola sp(p).) seeds. Faecal concretions bearing straw impressions, and several *Chenopodium* species, were also noted, accompanied by a range of disturbed/cultivated ground weed species very similar to the those noted for Context 2019. Wetland taxa were restricted to gipsywort (*Lycopus europaeus* L.) and spike-rush.

The moderately large residue (30% of the original sample) contained rounded pebbles (to 42 mm), faecal concretions (to 30 mm), angular stones (to 40 mm), brick/tile (to 35 mm), pieces of charcoal (to 35 mm) and eggshell fragments. All of the components were infrequent.

About a quarter of the flot - which was of modest size - consisted of insect remains, whose preservation was less than good but which were identifiable. There were, subjectively, hints of muddy foul matter in the open. A 3 kg subsample should provide clearer evidence.

The microfossil 'squash' was mostly organic detritus with some inorganic material. A few phytoliths (grass type) and many diatoms (4+ forms) were noted. No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

The mixture of grassland species, monocotyledon fragments, faecal material and nitrophilous weed species strongly suggests that the sample contained stable manure. The wood chips and degraded wood fragments could have been used as bedding for animals.

Context 2038 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 210 (description only)

Same as Sample 211(see below).

Sample 211 (2 kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey brown, crumbly, moderately humic, sandy clay silt, with white mineral flecks. Small (6-20 mm) stones, wood and nutshell fragments were present in this sample.

Wood chips (to 35 mm) dominated the moderate-sized washover (30% of the original sample). Bark (to 10 mm), monocotyledon stem fragments and monocotyledon rootlets were all recorded as infrequent. The remainder of the washover consisted of an assemblage of disturbed/cultivated ground weed species, rare poorly preserved charred wheat/barley grains and a very limited range of wetland species including sedges, bulrush and spearwort. *Chenopodium* Sect. *Pseudoblitum* and *C. murale* were both represented in the sample, indicating the presence of organic-rich rubbish or manure.

The bulk of the moderate-sized residue (30% of the original sample) was composed of coarse quartz sand. Other constituents included pebbles (to 20 mm), angular limestone fragments (to 30 mm), brick/tile (to 10 mm) and charcoal (to 35 mm).

The flot, of modest size, consisted mostly of insect remains, which were very well preserved. The presence of an appreciable proportion of aquatic, waterside and damp-ground forms was immediately obvious. Among the aquatics there were various water beetles, while the water fleas included a few *Daphnia* ephippia (resting eggs) and numerous ephippia of another species not identified to genus. Waterside taxa included *Cyphon* sp. (usually on vegetation by water or in damp places). Among the terrestrial insects were various decomposers (including hints of a foul-matter component, but mostly rather tolerant) and outdoor forms, the latter including the nettlebug *Heterogaster urticae* (Fabricius) (probably indicating temperatures warmer than those of the present day). A larger subsample would provide a clearly interpretable group; it is important to determine the nature of aquatic habitats at this site.

The microfossil 'squash' was mostly organic detritus with some inorganic material. A few fungal spores, some phytoliths (grass type) and many diatoms (>4 forms) were noted. No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

Three fish fragments (0.2 g) and two unidentifiable mammal fragments (0.7 g) were recorded.

This sample contained a relatively limited occupation assemblage representing organic-rich waste possibly originating in stable manure. There was very little evidence of food remains.

Context 2040 [Dump - 11th C]
Sample 212 (description only)

Same as Sample 213 (see below).

Sample 213 (description only)

Moist, mid to dark grey, soft and sticky to crumbly (working soft and sticky), clay silt. Oolitic limestone (to 11 cm), rotten mortar and large mammal bone were present in this sample.

Context 2041 [Dump - 11th/12th C]
Sample 214 (2kg GBA)

Moist, dark grey brown, somewhat compressed, somewhat layered, slightly sandy slightly silty fine and coarse herbaceous detritus, locally more or less organic. Wood (?chips), twigs, large mammal bone and marine molluscs were present in this sample.

The moderate-sized washover (30% of the original sample) from this sample produced an assemblage very similar to that noted for Context 2032. Much of the washover comprised monocotyledon stem and rootlet fragments and wood chips (to 100 mm). The weed taxa were dominated by *Chenopodium* Sect. *Pseudoblitum* and *C. album*. Most other types were poorly represented but included species typical of disturbed/cultivated ground, waysides/waste ground and grassland. A larger range of wetland taxa was present compared with Context 2032 (though all species were recorded as infrequent).

Coarse quartz sand formed the main component of the small residue (10% of the original sample). Other constituents included occasional oyster shell fragments, small pieces of eggshell, charcoal fragments (to 20 mm), brick/tile (to 10 mm) and wood fragments (to 10 mm). Small pieces of burnt bone (to 5 mm) were also noted.

The flot, of modest size, yielded insect remains in a good preservational condition. There were assorted decomposer taxa, with hints of a 'foul mouldering' component and species favoured by dryish conditions. Only a trace of outdoor fauna was noted. A subsample of 3-4 kg would provide an interpretable assemblage.

The microfossil 'squash' was mostly organic detritus with some inorganic material. Some phytoliths (grass type) and a few spores/pollen grains were noted. No eggs of intestinal parasites were seen.

A single gadid vertebra (0.3 g) and five unidentified mammal fragments (6.9 g) were recorded.

This sample is a heterogenous dump deposit containing a mix of occupation waste including food waste and probably manure.

6.4.2 Vertebrate remains

A total of 1170 vertebrate fragments (weighing 23.75 kg) were recovered from the 46 contexts recorded in detail, of which 408 fragments (weighing 13.36 kg) were identifiable to species or species group. Table 2 gives the numbers of fragments by species, together with the numbers of measurable and subadult bones, mandibles, loose teeth and weights. Table 3 gives the number of fragments by date.

Overall, preservation was described as good and was consistent within contexts. Colour was variable, both within and between contexts, ranging from fawn to nearly black. Angularity (appearance of broken surfaces) was mostly described as 'spiky', but a few contexts contained single rounded fragments possibly indicating a small degree of reworking.

Fragmentation was not great, less than 10 % of the fragments being less than 5 cm in any direction. Burning was only noted on material from four contexts (1085, 1087, 1095 and 2032). Both fresh breakage and dog gnawing were evident on less than 10% of fragments in most contexts. Butchery evidence was more extensive, generally 10 to 20% of fragments in each context, with up to 50 % in some contexts.

6.4.2.1 Roman vertebrate remains

Four contexts from which only Roman pottery was retrieved, all from inside the fortress wall, produced a very small amount of bone. Remains from a single context (1019) were recorded in detail (Table 3). Material from the three scanned contexts contained a further eight unidentifiable fragments. This assemblage is too small to be of any interpretative value.

6.4.2.2 Medieval vertebrate remains

Vertebrate remains from a total of 45 contexts, dating to the 10th-13th centuries, were recorded in detail, material from a further 23 contexts being scanned. Mammal species present included the major domestic species (cattle, caprovid, pig and horse), minor domestic species (cat and dog), red (*Cervus elaphus* L.) and roe (*Capreolus capreolus* (L.)) deer, ?wild boar (cf. *Sus scrofa* L.), rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (L.)) and hare (*Lepus* sp.). Bird species included goose (*Anser* sp.), duck (*Anas* sp.), chicken (*Gallus* f. domestic) and corvid. The corvid femur is of rook/crow size.

The goose bones were mainly consistent in size to the greylag (*Anser anser* (L.)) specimens in the modern comparative collection, however, this does not rule out the possibility that they might represent domestic geese. The same is true for ducks, most are mallard-sized, but the slightly larger bones could be domestic individuals.

A single tibiotarsus was morphologically similar to both the goosander (*Mergus merganser* L.) and merganser (*Mergus serrator* L.) specimens in the reference collection. However, the bone was considerably smaller in size and was tentatively identified as ?smew (cf. *Mergus albellus* L.), a smaller member of the sawbill family. This identification remains to substantiated because there were insufficient modern comparative specimens in the EAU collection.

In addition, single crab and amphibian fragments were recovered together with 14 fish bones.

Sufficient fragments were recovered for a limited interpretation to be offered for the skeletal element representation. The cattle fragments appear to represent mainly primary butchery waste (i.e. head and lower limb fragments), with a smaller quantity of domestic refuse. Both caprovid and pig remains suggest a more equal mixture of primary butchery and domestic refuse.

Deposits from within feature 2014 (described as a circular depression) contained eight cattle horncores, (with a further ten from the cleaning layer above) suggesting a somewhat specialised deposit of hornworkers' waste. In addition, five antler fragments (probably all red deer) showed evidence of working. Evidence for the importation of antlers (probably to supply craft activities in York) is provided by a single large burr, which had been shed 'naturally'.

Material from the scanned contexts appeared very similar to the rest of the assemblage. A single ulna identified as rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (L.)) was noted in Context 1049, dated to the 10th/11th C. This fragment is of potential significance since rabbits are generally believed to have been introduced into this country by the Normans. However, even if the dating of the deposit is secure, without a C14 date it is impossible to be certain whether or not this bone is intrusive, although its preservation and general appearance showed little difference to other vertebrate remains from the deposit.

Additionally, an otter (*Lutra lutra* (L.)) metatarsal was recovered from Context 1054.

One hundred and twenty four measurable bones were recorded from the medieval deposits, together with 65 subadult fragments, 12 mandibles and eight loose teeth. A further eight measurable fragments were noted from the scanned material.

6.5 Discussion and statement of potential

6.5.1 Sediment samples

The insect and plant remains would, together, undoubtedly provide a useful reconstruction of conditions, and to an extent activity, at the site, and some of the insect assemblages would

be of value in their own right as a resource for synthesis. It would be desirable to attempt to determine whether there were aquatic habitats *in situ*, and if so, what they were. Further investigation of the diatoms may give additional information about deposit formation although in at least one case they may have been introduced along with dumped material (the fen peat in Sample 200, Context 2007).

The presence of material so well preserved in central York is very significant as it will, when combined with evidence from excavations in Davygate, provide a picture of this previously poorly represented area. Subjectively, conditions seem to have been different from those implied from contemporaneous deposits elsewhere in York. Perhaps the presence of the standing Roman fortress wall disrupted the pattern of dense occupation, leaving areas used for dumping in which water could pool and weedy vegetation develop. It would be necessary to analyse a larger number of assemblages in order to test this and to make objective comparison with other parts of the city.

The white flecks seen in 16 samples appear very similar to those seen in samples from Parliament Street; the latter were identified as almost pure calcium sulphate (Carrott *et al.* 1996). At both sites the buildings were constructed on concrete rafts which may possibly be the source of this mineralisation, and at both the organic-rich deposits had shrunk, leaving a void below the concrete. Such voids beneath concrete rafts suggest that the lowering of the water table (whether caused by the raft itself, or a more general phenomenon related to rainfall or drainage changes in the city) is highly detrimental to the long term preservation of highly organic anoxically waterlogged archaeological deposits. Action should be taken to preserve such deposits, or to record them before they degrade too far.

6.5.2 Vertebrate remains

The possible Roman vertebrate assemblage was so small that it has no interpretative or zooarchaeological potential.

The tightly dated early medieval deposits produced a moderate-sized, well preserved vertebrate assemblage. The material was not highly fragmented and displayed little evidence of dog gnawing, suggesting that the bones were incorporated into the deposits fairly rapidly.

Good preservation is also indicated by the presence of significant numbers of sub-adult bones, which tend to be more vulnerable to the processes of decay. However, it should be noted that a small quantity of possibly reworked material was observed in a few deposits.

The assemblage consisted chiefly of domestic and primary butchery refuse with a small quantity of craft-working refuse. The latter suggests the presence of horn and antler workers in the vicinity. Two metatarsi, one identified as otter, the other as squirrel, may indicate that pelts were also being processed nearby, however, evidence for this activity is obviously rather limited.

A third of the identifiable fragments were measurable and these should provide a useful dataset for zooarchaeological interpretation.

On its own, further analysis of this assemblage would produce only limited additional information about the deposits from which it came. However, in combination with other small assemblages in the vicinity (Carrott *et al.* 1997; 1998), from deposits of a similar date and nature, the vertebrate remains might be able to throw some light on activities in this area during the early medieval period.

The bulk-sieved samples produced a moderate-sized assemblage of fish bones indicating that both freshwater and marine resources were being utilised. The relatively large quantity of fish bone recovered from this site is of interest as other small excavations from the same area of York (Carrott *et al*. 1997, 1998) have produced very little fish.

6.6 Recommendations

It is recommended that most of the remaining sediment samples should be processed, analysed, and reported in comparison with other sites in York. Quite large subsamples should be used to recover insect remains.

It is recommended that a basic archive, including biometrical data, should be produced of all well-dated material. The identities of the more unusual species should be checked and the biometrical data recorded. In addition, it is recommended that the rabbit bone from Context 1049 is radiocarbon dated to confirm the early date. As the potential for the recovery of a large and tightly dated fish assemblage appears high (on the basis of the remains from the samples that were bulk-sieved), all excess sediment should be processed. The data should be published in relation to those for other contemporaneous sites in York.

6.6.1 Retention and disposal

It is recommended that all the sediment samples and vertebrate remains are kept for the present.

6.6.2 Archive

All material is currently stored in the Environmental Archaeology Unit, University of York, along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

7. FINDS ASSESSMENT

7.1 Pottery

7.1.1 Spot Dates

context	No of sherds	Spot date	comment
1002	15	Early 13th	
1004	2	Roman	
1006	19	Early 13th	
1007	7	Early 13th	
1019	2	Roman	2 abraded grey wares
1020	12	12th	
1022	1	11/12th	
1027	4	Roman	1st-3rd
1037	12	12th	
1040	5	Early 13th	
1041	3	11/12th	
1043	10	11/12th	
1044	9	11/12th	
1045	3	Early 13th	
1047	1	12th	
1048	1	10/11th	
1051	1	11/12th	
1052	4	Early 13th	
1053	1	12th	
1054	1	12th	
1055	2	12/13th	
1056	3	11/12th	
1057	5	12/13th	
1058	4	11/12th	
1062	8	12/13th	
1064	13	11/12th	
1066	6	11th	
1067	8	11/12th	
1069	4	11/12th	
1070	1	12/13th	
1073	3	12th	
1074	8	11/12th	
1075	1	11th	
1077	3	11/12th	
1078	8	11th	
1079	13	11/12th	+ complete lower part of a Stamford ware cooking pot with external soot marks
1080	2	11th	
1084	2	11/12th	

1085	10	11th	+ 10 tiny sherds from environmental samples
1086	4	11th	
1087	11	11/12th	
1089	1	11/12th	
1095	2	10/11th	
2002	70	Early 13th	2 ?intrusive 18th century
2003	9	11/12th	1 ?intrusive 18th century
2005	2	13th	
2008	3	12/13th	
2009	1	11th	
2011	5	11/12th	
2013	15	Early 13th	
2016	10	11/12th	
2018	125	12th	+40 tiny sherds from environmental samples
2019	6	11/12th	
2020	3	13th	
2024	5	11/12th	
2026	11	11/12th	
2027	9	11/12th	+35 tiny sherds from environmental samples
2028	3	11/12th	
2029	9	11/12th	
2030	4	11/12th	
2032	20	11/12th	
2035	3	11/12th	
2037	3	11th	
2038	17	11/12th	
2040	5	11/12th	
2041	25	11/12th	

7.1.2 Discussion

The pottery assemblage comprises a very consistent group of sherds of 11th and 12th century date. There is very little residual pottery of Roman or Anglo-Scandinavian date, the earliest wares occurring in any quantity being Stamford ware, which peak in York in the second half of the 11th century. The bulk of the assemblage is of gritty ware and splashed wares. The gritty wares were used for cooking pots, as is shown by the frequent occurrence of external sooting; the splashed wares provided the pitchers or jug with pinched spouts and strap handles. There are few large sherds surviving suggesting that the assemblage consists of normal household rubbish. The sole exception is the complete base of a Stamford ware cooking pot which might also be rubbish but which could, even in its broken state have had a secondary function as a container. There are a few contexts which contain one or two sherds of York glazed wares of the 13th century; these are also from jugs. Amongst the unstratified material is a fragment of a York seal jug made in this fabric.

The assemblage is domestic in character and exactly what one would expect in York in the later 11th and 12th century, with a few contexts stretching in to the 13th century .

7.2 Coins

The only coin found was a 1950's halfpenny from context 1002.

7.3 Copper and Lead alloy Objects

A copper alloy fitting (37) of uncertain function, part of a buckle (39), a strip (40), and a simple ring, probably from a chain (44) were recovered. None of these are chronologically diagnostic or significant.

A lead alloy object, possibly the rim of a vessel (35), was also found.

7.4 Gold

A tiny fragment of gold thread (79), presumably from a fine garment or embroidery was recovered from context 2018 and may date from the 12th century, although some intrusive pottery was also found in that context.

7.5 Iron

The iron comprises mainly nails, horseshoe fragments, clenchbolts and miscellaneous strips, rods and fragments.

Iron-working slag was recovered from four contexts 1054, 1085, 1037, 2018.

7.6 Glass

Two small fragments of glass (74 and 82) were recovered and both are thought to be residual Roman pieces.

7.7 Chalk

One half of a chalk spindle whorl (83) was recovered from what is believed to be an 11t century context (context 1085)

7.8 Leather

A total of 65 individual objects and fragments of leather were found from the excavation of Trenches 1 and 2 at the BHS store. The finds are listed below by context. (Sf = Small find no.)

Context 1002: sf1 - 1 turnshoe sole fragment, medieval, insufficent survives to allow close dating; 2 primary, 2 secondary and 2 tertiary offcuts.
Context 1006: sf6 - 2 turnshoe sole fragments, medieval; 1 primary, 1 secondary, 2 tertiary offcuts; 2 scraps
Context 1007: sf. 14 - 3 turnshoe sole fragments, medieval; 1 primary offcut; 1 scrap
sf. 73 - 2 Secondary offcuts
Context 1020: sf3 - turnshoe sole fragment, of probable 12th to 13th century type.

Context 1041: sf20 - 1 probable offcut with concretion, 1 secondary or tertiary offcut, 1 tertiary offcut
Context 1043: sf11 - turnshoe sole, vamp and rand fragments, probably 12th or 13th century; 4 small turnshoe sole edge fragments; 1 secondary offcut
Context 1045: sf16 - 1 primary offcut
Context 1050: sf15 - 1 clumped turnshoe sole seat of 12th/13th century type.
Context 1051: sf24 - 1 probable secondary offcut fragment
Context 1052: sf17 - 2 turnshoe sole edge fragments, medieval; 1 secondary, 1 tertiary offcut; 2 scraps
Context 1054: sf21 - 1 uppers fragment, undiagnostic; 1 secondary offcut
Context 1058: sf23 - 1 cut down sole fragment, no seams
Context 1066: sf10 - 1 secondary offcut
sf71 - 1 secondary offcut
Context 1067: sf2 - 1 fragment with edge/flesh butt seam remnant; 2 primary, 2 secondary, 1 tertiary offcut
Context 1070: sf18 - 2 tertiary offcuts
Context 1075: sf19 - 1 possible unused rand; 1 secondary, 1 tertiary offcut
Context 1087: sf59 - 1shoe uppers fragment, cut-down
Context 2002: sf58 - 1 primary, 1 secondary offcut
Context 2007: sf13 - 1 secondary, 1 probable secondary offcut
Context 2011: sf6 - 2 primary offcuts
Context 2013: sf9 - 1 tertiary offcut
Context 2027: sf8 - 1 fragment, torn, biodeteriorated. Has character of shoe sole, but no diagnostic features.
Context 2041: sf4 - 1 secondary offcut

This is a small assemblage, consisting mainly of leatherworking waste, though there is also a small number of shoe fragments. These are mostly undiagnostic as regards type and date, though a few can be dated to the twelfth or thirteenth centuries as indicated above. Some are cut down, suggesting cobbling or translation (both shoe refurbishment industries).

The waste consists of all three main diagnostic offcut types, plus scraps. Primary offcuts suggest hide processing while the secondaries and tertiaries are generally taken as indicators of manufacture, while the scraps are by their very nature, undiagnostic.

Though some finds suggest leatherworking activity, this assemblage was recovered almost exclusively from contexts interpreted as pit fills or levelling dumps. Whilst the presence of offcuts in pit fills might represent the disposal of waste generated by on-site industrial activity, the small numbers involved makes this uncertain. Material from the levelling dumps could have originated either on or off the site.

7.9 Wood

Fragments of well-preserved wood were recovered from contexts 2018, 1046, 2029, 2011, 2002, 1087, 2032, 228, 1037, 1004, 2040, 2027, 2038, 2019, 2020, 2026, 1052, 2024, 3005. These were examined but found to have no features of interest (wood-working marks etc) nor were they part of objects.

7.10 Daub and mortar

Fragments of daub were recovered from contexts 1043, 1044, 1052, 1057, 1075, 1085, 2002, 2027 and 2032 and mortar from 1078 and 1085

7.11 Oyster shell

Oyster shell, which appears ubiquitously on sites in York, was collected from contexts 2010, 1006, 2024, 3005, 1080, 1037, 1085, 2011, 1078, 2002, 1066, 2019, 1079, 2018, 2035, 1067, 2023, 2027, 1087, 2038, 1057, 1043, 1058, 1020, 2040, 3006, 2016, 2041, 1052, 2032, and 1074.

7.12 Summary:

This is a very straight-forward domestic assemblage with little evidence, other than the leather-working, for craft activity. The small amount of slag is consistent with the 'background noise' found on urban sites of this period. Apart from the gold thread, which is a little unusual, the finds are a reflection of daily life in and around the 12th century.

7.13 Ceramic Building Materials

7.13.1 Roman material

The sample contains a selection of Roman material, from brick to roof tile. There are hints of several phases in the different sizes of tegula (which probably would not have been compatible).

7.13.2 Early medieval material (11th-12th century)

The sample is very strong on material which can be dated to the 11th and 12th century. This material comprises the now well-known combination of curved and flanged tile. However, there is a category of material that does not fit into this roofing suite, and could be viewed as proto-plain tile. Plain tile was used in York from the 13th century onward, and normally took the form of a large, flat, unglazed, plain tile with a centrally placed peghole at the top of the tile, or occasionally a nib tile. The proto-plain tile, which sometimes occurs with the curved and flanged tile, has several combinations, including a very slim, glazed tile with nail holes in the corner, or a thick slab which may have had a peg hole in the centre. There may be other variations. It certainly appears to be an experimental phase of material. This material has been seen at several sites in the vicinity of Davygate, and notably has also occurred in the Coppergate area. Clearly, the amount and variety of this material warrants much closer study.

7.13.3 Medieval material (13th-16th century)

Medieval material comprises brick and plain or peg tile. It is a small collection.

7.13.4 Post medieval material

There is a small collection of brick that clearly dates to the post-medieval period. One example is stamped with the name of a brick maker from Castleford. One fragment of brick is worn, which shows that it may have been used as flooring.

7.13.5 Other material

Stone is present. Limestone and sandstone appears to be associated with Roman ceramic building material. There are also some fragments of daub, which shows signs of wattle impressions and a flat surface. This may come from a wall, or perhaps an oven. It is associated with both Roman and medieval material, so the dating is uncertain.

7.13.6 Discussion

The collection of early medieval material in York as a whole is clearly important. Nationally, this phase of early medieval ceramic building materials has not been closely studied, and it is possible that York has a broader range and variety than any other city. It certainly has the potential to make a significant contribution to the study of this material. The assemblage from this site makes a valuable contribution to this collection and should be retained until further study can take place.

7.13.6 Context List

Context	Form/s	Dates/s	Spot Date
1002	Pantile, Plain, Plain (slip), Post med brick (T53), Post med brick (T57), Post med brick (worn) Post med brick (silty fabric)	17-19th	17-19th
1005	Roman brick (T53)	Roman	Roman
1006	Roman brick, Curved, Plain, ?Plain, ?Peg	13-16th	13-16th
1019	Roman brick, Roman brick (reused)	Roman	Roman
1020	Roman brick, Plain, Post med brick	Roman-17-19th	19th
1027	Roman brick	Roman	Roman
1037	Stone (limestone), Flanged, ?Flanged, ?Medieval fabric	11-12th	11-12th
1039	Roman, Roman brick (reused)	Roman	Roman
1040	Curved	11-12th	11-12th
1043	Flanged, Flanged (glazed), Curved. Curved (brown glaze, nailhole), Daub (flat walling)	11-12th	11-12th
1044	Stone (limestone), Stone (oolitic limestone), Stone (sandstone), Daub	?	?
1046	Plain (?slip)	13-16th	13-16th
1047	Curved, Roman brick	11-12th	11-12th
1048	Plain	13-16th	13-16th
1049	Stone (burnt, sandstone), Plain	13-16th	13-16th
1052	Daub, ?Plain, ?Flanged (reused)	?11-12th	?11-12th
1054	?Plain	?13-16th	?13-16th
1055	?Plain	?13-16th	?13-16th
1056	?Flanged	?11-12th	?11-12th
1057	?Daub, Stone (sandstone)	?	?
1058	Roman brick, ?Imbrex	Roman	Roman
1064	?Curved	?11-12th	?11-12th
1066	Cobble, Stone (limestone), ?Plain (medieval fabric, corner, glazed), Curved ?Plain	11-16th	11-12th
1067	?Plain	?13-16th	?13-16th

1069	?Roman	?Roman	?Roman
1070	Stone (sandstone), Tegula (massive), ?Plain	Roman-?13-16th	16th
1074	Curved (nailhole), Curved)	11-12th	11-12th
1075	Curved (reused), Daub	11-12th	11-12th
1078	Roman brick (mortar), Roman brick	Roman	Roman
1079	Stone (limestone), Stone (sandstone), Tegula, Roman brick	Roman	Roman
1080	?Curved/?hip	11-16th	11-16th
1085	Stone (limestone, burnt), Stone (limestone, mortar), Stone (sandstone), Roman brick, Stone (chalk), Stone (sandstone, worked, mortar), Curved	Roman -11-12th	11-12th
1087	Imbrex (massive), Roman brick, Roman brick (reused), Curved	Roman-11-12th	11-12th
1089	?Med fabric	11-16th	11-16th
2002	?Curved, Curved, Flanged, Peg, Daub, Medieval brick (T54), Curved (splashed glaze)	11-16th	13-16th
2003	Post med brick (Hartley's Castleford, (L230W110T73), Flanged, Curved (green glazed), ?Flanged, ?Plain (medieval fabric corner, glazed) Roman brick, Medieval brick (indented border, T39), ?Curved	Roman-19-20th	20th
2005	Plain (reused), ?Roman brick (?used for industrial purposes)	13-16th	13-16th
2006	Plain (overfired)	13-16th	13-16th
2008	?Plain (corner, medieval fabric), Curved, ?Flanged	?11-12th	?11th-12th
2011	Curved, Flanged	11-12th	11-12th
2013	?Plain (corner, reused, medieval fabric), Peg, Roman brick	13-16th	13-16th
2016	Curved, Roman brick	Roman-11-12th	11-12th
2018	Flanged, Curved (brown glaze), Tegula (small size), Medieval fabric (glazed, ?industrial purposes, ?waster), Oolitic limestone, Roman brick, Curved, ?Plain tile, Flanged (no flange visible, nailhole 9mm across), Medieval brick (W118T42mm, indented border), ?Plain (nailhole, glazed, T19mm)	Roman-14-15th	15th
2019	?Brick, Oolitic limestone	?	?
2020	Plain, Limestone	13-16th	13-16th
2023	Stone (sandstone, burnt)	?	?
2024	Roman brick	Roman	Roman
2026	Medieval fabric (glazed, ?waster, ?industrial uses), Curved, Tegula	Roman-11-12th	11-12th
2027	Daub (wattle rods, flat walling), Roman brick, Tegula	Roman	Roman
2029	Plain, Medieval fabric (crumbly, glazed, ?industrial)	?11-16th	13-16th
2032	Flanged, Curved (glazed), Roman brick, ?Daub,Flanged (green glazed)	Roman-11-12th	11-12th

2038	Curved, Curved (nailhole), Roman brick,Medieval fabric (glazed, ?industrial use)	Roman-11-12th?	?early Med.
2040	Stone (sandstone), Roman brick	Roman	Roman
2041	Flanged, ?Flanged (glazed, ?waster), Roman brick, Tegula (massive, abraded), Medieval fabric (sooted), Curved, Medieval fabric (unusual)	Roman-11-12th?	?early Med.
3005	?Plain, Plain (overfired), Curved, Medieval fabric (green glazed)	11-16th	13-16th
3006	Medieval fabric (corner, green glaze, industrial uses?, ?waster), Pot, Curved	11-12th	11-12th

7.14 Watching Brief Pottery

context 3005 - 2 sherds gritty ware, 7 sherds splashed ware 12th century
context 3006 - 2 sherds gritty wares, 9 splashed, 1 Roman 12th century

summary: Apart from the one sherd of residual Roman grey ware, this is a typical early/mid 12th century group comprising simple cooking vessels and splashed glazed jugs.

7.15 Watching Brief Finds

sf 74 context 3006 leather turnshoe, probably 12th/13th c. and one secondary offcut
sf 76 context 3005 leather shoe sole edge fragment
sf 77 context 3005 a fragment of round wood, either ash or oak with bark, one twig of 1 years growth, and two larger twig frags of 2yrs growth - all well preserved
sf 78 context 3005 solid iron rod, tapering towards one end and apparently broken at both ends - use unknown

8. CONCLUSIONS

The excavations have shown that beneath the modern concrete floor of the store, deep stratified archaeological deposits survive at the site. Organic deposits were encountered from c.0.40m below the surface in Trench 1, from c.0.60m in Trench 2 and from 0.90m in Trench 3. These were incorporated within a complex series of well stratified deposits mainly dating from the late 10th or early 11th to the mid 13th century AD. The defensive wall of the Roman Legionary Fortress was found in a remarkable state of preservation immediately below the floor of the modern store and had clearly been truncated in the 1950's.

8.1 Roman (1st - 5th century AD)

The well preserved remains of the Roman Legionary Fortress wall was found to diagonally bisect Trench 1. This seems to have survived as a significant structure at least until the early 13th century AD, when wall robbing and the build-up of dumped material to the south and north of it reduced its topographical significance. Cartographic evidence suggests that its line continued as a major property boundary across the site into the 20th century. The wall was well built and may have been constructed in short sections by different teams of masons. A small number of residual Roman pottery sherds and metal finds were recovered from probable medieval deposits to the north of (and inside) the wall. These indicate the possible disturbance of in-situ Roman deposits by activity from the 10th/11th century onwards. Stratified Roman deposits are thought to be well preserved below the base limit set by the current development.

8.2 Anglian and Anglo-Scandinavian (5th-11th centuries).

Anglian deposits were not recovered during the excavation, but these may also be preserved below the depth limit set by the current development. Deposits of late 10th or 11th century date, possibly pre-dating the Norman Conquest were recovered on the eastern side of Trench 1. These were interpreted as trampled floor surfaces either within backyards of buildings on the Feasegate street frontage, or in an open area used for stalls in front of a rough gateway through the former Roman Legionary fortress wall. Wall robbing, extensive trampling and the butchering of animals seem to have been key features in the formation of these deposits and the occupation close to the wall at this time seems to have been largely domestic in nature.

8.3 Medieval (11th -16th centuries).

From the 11th century onwards craftsmen seem to have utilised the area adjacent to the Roman fortress wall. Within Trench 1, a complex series of pits was recovered to the south of the wall, showing evidence for the disposal of leather working waste and butchering waste from the early 12th to the early 13th century. Associated with this were the possible remains of timber and clay lined pits, the function of which was not entirely clear due to their extensive truncation by later pit excavation, but they may be linked with the tanning or textile dying trade. The pits were then used for the dumping of domestic and industrial waste, as well as wall robbing debris, which seems to have continued into this new phase of

occupation. In Trench 2 a complex series of inter-cutting beam slots was interpreted as a timber-framed outbuilding or byre in the vicinity, dating from the early to mid 12th century. This went through a number of re-building phases, possibly resulting in the migration of the building to the north end of Trench 2 towards the Roman wall. The building was utilised as a byre or stable for animals. The whole area seems to have been levelled up with dumps of organic, domestic and industrial waste in the late 12th or early 13th century prior to continued use of the area as the backyards for properties which may have been involved in leather working, tanning, the processing of pelts, butchering of animals and horn working. The tanning of leather and the processing of animal carcasses may have been part of a trade expansion in the area, both trenches producing evidence for timber and clay lined pits, drainage gullies and an area of hard-standing for the possible support of large circular wooden vats. Within Trench 1 during this industrial phase a number of fence lines were erected on the eastern side of the trench. These did not appear to be aligned with the Roman wall and may indicate the demise of the wall as a significant upstanding structure in the area by the early 13th century. This subdivision of properties, or backyards of the Feasegate street front properties, may also indicate the final widening of the gap in the Roman wall created by Feasegate and the construction of properties through it (rather than flanking either side of the wall). The fences may also be associated with animal pens, for the holding of animals prior to slaughter or before being sent to the Thursday Market in St. Sampson's Square. A final levelling deposit followed by the excavation of a new gully on the western side of Trench 1 may indicate another division of the property in the mid 13th century and the excavation of a number of pits of similar date in Trench 2 may indicate the end of the tanning or dyeing industries in the area.

8.4 Post-Medieval (16th-18th centuries)

No post-medieval deposits were recovered from the site. All are thought to have been removed by the construction of British Home Stores building in the 1950's.

8.5 Modern (19th and 20th centuries).

The only modern deposits that were recovered related to the construction of the 1950's British Home Stores building and included a sewer pipe and the concrete ground slab. The only feature which may have not related to this was a small, possibly 19th or early 20th century, cut for an area of hard-standing located in Trench 1.

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Table 1. Samples from BHS store, Feasegate, York.

Context no.	Sample no.	Described?	Processed?	Notes
1002	1	Y	N	Recommend processed.
1002	2	As 1	N	Recommend processed.
1007	3	Y	N	Recommend processed.
1007	4	As 3	N	Recommend processed, particularly for bone
1008	5	Y	N	Too small for further action
1025	6	Y	N	No further action necessary.
1043	7	Y	N	Recommend processed.
1043	8	As 7	N	Recommend processed.
1069	9	Y	GBA	2 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'
1070	10	Y	N	Recommend processed, particularly for bone
1079	11	Y	N	fill of pot <28>, contents described
1085	12	As 13	N	Recommend processed.
1085	13	Y	BS	32 kg (whole sample) bulk sieved to 500 µm.
1087	14	Y	GBA	2 kg processed
2007	200	Y	GBA	2 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'
2018	201	As 202	N	Recommend processed.
2018	202	Y	BS	28 kg (whole sample) bulk sieved to 500 µm.
2019	203	Y	GBA	2 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'
2026	204	Y	N	Recommend processed.
2027	205	As 206	N	Recommend processed.
2027	206	Y	BS	30 kg (whole sample) bulk sieved to 500 µm.
2032	207	As 209	N	No further action necessary.
2029	208	Y	N	Recommend processed, particularly for bone
2032	209	Y	GBA	1 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'
2038	210	As 211	N	No further action necessary.
2038	211	Y	GBA	2 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'
2040	212	As 213	N	Recommend processed, particularly for bone
2040	213	Y	N	Recommend processed, particularly for bone
2041	214	Y	GBA	1 kg processed + microfossil 'squash'

*Table 2. Vertebrate remains from BHS store, Feasegate, York. Number of teeth includes only those teeth of use for ageing or sexing information; juv = juvenile, neo = neonatal; *weight of all caprovid fragments i.e. sheep/goat, sheep and goat; #weight of all unidentified fragments.*

Taxa		No. measurable	No. unfused	No. juv/neo	No. mandibles	No. teeth	No. fragments	Weight (g)
Rabbit	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (L.)	-	-	-	-	-	3	1.6
Hare	*Lepus* sp.	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Dog	*Canis* f. domestic	3	-	-	-	-	4	59
Cat	*Felis* f. domestic	2	4	-	-	-	9	42
Horse	*Equus* f. domestic	1	1	-	-	-	3	679
?Boar	cf. *Sus scrofa* L.	-	1	-	-	-	1	36
Pig	*Sus* f. domestic	14	19	2	3	3	58	1399
Red deer	*Cervus elaphus* L.	-	-	-	-	-	1	175
?Red deer	cf. *Cervus elaphus* L.	-	-	-	-	-	4	92
Roe deer	*Capreolus capreolus* (L.)	2	-	-	-	-	2	42
Cow	*Bos* f. domestic	32	18	7	2	5	158	9004
Sh/g	Caprovid	20	8	-	7	-	60	
Goat	*Capra* f. domestic	1	-	-	-	-	2	*1657
Sheep	*Ovis* f. domestic	15	-	-	-	-	19	
Goose	*Anser* sp.	7	-	-	-	-	12	39.6
Duck	*Anas* sp.	4	-	-	-	-	5	8
?Smew	cf. *Mergus albellus* L.	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Chicken	*Gallus* f. domestic	22	2	1	-	-	30	72.2
Corvid	Corvidae	-	-	2	-	-	2	1
Bird		-	-	-	-	-	17	31.2
Crab		-	-	-	-	-	1	0.2
Amphibian		-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1
Fish		-	-	-	-	-	14	15.1
Subtotal		124	53	12	12	8	408	13359
Medium mammal 1		-	-	-	-	-	262	
Large mammal		-	-	-	-	-	437	#10392
Unidentified		-	-	-	-	-	63	
Subtotal		-	-	-	-	-	762	10392
Total		124	53	12	12	8	1170	23751

Table 3. Numbers of vertebrate fragments by period from BHS store, Feasegate, York.

Taxa		Roman	C 10/11	C 11	C 11/12	C 12	C 12/13	C E13	C 13	Total
Rabbit	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (L.)	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3
Hare	*Lepus* sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dog	*Canis* f. domestic	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	4
Cat	*Felis* f. domestic	-	-	2	1	1	-	4	1	9
Horse	*Equus* f. domestic	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
?Boar	cf. *Sus scrofa* L.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pig	*Sus* f. domestic	1	-	7	23	11	1	10	5	58
Red deer	*Cervus elaphus* L.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
?Red deer	cf. *Cervus elaphus* L.	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	4
Roe deer	*Capreolus capreolus* (L.)	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Cow	*Bos* f. domestic	1	1	37	46	27	5	11	30	158
Sh/g	Caprovid	-	1	5	25	10	1	9	9	60
Goat	*Capra* f. domestic	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sheep	*Ovis* f. domestic	-	-	-	8	4	-	-	7	19
Goose	*Anser* sp.	-	-	1	5	3	-	2	1	12
Duck	*Anas* sp.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	5
?Smew	cf. *Mergus albellus* L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Chicken	*Gallus* f. domestic	-	-	4	8	5	2	6	5	30
Corvid	Corvidae	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bird		-	-	5	9	3	-	-	-	17
Crab		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Amphibian		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Fish		-	-	5	7	-	1	-	1	14
Subtotal		2	2	75	139	69	13	45	63	408
Medium mammal		-	2	64	77	38	8	41	32	262
Large mammal		2	1	122	138	75	4	50	45	437
Unidentified		-	-	17	34	8	-	-	4	63
Subtotal		2	3	203	249	121	12	91	81	762
Total		4	5	278	388	190	25	136	144	1170