

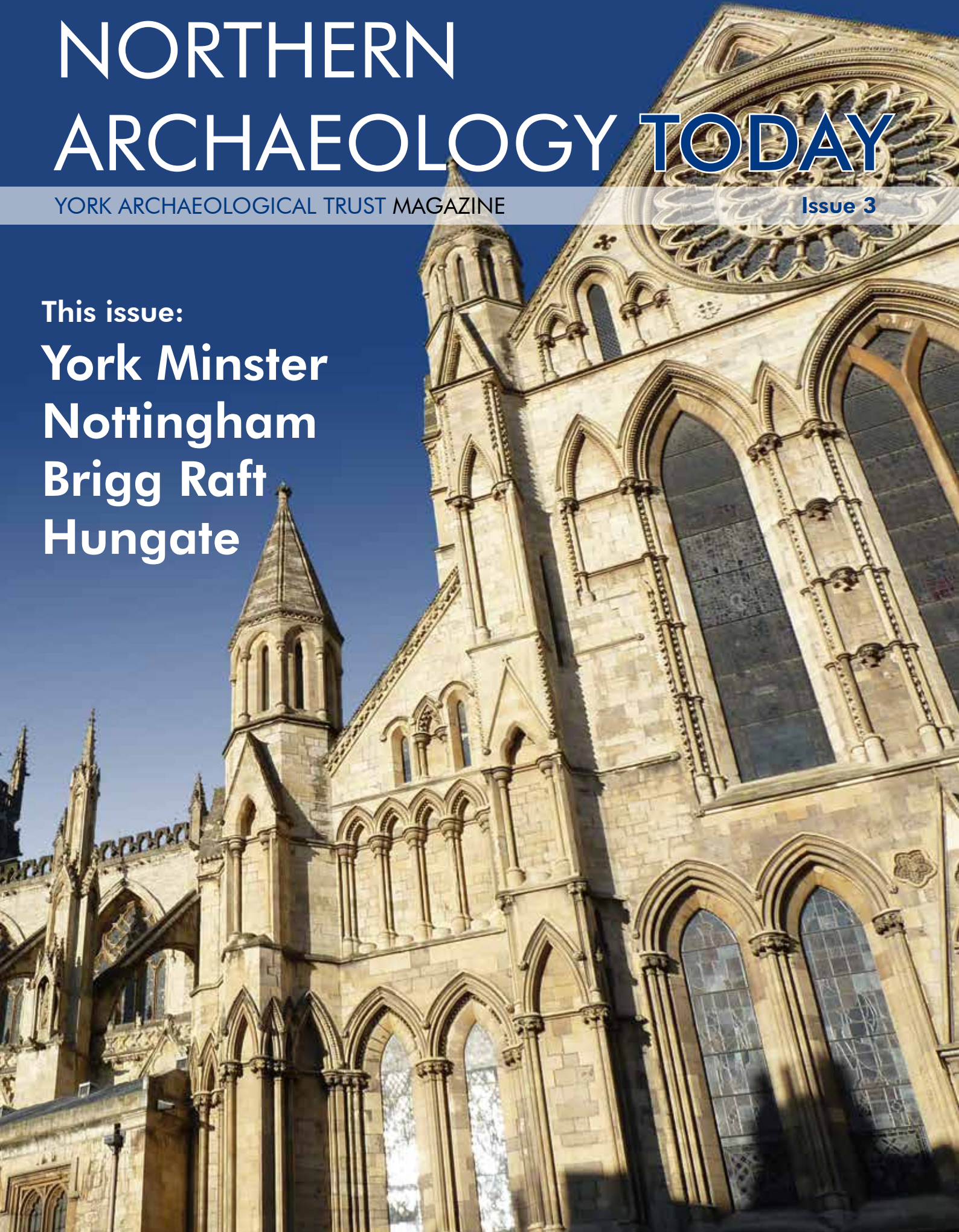
# NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY TODAY

YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST MAGAZINE

Issue 3

This issue:

**York Minster**  
**Nottingham**  
**Brigg Raft**  
**Hungate**





## Welcome!

In this issue we explore the origins of Nottingham with an overview of some of the excavations in the city which expose the development of the pre-Conquest Borough.

In York, with the launch of a major new exhibition beneath York Minster this year, Ian Milsted explains how the construction of a lift shaft to access the undercroft led to new discoveries. You can visit the new exhibition from 25th May, or find out more at [www.yorkminsterrevealed.org](http://www.yorkminsterrevealed.org)

Nicola Rogers and Karen Weston look at what branded goods found during the Hungate excavation tell us about tradesmen operating in York in the 19th and early 20th centuries. We also look forward to the next volumes in the Oral History series which will focus on the Coney Street and Shambles areas, with their wealth of shops and businesses.

Also in this issue, Steve Allen reports on YAT's work to help display the Bronze Age Raft from Brigg in North Lincolnshire, while Dave Aspden surveys the archaeological landscape of Kedleston Park, Derbyshire.

Exploring the Origins of Nottingham	1
York Minster Revealed	6
Brand New Discoveries from Hungate	12
Kedleston Park	17
The Brigg Raft	20
Oral History Update	22
Medieval Pottery	24

Northern Archaeology Today is published twice a year:

UK subscriptions £10.00 per year,

Overseas subscriptions £14.00 (sterling) per year.

To subscribe please send a cheque

(payable to **York Archaeological Trust**) to:

**Christine Kyriacou, York Archaeological Trust,  
47 Aldwark, York, YO1 7BX**

or telephone 01904 663000 with credit card details.

Northern Archaeology Today is published by York Archaeological Trust. Editorial and contributors' views are independent and do not necessarily reflect the official view of the Trust. Copyright of all original YAT material reserved: reproduction by prior editorial permission only.

© York Archaeological Trust 2013

York Archaeological Trust is a Registered Charity In England & Wales (No.509060) and Scotland (SCO42846) and a company limited by guarantee without share capital in England, number 1430801

ISSN: 2049-5897

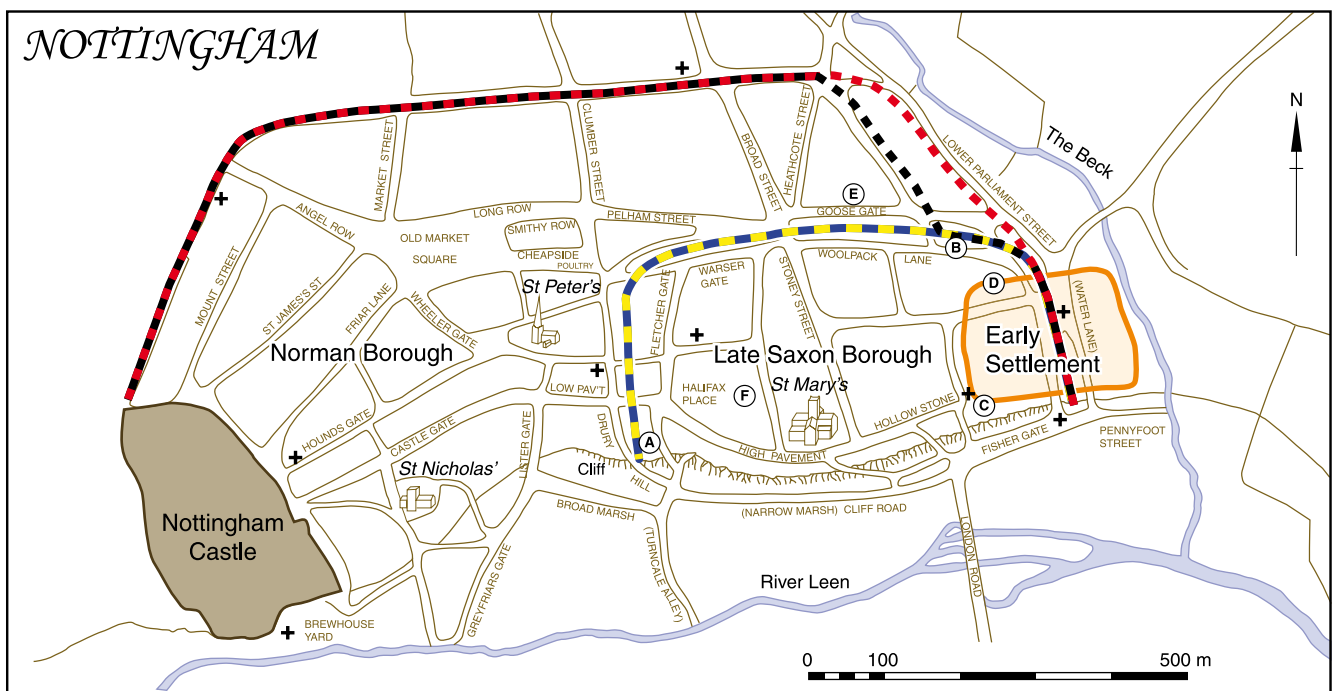
Cover picture: South Transept of York Minster.

Photo ©Lesley Collett

# Exploring the Origins of Nottingham

David Knight, Scott Lomax (Trent and Peak Archaeology) and Gordon Young (Nottingham City Museums and Art Galleries)

We report here on a collaborative project between Trent & Peak Archaeology and Nottingham City Museums and Galleries that seeks to secure and enhance the archives of six excavations in the heart of medieval Nottingham and to provide a concise synthesis of the results of investigation. The archives derived from these sites represent major untapped resources for study of the early development of Nottingham, which since its rise to prominence as one of the Five Boroughs of the Danelaw has played a key role in the history of England.



Major excavations	+ Minor excavations or watching briefs	Lines of defences	
(A) Drury Hill, 1969, 1970		— Period 1	Post-Roman, before Period 2
(B) Woolpack Lane 1970		— Period 2	Second half of 9th century
(C) Fisher Gate 1971, 1973, 1974, 1978		— Period 3	First half of 10th century
(D) Boots Garage 1972		— Period 4	First half of 12th century
(E) Goose Gate 1976, 1977		— Period 5	After 1250 Murage grants 1267–1334
(F) Halifax Place 1978 – 1980			

Excavations were conducted by Nottingham City Museums Field Archaeology Section between 1969 and 1980 at five sites inside Nottingham's pre-Conquest Borough and at Goose Gate, just north of the Borough's defences. These excavations were carefully positioned with the aims of elucidating the development of the Borough's defences, its internal organisation and its socio-economic status, and we provide here a brief review of the results of these investigations.

The sites upon which this account is based are highlighted on the map that is reproduced above. This shows a possible focus of early Anglian settlement on the eastern slopes of the sandstone outcrop crowned by St Mary's Church (Period 1). It also indicates the proposed course of the pre-Conquest Borough's defences, which followed a course that is reflected in the medieval street pattern (Periods 2–3). These defences were abandoned in the post-Conquest period, when a Norman



*Jan Siberechts' famous view of Nottingham from the East (c.1700) shows clearly St Mary's Church and the pre-Conquest Borough in the right foreground and the Ducal Palace on the high sandstone outcrop beyond. © Nottingham City Museums and Galleries*

Borough was established between the ancient Borough and the newly constructed castle to the west. From the early twelfth century, both Boroughs were enclosed by defences, which from documentary evidence may have been extended eastwards along the line of Upper Parliament Street around 1250 (Periods 4-5). The map illustrated is based upon a 1609 map of Sherwood Forest, and provides the earliest evidence for the relationship between the proposed lines of Nottingham's medieval defences and the street layout. The landscape painting above, which was produced around 1700 by Jan Siberechts, shows dramatically the topography of Nottingham and the location of the pre-Conquest Borough atop a sandstone outcrop overlooking the floodplain of the River Trent.

Excavations commenced in 1969 at **Drury Hill**, on a site straddling the south-western defences of the pre-Conquest Borough (Site A). Fieldwork unearthed the remains of a rampart and a massive outer ditch cutting a sunken-floor building dated to c.650-850. The truncated building indicates settlement along the southern edge of the sandstone outcrop prior to construction of the defences. The ditch could be shown to have been recut in the tenth century, but the date of construction of the defences, whether before or during the Danish occupation of Nottingham, remains unclear. Immediately after the Conquest, the rampart was levelled and the ditch was filled. The ditch was buried in the late eleventh century beneath a square, timber-built cottage, which in the early twelfth century was replaced by a timber aisled hall. Property boundaries were re-aligned along new frontages around 1150, following destruction by fire of the aisled hall, and in the 1690s a courtyard arrangement was established that persisted until wholesale demolition in the late 1960s prior to construction of the Broadmarsh Shopping Centre.



*Drury Hill: section across the pre-Conquest ditch (Trench III); © Nottingham City Museums and Galleries*

Another length of the pre-Conquest Borough's defensive ditch, together with traces of a levelled rampart, was found during excavations on the northern edge of the Borough at **Woolpack Lane**. The ditch preserved evidence of a major recut, dated as at Drury Hill to the tenth century. This recut ditch was cut again in the first half of the twelfth century by a substantial ditch divided from an internal bank by a wide berm. This later ditch, which was assigned to Period 4, was interpreted as part of the medieval defences that had enclosed both the pre-Conquest and Norman Boroughs. It was shown to have continued both northwards and eastwards of Woolpack Lane, and is thought to have continued in a northerly direction along the eastern edge of Cranbrook Street and south-eastwards along the line of the pre-Conquest defences. As noted above, documentary evidence suggests that the northern arm of the defences was extended eastwards around 1250.

Subsequent excavations in the north-east corner of the Borough at **Boots Garage** revealed a wide and fairly shallow west-east ditch, which was interpreted as possibly the northern boundary of the proposed Period 1 settlement. Parallels were drawn with a west-east ditch identified at Fisher Gate, but as on that site doubts remain regarding its purpose and date. The area was disturbed by post-medieval and modern buildings and cellars, but traces survived of a slight wattle and daub structure of ninth or tenth century date. This was replaced by successive timber buildings, followed by clearance in the thirteenth century for a malt kiln and associated cellar. Evidence of industrial activity in the period spanning the Norman Conquest was provided by a corn-drying kiln and smelting hearth, while later activity was indicated by a large bowl-shaped kiln or oven of thirteenth century date.

Excavations along the southern side of the Borough at **Fisher Gate** revealed a wide and fairly shallow west-east ditch interpreted as possibly the southern defences of the proposed early settlement, but the date and purpose of this feature remain uncertain. The area to the south



*Woolpack Lane, looking towards the interior of the pre-Conquest Borough. The early 12th-century ditch (left) cut the infilled pre-Conquest ditch (right), providing key evidence for the development of the medieval defences; © Nottingham City Museums and Galleries*

of this ditch, along the edge of the sandstone cliff, seems to have been unoccupied until the construction in the late ninth or tenth century of a timber structure reminiscent of the rectangular buildings that were subsequently unearthed at Halifax Place. One of the more important discoveries was a rock-cut corn-drying kiln, dating from c.1200, which had burnt down while in use. The kiln pit was connected to a stoke-hole approached by rock-cut steps, and was edged by stake-holes preserving the charred remains of a wattlework frame of hazel that had survived partially *in situ*. This frame had been



*Boots Garage: view along pre-Conquest ditch (centre), interpreted as possibly the northern boundary of the Period 1 settlement.*

© Nottingham City Museums and Galleries



*Fisher Gate: corn-drying kiln of c.1200.*

*Left: view showing ring of stake-holes marking the foundations of a wattle frame and stepped stoke-hole (foreground); above: part of the wattle frame surviving around the chamber wall*

© Nottingham City Museums and Galleries

lined internally with clay, and was separated from the pit wall by a thin layer of sand packing. Grain had been dried on a wooden frame separating the kiln pit from an above-ground chamber that was reconstructed as a domed wattlework structure sealed externally by clay. The kiln yielded abundant carbonised emmer wheat, including complete ears on stalks, wood and daub, and remains unique in Nottingham in terms of the richness of its material remains and the quality of preservation.

Excavations in the heart of the pre-Conquest Borough at **Halifax Place** revealed a boundary ditch dated to between 650 and 850 and a remarkable group of large, rectangular timber buildings of at least three phases pre-dating 1000. Clearance of these in the eleventh century was followed by the construction of new buildings and of a pottery kiln dating to c.1000. Other evidence for industry was provided by several eleventh century timber-lined pits that may have been used for tanning. The site was reorganised around 1100, with properties along at least two frontages and intense activity

until c.1350, including eight corn-drying kilns, pits and an oven or kiln. A third frontage was occupied by buildings in the thirteenth century, preceding a phase of dereliction, rebuilding in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and, in the nineteenth century, industrialisation associated with lace manufacture. Nine caves were also encountered on the site, including at least three that may date from the High Medieval period.

Finally, at **Goose Gate**, immediately outside the northern defences of the pre-Conquest Borough, excavations revealed a complex arrangement of buildings spanning the period from c.1100-1350, together with pits, ovens, corn-driers and two pottery kilns. A fifteenth century malt-kiln, sixteenth century caves and a seventeenth century latrine in a timber shed were also recorded. The site seems to have been abandoned by the end of the seventeenth century, and is shown on a map of 1744 as an orchard, but the area was redeveloped during the industrialisation of the Lace Market in the nineteenth century.



*Halifax Place: left of centre lies the mid 7th–mid 9th century boundary ditch running from east to west and other excavated features. Gordon Young is triangulating the northern edge of the early ditch. © Nottingham City Museums and Galleries*

Together, these excavations provide a rich source of information for study of the development of Nottingham from its origins as an Anglian settlement to its transformation from the mid-eighteenth century into a major industrial centre. These data are currently neither published nor easily accessible, and it is intended that the creation of a web-based resource and synthetic report highlighting the potential of the archives will provide a valuable springboard for future research into Nottingham and its hinterland.

### **Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to extend thanks to English Heritage and Nottingham City Council for funding this project.



*Goose Gate: medieval pottery kiln (c.1225-50) producing Nottingham Splashed Ware; the kiln was cut by a nineteenth century cellar wall; © Nottingham City Museums and Galleries*

# YORK MINSTER REVEALED



PHOTO: © Lesley Collett

In February 2012 there arose the first opportunity to excavate in York Minster for forty years, since the engineering crisis of 1966-1972 resulted in the emergency excavation of much of the cathedral, under the direction of Derek Phillips. That work revealed the Roman basilica and barracks of the fortress *principia*, an Anglo-Scandinavian cemetery, and the extensive remains of the Norman cathedral of 1080, the footings and walls of which were reused from 1220 as the foundations of the Gothic arcades in the cathedral we know today. The Norman stonework, designed to bear a much lighter load of completely different geometric properties, failed after nearly 900 years extended service, precipitating the crisis.

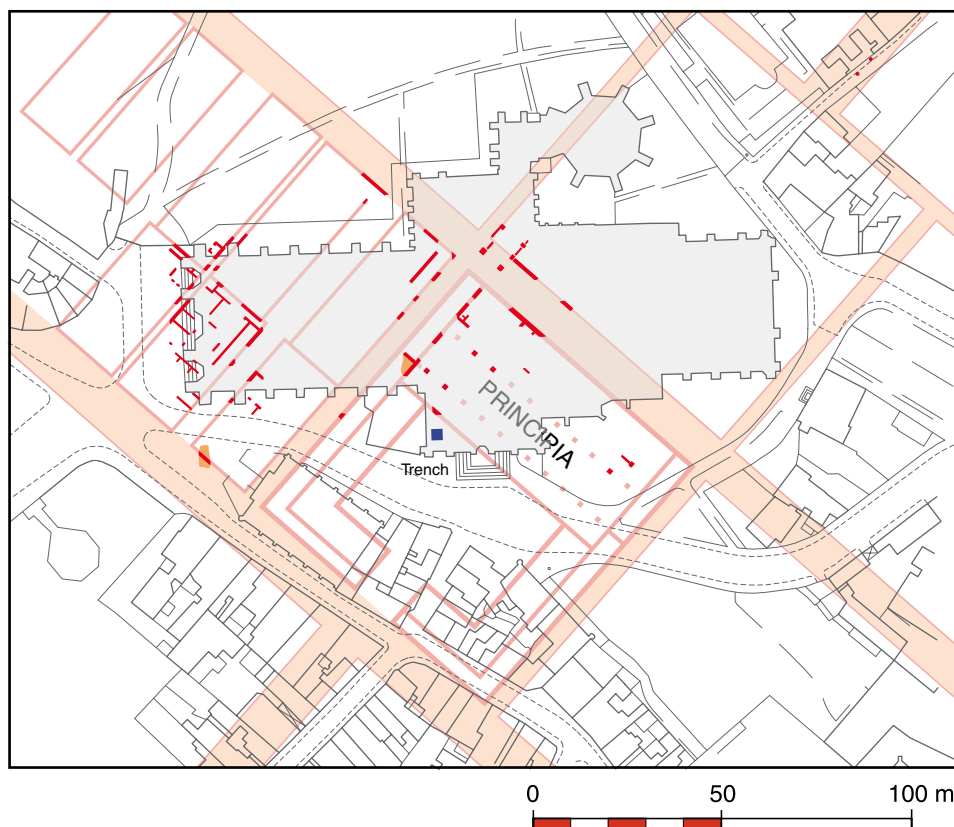
The legacy of that crisis and excavations, besides the saving of the cathedral, was the Undercroft, a space around the foundations left

deliberately open beneath the re-laid main floor to make the archaeological remains accessible to the public. A stairwell was dug in the South Transept in 1972, down which many thousands of tourists have since passed. Forty years later, a small passenger lift was required as part of *York Minster Revealed*, an extensive programme to improve access and visitor experience across the whole cathedral, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. A small excavation was therefore instigated to create the lift shaft.

Excavations in cathedrals are rare and eagerly undertaken, especially at York Minster, where recent YAT re-analysis of the engineering archive has introduced the cathedral's extraordinary archaeology to a new generation. As YAT field archaeologists Ian Milsted and Jim Williams worked under artificial lights in the shadows of the stairwell to the accompaniment



Roman Principia and nearby buildings and roads shown overlain on modern plan of the Minster area. The 2012 trench in the Minster South Transept is shown in blue

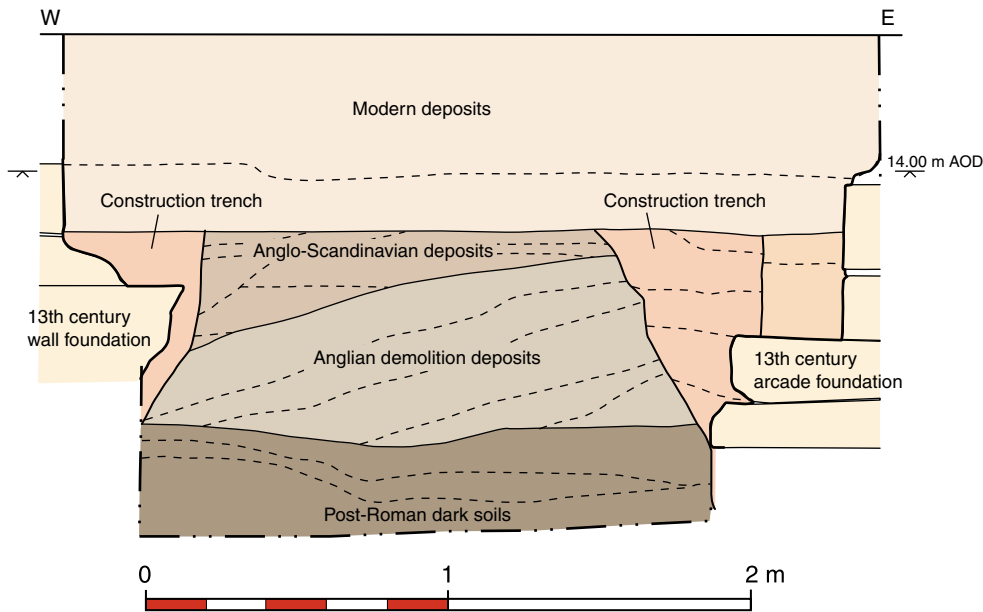


of the daily organ practice. They were guided by the previous work, but had to approach the archaeology on its own merits and not look for what was found forty years ago. Equally, the post-excavation analysis refers heavily on the published and unpublished archive material, but must nevertheless tell its own story.

The base of the lift shaft, 1.6m below the foot of the stairwell, reached deposits some 4.2m beneath the South Transept floor. The position of the trench in the *principia* courtyard, over the angle of the north-west portico and the basilica, meant that at this depth Roman deposits should have survived. What was found was an extensive layer of undifferentiated dark soil containing significant amounts of Roman building material, overlain by sand and mortar-rich dumps of demolition rubble and wall-plaster. This 'dark soil' may relate to the famous 'dark earths' revealed across York, which are often interpreted as evidence for post-Roman abandonment from the early 5th century. On-going environmental analysis may confirm this, but it seems clear that significant

damage had been inflicted on what should have been surfaces and structures of 2nd – 4th century date. A small hole was dug in the base of the trench in case these structures were tantalisingly close, but none were found, suggesting that they are simply no longer present in this area.

Besides significant amounts of Roman building debris, however, no closely dateable contemporary artefacts were found, hindering the interpretation of this phase. The demolition rubble may support Phillips' theory that the *principia* was substantially re-built in the 4th century, but this event has been strongly disputed, notably by Dr Patrick Ottaway. It seems more likely that the Roman buildings were abandoned and decaying from the 5th century onwards, which makes two large postholes, cut into the rubble, of considerable interest. These held posts of up to 0.40m across that appear to be contemporary and aligned perpendicularly to the front wall of the basilica, only 3m away to the north-east. Their purpose is unknown, but they may be a post-Roman



South-facing section of the lift-shaft trench

Below: Two post-holes cut into the lower post-Roman 'dark soil' deposit

division within the courtyard, or one side of a small structure. They may even be part of a scaffold associated with robbing, or possibly repair, of the Roman walls.

Sealing these postholes was a further layer of dark soil, virtually identical to the earlier deposit. Perhaps significantly, it contained no pig bones, a significant feature of the Minster's late Roman layers identified 40 years ago. The 2012 lower dark soil also contained pig bones that may distinguish it as Roman or containing Roman material, in contrast with the higher dark soil. Of greater significance for this later deposit, however, was the recovery of a coin from a bulk-sieved sample, processed in



Sceatta of Eanbald II, Archbishop of York

Glasgow by Northlight Heritage at the new Dickson Laboratory. The coin is a *sceatta* of Eanbald II, Archbishop of York, issued between AD 796-830. This places the later dark soil to the late 8th century at the very earliest, and brackets the earlier postholes to between the 5th and the 8th centuries, the period during which Edwin built the wooden Minster of 627 and the flowering of the Northumbrian kingdom. Whether the subsequent dark soil reflects further abandonment or other activity remains unknown for now.



Truncated Anglo-  
Scandinavian  
stone-lined cist  
burial with foot  
bones in situ

The next deposits were perhaps the most significant identified during this project. A series of laminated, trampled deposits rich in mortar and crushed Roman building materials overlay the upper dark soil, creating a slope down from the position of the basilica front wall 3m to the north-east. These sloping deposits are late 8th/early 9th century at the very earliest, and are interpreted as evidence for the systematic demolition of structural remains in the location of the Roman basilica, consisting of the cumulative debris from *in situ* preparation of stone and brick for re-use. A very similar series of deposits identified during the 1960s were interpreted this way and related to the robbing of the Roman foundations during the construction of the Norman Minster. These demolition deposits, however, were sealed beneath a clearly pre-Norman cist burial.

The presence of substantial walls in the position of the Roman basilica into the 9th century has long been suspected. These were almost certainly the ruins of the basilica itself, which were substantial enough to provide re-useable building materials after 400 years. The 1960s excavators suggested that the basilica

survived in a roofed state into the 9th century, but this was considered unlikely by Professor Martin Carver when he edited *Excavations at York Minster* in 1995. The lift shaft sequence does not resolve this issue. It is possible, however, that these walls belonged to a post-Roman building, perhaps adapted from the basilica. This might explain the purpose of the structural postholes discussed above, and contribute to the understanding of York's Anglian landscape. Dr Christopher Norton has argued persuasively that Edwin's church of 627 stood immediately north of the *principia* area, all of which was owned by the church from this time. The possibility of an Anglian building in ecclesiastical land is exciting because some suggest the *principia* area as an early seat of royal power in York, beside the Anglian Minster, whilst others place the Minster itself in the basilica ruins. This exceeds the interpretative potential of the lift-shaft sequence, but wherever one stands on the 7th century landscape, the systematic clearance from the early 9th century may be evidence of the developing ecclesiastic, political and even financial power of the York Archbishops up to AD866 and then into the Anglo-Scandinavian period.



Charnel deposit  
backfilling a 13th-century  
foundation trench

The demolition deposits were sealed by refuse pits and a large charnel pit that was itself cut by the single stone-lined cist burial referred to above. The enormous foundations of the 13th-century South Transept, cut from far higher up, had removed 80% of the cist, leaving only the north-east end intact. Fortunately, the feet had survived, enough to show this was an inhumation burial from the Anglo-Scandinavian cemetery found nearby during the 1960s. Those burials were of 10th and 11th century date, but several contained re-used Anglian decorated grave markers, which are usually regarded as evidence for an otherwise unproven earlier, pre-Viking cemetery. The lift shaft cist burial is Anglo-Scandinavian, but the underlying

charnel pit could represent the clearance of an earlier, Anglian cemetery. Alternatively, the sequence may simply represent the continuous use of the area as a cemetery, with typical periodic clearing of burials. A single sherd of possible 10th-century pottery from the charnel offers little dating evidence; what is clear is that an extensive, systematic demolition of Roman or post-Roman buildings took place within the *principia* area before the establishment of a cemetery that is clearly pre-Norman. The development of this cemetery may point to the Anglian Minster or to an ancestor of St Michael le Belfrey, a foundation which may itself represent further evidence for the late survival, and adaptation, of Roman buildings in this area. It is frustrating that once again no specific dating evidence was recovered from the demolition deposits to refine their current 200-year bracket, but these new discoveries represent a significant step forward for the existing analysis of the Minster sequence.

The cist lid lay beneath thin mortary layers interpreted as Norman construction spreads that were exposed during the 1970s along with the foundation trenches of the South Transept west aisle wall and arcade. These trenches date from c.1220 and originally were cut from the approximate height of the current Minster floor. They were truncated by 2.6m when the stairwell was created, exposing the stonework, but what remained were nevertheless very substantial, flanking the lift shaft trench to the west and east.

The west wall of the aisle sits in a deep, straight-sided trench and was constructed with purpose-cut limestone blocks and re-used stone from the demolished 11th-century transept that it replaced. The aisle foundations obliterated all before them, including much of the pre-conquest cemetery evidenced by the cist-burial. This destruction was demonstrated even more graphically by the arcade foundation, which is a massive, pyramidal sleeper wall at least 2m wider than the arcade above it, and at least 4m deep. Once again, this was built with a combination of fresh-cut and re-used



stone, including two plinths and some stones still bearing the distinctive painted plaster of the Norman cathedral. The sleeper wall was attached to the Norman foundations, extending them southwards to carry the arcade beyond the footprint of the earlier building, and requiring a massive trench up to 10m long, 5m wide and at least 4.5m deep. This trench was dug through both the Anglo-Scandinavian cemetery and overlying 12th-century burials, disturbing many hundreds of graves and producing very large amounts of charnel.

What was surprising was to find that the 13th-century builders had stock-piled the disturbed bones during construction and then deliberately placed them back in the foundation trenches, effectively doubling up the footings as charnel pits. This 13th-century combination of efficiency and obvious respect is instantly recognisable in the 21st century as this is often what eventually happens to disturbed human remains. The charnel also suggested that the foundation was built in two stages. The foundation trench was backfilled with charnel after the lowest part was built. The trench was then re-opened to build a second, imperfectly aligned, course over the existing one, disturbing the charnel in the lower backfill, which was then replaced once the upper footing was built.

The distinction was very clear, as the earlier charnel was very jumbled and contained lots of smaller bones, whilst the later charnel contained proportionally more long bones as a result of repeated disturbance. These had also been carefully placed along the line of the upper wall, on top of the wider, lower footing.

A further, slightly macabre detail of seasonality can be added. Some of the lower charnel skulls contained the remains of several frogs. When the building-site was closed up for the winter, the lower foundations were buried to protect them from frost. The skulls were reburied along with the other bones, entombing the frogs that had found a conveniently dark and damp place to hibernate during the autumn when they were stockpiled in the open.

This unexpected insight into life on a 13th-century construction site concludes the sequence from the lift shaft trench. Although this was a very small excavation, it provides an invaluable comparison with the 1966–1972 sequence, having been conducted with modern techniques and in a controlled environment unavailable during the engineering crisis. The legacy of this project may, in time, be the fuller appreciation of what was achieved forty years ago.

Ian Milsted

# BRAND NEW

## DISCOVERIES AT HUNGATE

Excavations at Hungate have produced a number of 'branded' artefacts which we can tie directly to historic York businesses and individuals. Karen Weston and Nicola Rogers talk about their research into branded everyday items giving an insight into how some of York's Wines and Spirits Merchants, Brewers, Ironmongers, Drapers and Tailors operated within the city.

*Stoneware vessels stamped with the names of York businesses: R A Wright, J Hillyard and G Hutchinson*



### **Brewing and Drinking**

York's 'Wines and Spirits Merchants' can be traced back to the mid-18th century through the city's trade directories. From their shops around the city they would sell all types of homebrewed and imported beers, ales, porter, wines, spirits and sometimes even cigars. Breweries would also have their own retail outlets, in addition to supplying the wines and spirits merchants and local public houses (some of which were owned by the breweries). Evidence of these activities survive as fragments of stoneware and glass bottles which, if we are lucky, reveal the names of the individuals, enabling us to investigate their lives. Stoneware bottles were commercially produced from the beginning of the 19th century, and by 1820 production was on a mass scale. Wines and Spirits merchants would commission potteries to make stoneware bottles bearing the name of the company so that the bottles could be returned to the shop after use. Some were even stamped with the slogan '*master wants me home*' to remind the customer to return the bottle to its 'master'. The production of glass beer bottles began in the mid-19th century and by the end of the 19th century the larger breweries had set up huge bottling factories. Glass gradually replaced stoneware and by the end of the Second World War, the majority of beer was sold in glass bottles.

### **George Hutchinson**

One stoneware ale/porter bottle stamped G. HUTCHINSON / YORK was recovered from the area behind the former back-to-back houses of Lower Dundas Street in Hungate. George Hutchinson took over the Crown Inn,

64 Walmgate (formerly the Crown and Cushion) and began brewing there in 1835. An early advertisement in the *Yorkshire Gazette* dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 1835 advised that he had 'just taken stock of the best quality Wines, Spirits and Cordials' and also of 'London Brown Stout...and Strong and Mild Ales'. He was listed in the 1843 trade directory as having premises at 63 Walmgate (vault and shops) and also new premises at 27 Pavement. In October 1848 he announced his retirement from the Brewing and Porter trade after 13 years in business and the *Yorkshire Gazette* confirmed that the business would be taken over by his brother in law John Foster. The following week his business assets, including livestock and household furniture, were put up for auction. Bottles of the type commissioned by George Hutchinson were produced throughout the 19th century, but this bottle recovered from Hungate dates to the thirteen-year period from 1835–1848 when George Hutchinson owned Crown Brewery.

### John J Hunt and Ebor Brewery

Glass bottles, bottle stoppers and a metal advertisement board relating to the John J Hunt brewery were recovered from Hungate. John J Hunt was in business for over 120 years and as such had one of the largest and longest standing breweries in York. Joseph Hunt began the family business in 1830 as a Hop and Seed Merchant at 2 Monk Bar. His business thrived and by 1851 he was listed as a Brewer, Maltster, Hop, Seed and Guano Merchant at 20 Aldwark. John J Hunt subsequently took over and in 1876 he was registered as a Brewer, Maltster, Wine and Spirits Merchant in Aldwark, developing the business to take advantage of the increasing profitability of the wine and spirits trade. The first record of the famous Ebor Brewery, established by John J Hunt, is in the 1885 trade directory, and by 1904 the brewery had taken over Robert Brogden, Sons and Co. Limited which brought with it ownership of some 50–60 licensed public houses. An advertisement in the *Yorkshire Gazette* in 1899 boasted that they were 'Brewers, Wine, Spirit and Cigar Importers,



Enamelled metal sign for John J. Hunt Ltd

*Mineral Water manufactures and bottlers of Ales and Stout*' and their products would have been sold widely from their own stores and public houses, as well as from other public houses throughout the city. The many bottle stoppers and glass bottle fragments recovered from Hungate date to the early to mid 20th century, and the volume of such artefacts illustrates the success of his enterprise. The company was bought out by Camerons of Hartlepool in 1953, by which point John J Hunt Limited also owned Scarborough and Whitby breweries, around 220 public houses, and a number of 'off licence' stores around the city. The John J Hunt name was used for a short time by Camerons and the Ebor Brewery buildings remained a landmark in the city until they were demolished in 1972.



### Richard Hood and Sons

One of the largest vessels found during the Hungate excavations was a stoneware flagon stamped 'R.Hood / MINT.... / York', recovered from behind the back-to-back houses on Dundas Street. The first record of the Hood family business is from the 1830 trade directory which lists Wells Hood (son of Richard Hood) as a Wine and Spirits Merchant at 93 Micklegate. Richard Hood announced in the *Yorkshire Gazette* of May 1834 that he had taken over Mr Francis Moss's Wholesale and Retail Seed business and that the Hoods were now Wine, Spirit, Hop and Seed Merchants based in Mint Yard. It was announced in the *York Herald*, 1845 that they were to move premises to 21 Micklegate and the Hood family '*hoped to receive a continuance of the Favours of their Friends, being determined not to admit into their Stock anything but First-rate Articles in each Branch of their Business*'. The Hood partnership was dissolved in 1851, Richard moved to Stamford Bridge, the stock and household furniture was auctioned and it was requested in the local press that all bottles belonging to R Hood were returned (a fate which was not bestowed upon the bottle recovered from Hungate). From the name and

address on the bottle we are able to precisely date this bottle to the six year period between 1834 and 1845 when the Hood business was in Mint Yard.

### Joseph Hillyard

One 19th-century stoneware bottle base stamped 'J-HILLYARD / YORK' was recovered from a possible house clearance assemblage found just off the main Hungate street. Hillyards were established in 1840 at 16 Low Ousegate (now O'Neills bar), and remained here throughout the life of the business. Census records show that in 1841 James Hillyard (tea dealer) and Joseph Hillyard (silversmith) lived with their parents in Skeldergate and in the following year the *Yorkshire Herald* announced that following the death of his brother James, Joseph Hillyard would take over his business as a Merchant of Tea, Coffee, Wine and Spirits. The business prospered and by 1871 Joseph was living at the large Beechwood House on Malton Road and registered himself in the census as a Wine Merchant and Landowner. In contrast to many of the other wine and spirits merchants' small one-column advertisements in the local press, he would often take out large multi-column adverts detailing his stock and the exact prices, suggesting that he appreciated the power of advertising. His death, at the age of 78, was announced in the December 1896 *Yorkshire Gazette* and the business was subsequently taken over by his son, Walter Hillyard. By 1911 Walter (aged 62) had moved to Harrogate with his wife Julia (aged 28) and the business passed into the hands of his brother Joseph Hillyard. The company continued to thrive and lasted well into the 20th century. The shop was expanded into the adjacent property and the 1971 trade directory reveals that Hillyards Wine Lodge had been established at the back of the premises. The exact date as to when Hillyards was dissolved has not yet been established but local people fondly remember frequenting the shop and pub during the 1980s.

The wines, spirits, ale and porter trade in 19th-century York was extremely lucrative and many businesses thrived. The use of branded goods helped retailers to advertise their

Stoneware bottle fragment stamped  
'J-HILLYARD YORK'





businesses and also let customers know where to return the bottles after the contents had been enjoyed. The use of branding is also beneficial to archaeologists, enabling us to research businesses and, based on knowledge of changes of names and addresses, closely date artefacts to a very specific period in time.

### Ironmongering

Perhaps originally attached to an iron tool, and found in the backfill of a brick culvert near Dundas Street, a metal label reads 'B & E Bushell Furnishing and General Ironmongers Low Ousegate York'. Bernard and Edward Bushell were born in York in 1867 and 1868 respectively, the sons of Henry Bushell, an agricultural implement maker originally from Banbury in Oxfordshire. Bernard and Edward were first recorded in a York directory in 1889 as ironmongers, having taken over an existing business, but by 1893 they were advertising themselves as 'Ironmongers, bar, iron and steel merchants, tin plate workers, oil and colour merchants and gas fitters' at No. 1 Low Ousegate. For many years, the family lived in Mount House, 10 the Mount; Edward appears to have died in 1927, and Bernard in 1928. The last record of the business in a York directory is in 1931.

### Tailoring

Four metal buttons with inscriptions relate to four different firms of tailors and drapers which operated in York in the 19th and 20th centuries.

'..W ANDERSON YORK'. The firm of R W Anderson is of very long standing, originating in the early 19th century, and still in existence today. Robert W Anderson was born in Romford, Essex in 1803, but by 1851 he is recorded as 'woollen draper and tailor' living in Church Yard house next to the shop premises he shared with his partner Mr Evers on Coney Street. He was church warden at the neighbouring church of St Martin le Grand. At least two of his sons, John and Robert, joined the family firm as tailors, and by 1861 the firm was employing 32 men. In 1863, the partnership between Evers and Anderson was dissolved, and Anderson was in business on



his own. In 1881 at the age of 78, Robert senior described himself as employing 14 men and 1 boy; his son John lived with him. Both Roberts were Masters of the Merchant Taylors during the second half of the 19th century. Records show that the premises were on Coney Street for over a hundred years, the move to current premises at 13 Blake Street taking place in 1969. The firm recently advertised themselves as providing 'a gentleman's tailoring service specialising in designing and making bespoke formal wear'. The button was found in a deposit associated with the 20th century demolition of 21 and 22 Dundas Street.

*Metal label from  
B & E Bushell,  
Ironmongers*

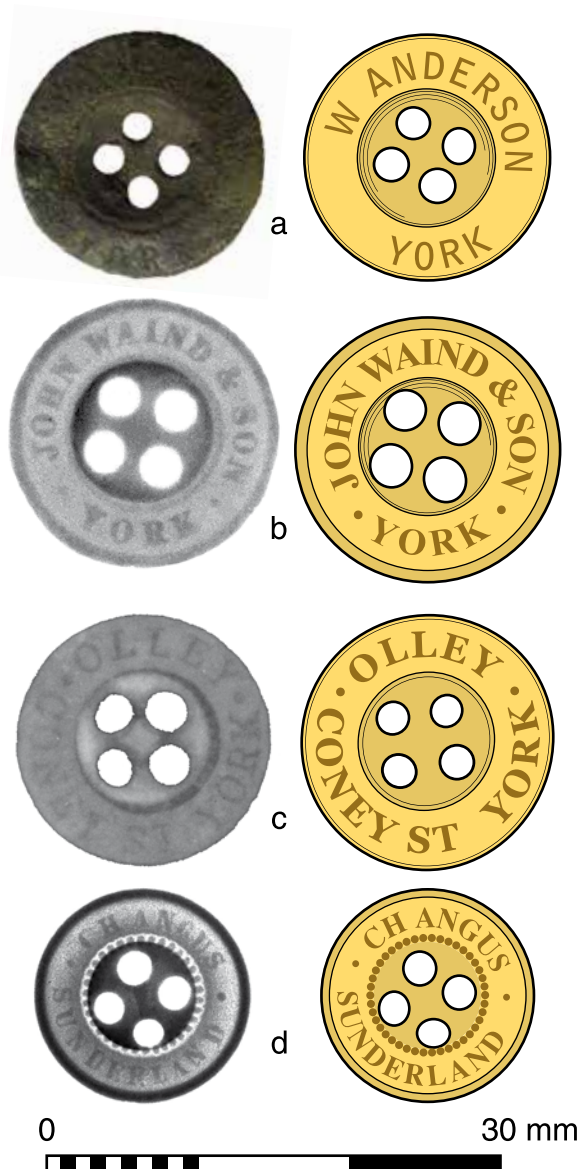
'JOHN WAIND AND SON YORK'. The Waind family were tailors in York from at least the late 18th century; William Waind was born in York in 1769, and is recorded as being a tailor on his marriage certificate in 1792. He was the owner of 20-22 Dundas Street and 25 Palmer Lane, having commissioned the construction of these houses. He was living in Dundas Street in 1841. William's son John was born in 1801, and described as a tailor on his marriage certificate in 1823, and his son, also John, was born in 1824. In 1851 a newspaper advertisement announces the move of the firm from Fossgate to 'more extensive and commodious premises' at 19 High Ousegate; at this time the family were living in Union Terrace. John Waind senior died in 1865, and passed property in Dundas Street onto his son John upon his death. The company, which eventually became known as 'Waind and Son', remained in the same premises at High Ousegate, having been taken over by John junior and his brother Frederick upon their father's

death. The brothers shared a house at 3 Spen Lane. John Waind junior does not appear to have had any children, so Frederick carried on the family trade after John's death in 1884. Both were members of the Company of the Merchant Taylors, Frederick becoming Master in 1895. Frederick died in 1910. It seems the company may have ceased trading by 1913; there is no reference to it in the York trade directory of that year. The button was found in the area of St. John's Place, and presumably dates from the period when John Waind senior and his sons were actively running the company in the mid-19th century.

'OLLEY CONEY ST YORK'. Charles Pendril Olley also came from a family of tailors. He was born in 1859 in Southwark, London, to William Olley, a tailor, but appeared on the 1881 census as a 'tailor's assistant' living in Hull with his brother John, who was 'a master tailor employing 12 men and 2 boys'. John Olley was recorded as working in Coney Street in 1883, whilst Charles was recorded at 29 Coney Street in 1886, perhaps having taken over from his brother, and advertising himself as 'Court, Naval and Military Tailor and Habit Maker' at the same premises in 1889. By 1895 he had ceased advertising, and James Maxwell, a tailor, was using the premises instead. This indicates that the button must date from some time during the 1880s. Olley may have moved to Essex – according to the 1901 census, a Charles Olley 'woollen agent', born in Hoxton (two miles from Southwark) was living in Leyton near Walthamstow at that time.

'C H ANGUS SUNDERLAND'. Charles Henry Angus (or Angas) was born in Sunderland in 1838, where he was still living in 1871. His connection with York comes from his appearance on the 1881 census as a retired draper living in Gate Helmsley just outside York. By 1895 he was living at Mount Parade, York, where he remained until his death in 1922. The button suggests he may have brought some of his stock with him, or perhaps sold it to a local draper upon his retirement?

These metal objects show how 19th-century firms had been started by local men such as William Waind, but also by incomers arriving in the first half of the century, such as the Andersons from Essex and the Bushells from Oxfordshire. Alongside these long-running family firms, we can also see outsiders who are fleeting presences in York, such as Charles Olley, who – perhaps unusually – moved around the country, from London, to Hull and then York, where he remained for only a few years before appearing to return south at the beginning of the 20th century.



Photograph(a), x-rays(b,c,d) and drawings of buttons bearing inscriptions for RW Anderson, York, John Waind and Son, York, Olley, Coney St, York and CH Angus, Sunderland. Scale 2:1



# KEDLESTON PARK

ArcHeritage were commissioned by the National Trust to survey and assess the archaeological landscape at Kedleston Park, Derbyshire. The work will contribute to the development of a conservation management plan for the Park, which is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest compiled by English Heritage at Grade 1. The registered park covers an area of approximately 400 hectares of land, the majority within the ownership of the National Trust.

## **Kedleston Park**

The Manor of Kedleston is listed in Domesday as 'Chetelestune', under the then Litchurch Hundred. In 1066 it was jointly held by Godwin of Tissington and by Wulfsi, but the Lord in 1086 is given as Wulfbert of Kedleston, who was also Lord of Weston [Underwood], to the north and west of Kedleston. The Tenant in Chief in 1086 was Henry de Ferrers, who had extensive holdings throughout the north and south Midlands and in Essex. He had arrived in England from Normandy during the reign of William I and his heir, Robert (d. 1139), and was created Earl of Derby by King Stephen. Accompanying the de Ferrers from their heartlands in Normandy were a number of their vassals, including members of the Boscherville,

Cambrais, Curzun and other families. A manuscript of 1198/9 held at Kedleston records the grant of "the Vill of Ketelestune" by one 'Richard de Curzun' to 'Thomas, Son of Thomas de Curzun', along with 'the advowson of the Church and with the mill and with all the other appurtenances which belong to...the vill of Ketelestone'. It would appear that the 'Curzuns' may already have been in possession of Kedleston for the best part of a century prior to this date. The Park has remained in the Curzon family from this time to the present.

The nearly 1000 years of the Curzon family at Kedleston has seen its landscape develop from that of a medieval deer park to a fine example of an English landscape garden. In the early 18th century, formal gardens were laid out to designs by Charles Bridgeman. These included a series of terraced gardens to the south of the House and gardens to the north leading to a series of formal canals and islands. Nathaniel Curzon, 5th Baronet, embarked on an extensive programme of building and landscaping in the late 18th century, building a new house on the site of the earlier building and removing the formal landscape of his father the 4th Baronet. The landscape created by the 5th Baronet to designs by Robert Adam is the landscape that can be seen at Kedleston today.

*Kedleston Hall in its landscape viewed from the 'Back Park'*



### Landscape survey

A detailed walkover survey of Kedleston Park was undertaken recording the location of 220 archaeological features using survey grade GPS. For each feature a photographic and written record of its character and condition was made.

Lidar data for the Park was used to create a detailed topographic model complimenting and enhancing the data gathered through the landscape survey. Processing the lidar data proved highly effective in identifying more ephemeral features that were not immediately visible in the field. The survey also examined historic maps and aerial photographs.

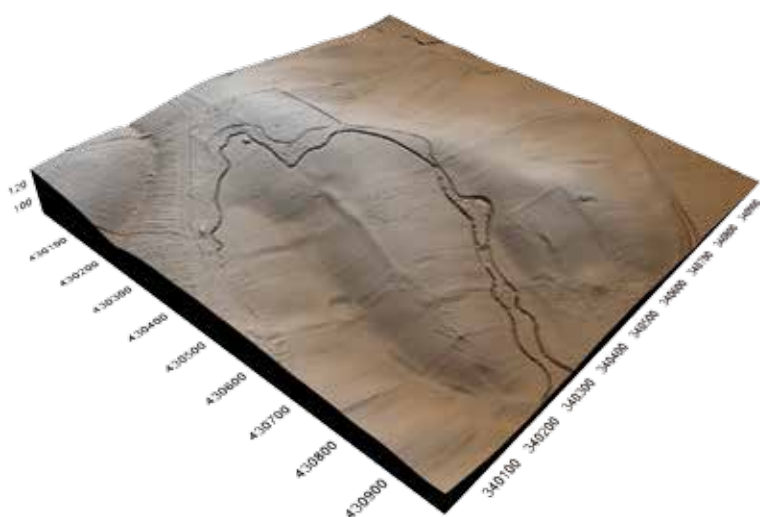
### Landscape narrative

Combining data gathered from lidar, aerial photographs, historic maps and walkover survey has enable the development of a narrative for the landscape history of the Park through archaeological evidence.

Much of the Medieval manor landscape survives, with the site of the medieval settlement of Kedleston being located close to the current visitor parking for the Park; and the manor probably located on the site of the present house. Surrounding these sites the open field system of

Kedleston manor can be seen in the earthwork remains of ridge and furrow, field boundary banks, plough headlands and old routeways. The boundaries of the Medieval manor are also visible for much of their length as earthworks. With the expansion of the Park in the early 18th century the majority of the manor's open fields, and the site of Kedleston village were absorbed

*Kedleston Hall  
from the North*



*Terrain model from lidar data showing the west of Kedleston Park. The Park's double ha-ha, which surrounds the 'Pleasure Grounds' can be seen, as can many of the medieval field boundaries that survive in this area.*



*An early 18th century plan showing the landscape laid out by the 4th Baronet to designs by Charles Bridgeman*

into the Park. The village moved to its current location on the western Park boundary, and the routeways diverted around the Park.

This expansion of the Park also saw the laying out of formal gardens to the north and terraced gardens to the south of the House; the canalisation of the brook running through the Park to form a series of ornamental canals and islands; and the laying out of rides radiating from a rond point in the northeast of the Park by the 4th Baronet. These works were soon to be 'reversed' by the 5th Baronet.

On his succeeding to the title in the mid-18th century, the 5th Baronet embarked on an ambitious plan of redesign and rebuilding. With a new House built on the site of the manor house, and the removal of formal rides and gardens set out by the 4th Baronet. This work also remodelled the formal canals and islands into a more sinuous series of lakes and islands: The whole giving a more naturalistic appearance in the English Landscape Garden tradition. Few of the landscape features of the 4th Baronet's Estate can be seen in the landscape today. Examination of the lidar data has shown that ephemeral traces of the 4th Baronet's landscape still survive and shows how the terraced

gardens to the south of the House appear to have been levelled by ploughing probably by the 5th Baronet.

The mid-twentieth century saw further changes at Kedleston with the use of the Park as a British Military camp during the Second World War. Evidence for this camp remains in the form of earthworks on the site of the camp, now the location of the visitor parking; and sewage settlement tanks in low-lying woodland in the Park. A zig-zag trench also survives as all that remains to indicate the location of an anti-aircraft gun emplacement situated on high ground protecting the camp.

### **Conservation and Interpretation**

The archaeological survey will be incorporated into the National Trust's GIS together with information gathered by other specialists including tree, invertebrate and ecology surveys. The GIS and conservation management plan will be used by the National Trust in managing the Parkland for the future. As part of the work recommendations will be made for the enhancement, accessibility and interpretation of the Park's archaeology for visitors.

Dave Aspden

# The Brigg 'Raft'

Back in the 1870s, Brigg, on the River Ancholme in North Lincolnshire, briefly became famous for producing prehistoric boats. The first find was an Iron Age logboat, possibly the largest found to date in the British Isles, which was lifted and displayed at Hull Museum until destroyed in an air raid in 1941. However, of equal interest was a vessel which has become known as the 'Brigg Raft'. This was briefly exposed in 1888, then reburied. In 1974 a National Maritime Museum team led by Seán McGrail set out to excavate, record, date and recover this vessel for the Museum's collection. Radiocarbon dates were obtained for material around the raft, but not the timbers themselves; the dates obtained and the style of construction place the vessel in the Late Bronze Age. Though the raft had been stabilised it was not possible to display it and therefore it remained in store but essentially unavailable.

In recent years, North Lincolnshire Council resolved to try and bring the raft home to Brigg for display in the new Brigg Heritage Centre, and as part of this process YAT's Conservation Department was commissioned to undertake



*Re-excitation of the Brigg Raft in 1974 (Photo courtesy of Terry Suthers)*

the remedial cleaning of the timbers. In October 2012, the raft was packed up and brought to York.

The raft consists of a series of planks laid edge to edge. Unlike the boat planks we are familiar with today, these had each been hewn out of solid timber leaving a line of 'cleats' along the mid-line of each plank. Each cleat was pierced by a sub-rectangular hole through its thickness, which originally housed a transverse rib running across the width of the raft. These formed what amounted to a frame stiffening the vessel. However the main fastenings holding each plank to its neighbour were not pegs or nails but strands of flexible ties made from thin willow withies. These strands passed through small holes cut through the adjacent edge/face of neighbouring planks effectively lashing each plank edge to edge, a form of construction known as 'sewn-plank'. Moss packing was used to seal the joins and keep them watertight. Not all of the raft could be recovered but it is estimated that it was more than 12 metres long and more than 3 metres wide.

*One of the raft timbers before cleaning; a thick coating of polyethylene glycol wax had to be painstakingly removed by hand before repackaging the timbers for display*



The newly-cleaned timbers are reconstructed as originally found in a specially-designed gallery in the new Brigg Heritage Centre. Conservation placement student Holly Marston assists with the installation



During the excavation the planks had been cut into sections to allow them to be safely lifted and conserved. Polyethylene glycol (p.e.g.) had been used to consolidate the wood and to displace water from the wood structure, the same method used at YAT in the days before large freeze-driers were available. No resources had been available at that time to clean the pieces after this treatment, and so this was the main task undertaken in York. At the Walmgate warehouse over the winter of 2012–13 we used combinations of hot air guns, steam cleaners, brushes, hot water and tissue paper to clean layers of solid p.e.g. from the surface to reveal the wood and to make sure the surfaces so exposed were dry. Each section was cleaned, then wrapped up for transport back to Brigg.

Once all this had been done, the sections of raft were reassembled in their correct relative positions on the base of the display case specially built and installed on the first floor of the heritage centre. Plastazote foam was used as a base to cushion the planks and cut to 'fill in' areas where parts of the planks had not survived. After this a glass lid was placed over the case to protect the timbers.



Detail showing the rows of 'cleats' which originally held transverse timbers holding the raft together

The official launch of the Brigg Raft display with its supporting exhibition took place on May 11th and it is well worth dropping in to Brigg for a visit. People have been very enthusiastic about the venture and it is good to see such a major find displayed near to its home location where it is greatly appreciated by the inhabitants of Brigg.

Steve Allen

Brigg Heritage Centre is open Thursday to Sunday, 10am to 2pm (summer months) and is free to visit.

# Oral history update

Following publication last year of the sixth volume in YAT's popular oral history series, *It's How You Play the Game: Olympic Sports in York* by Van Wilson, work is proceeding well on the seventh book, on Coney Street and the Guildhall and Mansion House, perhaps a more conventional subject for oral history. Publication will be this autumn, and we are still interested in hearing from anybody who has lived or worked in the area. Van recently interviewed Janet Piggot who worked at the Guildhall in the 1950s. She recalls the Queen Mother visiting:

*"Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was due to visit the city and sent her personal mother-of-pearl toilet seat on in advance, to be fixed for her use whilst she was on her visit. Mr Simpson, the Lord Mayor's butler, who was normally very serious, straight-laced and aloof, was amused by*

*this request to have it fixed and told us about it. He invited all the ladies to come and look at it and we each took turns in sitting on it for a moment or two. Thank goodness she never knew, otherwise we might have all been in trouble."*

We are now planning our eighth volume, and have chosen to study one of York's most historic areas: The Shambles, Newgate Market and Colliergate. The Shambles, the only street in York to be mentioned in the Domesday Book, was famous for its butchers' shops, but other businesses housed there included bakers, fortune tellers, rope-makers, booksellers and fish- and tripe-dressers. It has its fair share of tales about ghosts, underground passages, tragic love affairs and alcoholic pawnbrokers, and camels and elephants parading down the cobbled street when the circus came to town!

Mace bearers and sword bearers from all over Yorkshire pose outside York's Guildhall during a centenary occasion held in 1935. Photo: David Wilson



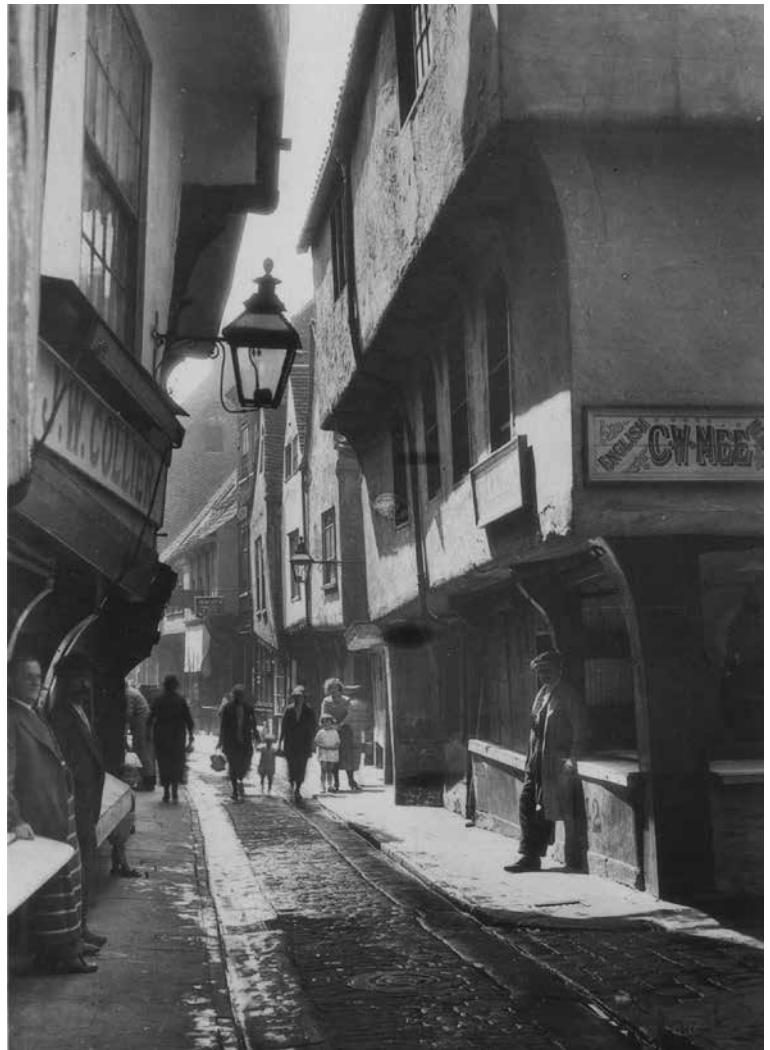


A well-known Shambles resident in the 1930s was Juliet Young, known professionally as Madame Young. Born in 1885, she moved to live there in 1933 and was probably the only fortune teller at the time in York who had her own premises. Laura Webb who helped out occasionally when she was a child recalls,

*“a big roaring fire in the back room, where she would sit with her cards and crystal ball. She was immaculate and always dressed in black. I used to do washing up for her, just cups and that, and she’d maybe give me sixpence.”*

Madame Young’s son Laurie was the local chimney sweep. His wife Lily Young remembers,

*“I once went to see her when I was younger. I was married at the time and she said, ‘I wouldn’t stay with that man’. Then I finished up marrying her son! She used to wear a scarf round her head. She’d travelled with the gypsies a lot round the fairgrounds.”*



*The Shambles in the early 20th century*



*George and Margaret Ackroyd outside their second-hand shop in King’s Square, at the end of The Shambles*

After Madame Young died, another woman in the area began reading the tealeaves for people. She found out a lot of information from her clients who were willing to confide their innermost secrets. This knowledge proved to be too tempting and she and her next door neighbour conspired to blackmail some of the clients. The case reached York Assizes and both the woman and her male counterpart were jailed in 1947 for seven years.

As ever, we would be delighted to hear from anybody who has interesting memories or photographs of The Shambles, Newgate Market or Colliergate. It is an area rich in interest and sure to reveal fascinating characters, events and images from the past.

Christine Kyriacou and Van Wilson

# Medieval Pottery from York

by Ailsa Mainman and  
Anne Jenner

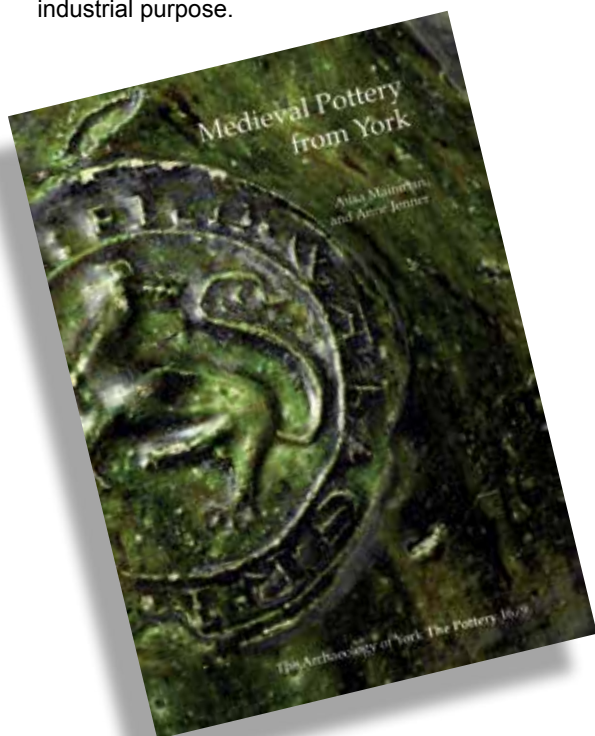
Spring 2013 saw the publication of a major volume in the Archaeology of York fascicule series.

*Medieval Pottery from York* provides a detailed account of the development of medieval pottery in York over a 400-year period (c.1050–1450/1500). It draws upon evidence from a number of excavations in the city, notably the medieval tenements from 16–22 Coppergate and from the College of the Vicars Choral at the Bedern.

Following the Norman conquest there is evidence for a proliferation of small potteries producing a range of new pottery types, out of which emerge the mainstream medieval industries. These include the well-known and beautifully produced York seal jugs of the so-called highly decorated period. In the centuries which follow their decline, pottery forms change, and vessels become more utilitarian. Amongst this later group are specialised vessels, probably used in alchemy, or for some other industrial purpose.



*Hambleton ware cistern found at Hungate*



Despite centuries of collecting and excavation in York there is only very limited evidence for pottery production in the city itself, and what evidence there is belongs to the 14th century. It appears that York was mainly supplied from potteries situated in villages around the city which were exploiting specific clay outcrops. Over time, production declines in the villages to the north, and becomes focused instead on the villages of the Humber Basin. Imported pottery is generally rare throughout the period, emphasising the very regional character of York's medieval pottery.

With some 400 line drawings, colour photographs and 400 catalogued entries, the volume seeks to show the full range of York's medieval pottery.

*Medieval Pottery from York* is available from C. Kyriacou, 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX, price £10.00 plus £2.00 p&p



York Archaeological Trust

# ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORY FAIR

- A chance to find out about archaeology in and around York, with displays from local societies and community groups.
- Talks on subjects of local and regional interest from community groups and professionals
- A range of bookstalls selling books of archaeological, architectural and historical interest

**Saturday  
October 19th  
The Guildhall, York  
10am - 4pm  
**FREE ADMISSION****

Join the...

## FRIENDS OF YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



FRIENDS OF YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST receive:

- NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY TODAY and YAT Annual Report
- Free, unlimited entry to YAT attractions
- 10% discount in YAT shops and on the *Archaeology Live!* training dig
- 30% discount on all the Trust's academic publications when purchased direct (one of each publication per person)
- A programme of visits, day schools, lectures, site tours and social events.

*By joining you will be contributing directly to the work of York Archaeological Trust. The Friends donate every penny of profit directly to the Trust to further its important work.*



### Membership rates

Adult	£22.00 pa
Joint Adult (2 adults at same address)	£32.00 pa
Family (2 adults and children under 16 at same address)	£40.00 pa
Over 60s	£20.00 pa
Joint over 60s	£28.00 pa
Student in full-time education	£20.00 pa
Overseas member (sterling)	£35.00 pa
Life membership (single)	£250.00
Life membership (couple)	£325.00

To join The Friends, send a cheque payable to FOYAT to:

The Friends, York Archaeological Trust, 47 Aldwark, York YO1 7BX



In this issue...

