NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY TODAY

YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST MAGAZINE

Issue 5

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Glenshee
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Clifton Park & Ride

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issue 5 June 2014



Production Editor: Lesley Collett

Cover picture: Excavation on Block H, Hungate, York

Welcome!

In this issue we re-discover one of York's lost Medieval churches, as Arran Johnson retells the story of the excavation of St John-in-the-Marsh as part of the Hungate project. Tom Watson, a student from the University of Sheffield, has been looking at Humberware from sites in the East Riding of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire and comparing the fabric of pottery from kiln sites and those excavated elsewhere.

More recent archaeology is exposed in Charles St, Sheffield where structural evidence for the industrial past is traced alongside the historical and cartographic evidence.

In Nottingham, expansion of the tram network has allowed archaeologists access to a prehistoric landscape with evidence for occupation from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age, and further north we look at the work of the Glenshee Archaeology Project, whose team of community-based volunteers and archaeologists has been examining the enigmatic structures known as Pitcarmick buildings in the remote site of Lair, Perthshire.

Northern Archaeology Today is published twice a year:
UK subscriptions £10.00 per year,
Overseas subscriptions £14.00 (sterling) per year.
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ISSN: 2049-5897

Solving a Medieval Mystery

The re-discovery of St. John the Baptist

Arran Johnson

Over the last eight years, the Hungate project has unearthed some of York's most exciting discoveries, shedding new light on the area's long and colourful history. Block H, the largest of the project's excavation areas, has been the centre-piece of a truly amazing site. Here, we have come face to face with the Roman inhabitants buried on Hungate, uncovered evidence of Viking civic planning, experienced the cramped but vivid world of 19th-century working class life and recovered countless unlikely treasures from the depths of medieval cesspits. Throughout all of this, the Hungate team entered the site by walking over an area not scheduled to be excavated as part of the project because it will form part of a planned public square. This area, at the south-east corner of Block H, has long been suspected to be the location of the lost medieval church of St. John the Baptist (known locally as St. John in the Marsh) and as the dig drew to a close in 2011, it seemed this tantalising theory would remain untested.

Archaeology Live!

Each year since 2001 York Archaeological Trust has carried out a training excavation in the centre of York. With the kind permission of the developers Hungate (York) Regeneration Ltd (HYRL), the Archaeology Live! team were granted access to investigate the mystery of St John's whereabouts in the summer of 2013. Alongside locating and understanding the church, the 2013 excavations aimed to discover what happened in the wake of the church's demolition and how the site developed during the 19th century.

19th- and early 20th-century Dundas Street

The team began work in late June and quickly exposed surviving 19th-century structures mere inches below present ground level. As these structures were cleaned and recorded it was possible to correlate specific buildings with those appearing on the 1907–8 sanitation survey map of the area. These included the rear yards of numbers 4 to 9 Dundas Street, a

Excerpt from the 1907/08 Sanitation Survey Map. Structures exposed during the 2013 excavation are overlaid in dark grey

Aerial view of 19th and early 20th century features

building marked as Leetham's Storehouse and part of a large yard space partly occupied by a row of stables. The Sanitation survey was commissioned to address concerns regarding the living conditions within the Hungate area, with buildings deemed unsanitary marked in red on the map. The early 19th-century tenements of Dundas Street were all marked as concerns during this survey, prompting a scheme of sanitation improvements during the early 20th century.

As the trainees picked apart the 19th-century archaeology, it was noted that early brick cesspits in the rear yards were replaced by flushing toilets, while rough cobble and cinder surfaces were superseded by concrete yards. These improvements proved to be far from perfect however, as numerous historic complaints of damp and 'seepage' attests. Interestingly the excavation revealed that the new yard surfaces were found to slope down from the toilets towards the back doors of the tenements.

The 19th-century archaeology revealed a busy working area with the structure of Leetham's Storehouse and the stable buildings being altered on a number of occasions. Objects such as a bone domino, decorated clay pipes and gaming pieces, alongside two dog burials also offered a more personal insight into 19th – early 20th century life in the area.

The north wall of the church under excavation. A stone-lined grave can be seen to the left of the modern concrete (passing through the centre of the image)

Post-medieval activity

As the trainees recorded and removed the earliest 19th-century features, a familiar layer of horticultural soil was revealed. Similar deposits have been encountered across practically all of the Block H excavations, with rich dark soils punctuated by planting beds and post-holes. These horticultural soil deposits were in constant use for several centuries and consequently contained finds from a very broad date range.

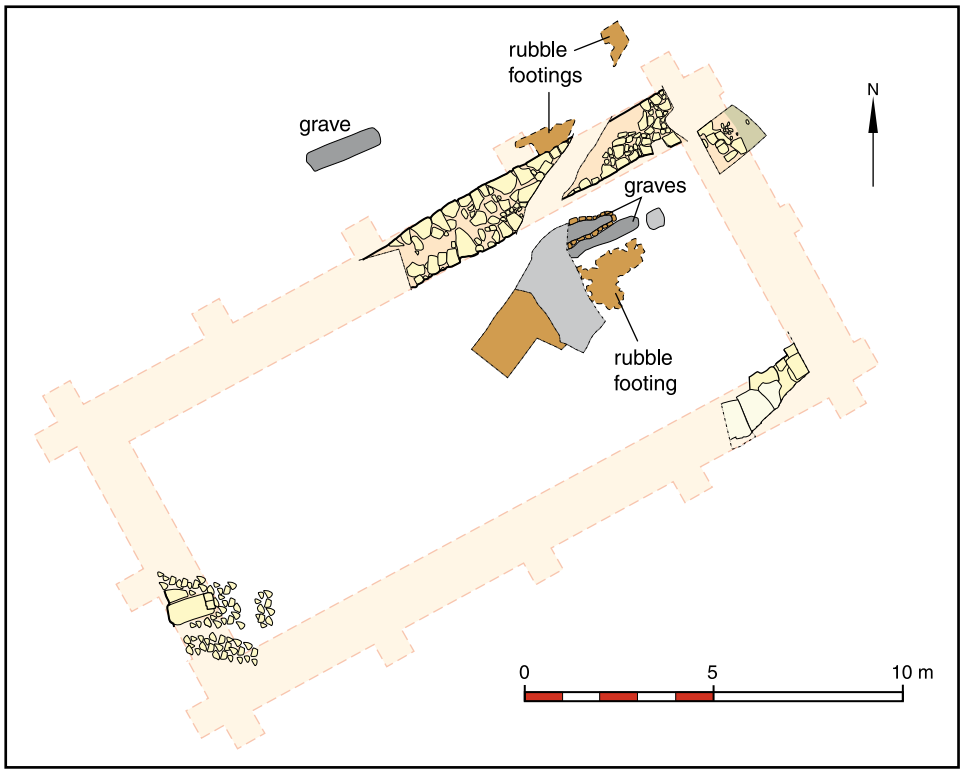
Prior to the development of the horticulture in the area, historic references reveal that at least part of the churchyard was purchased in the late 16th century by the Guild of Cordwainers, who built a new guildhall on the land. Part of the guildhall was excavated during the main Block H project and revealed that the footings were built using recycled stone probably reclaimed from St John's church. Speed's map of 1610 depicts the area immediately to the northeast of the Cordwainers guildhall as open space labeled 'St. John's Grene,' clearly referencing the memory of the church.

The re-discovery of St. John's church

After the horticultural soils were removed, rubble-rich layers of demolition material were encountered. Working through these deposits the team exposed several backfilled robber trenches which upon excavation finally revealed the footings for St John's church, almost 450 years after its demolition.

In total, the heavily robbed footings of parts of the north, east and south walls of the church were exposed during the Archaeology Live! excavation. These discoveries also allowed a small section of wall footing exposed in a nearby YAT evaluation trench from 2000 to be understood as part of the church's west wall, revealing the full archaeological footprint of St. John's for the first time.

The church was built on a footing of large limestone blocks, incorporating some re-used Roman coarse sandstone. The footings survived to a maximum height of three courses, with faced stonework masking a core of rubble and mortar. The archaeology revealed that St John's



Plan of the church and related features

would have been a simple rectangular structure aligned north-east/south-west, measuring approximately 19.25m by 9.25m (c.63 x 30 feet). No additional aisles or extensions appear to have been added, the church retaining its original footprint.

Despite extensive robbing of the church structure, finds of glazed floor tile, finely finished masonry and painted glass reveal that the building had been well appointed. No historic images of the building survive, but the archaeology has made it possible to picture a small, sturdy and colourful church.

A fragment of painted window glass from St. John the Baptist's church

While no intact floor surfaces were present, numerous internal features were uncovered. These included a number of inhumations, an enigmatic L-shaped footing and evidence for alteration of the internal layout with a rubble footing transecting the east end of the church. It is possible that this structure could have served to divide the nave from the chancel.

Historic research carried out by YAT's Dr Jayne Rimmer during the Block H excavations has helped to discover the story of St. John's. First referred to in 1194, the church was built amid a flurry of medieval expansion in York, in close proximity to the churches of All Saints Peasholme, St. Saviour's, St. Cuthbert's and St. Crux. Built in a marginal area close to the transient boundary of the King's Fishpool, St. John's is unusual in that it sits slightly tucked away from major route-ways with its most prominent aspect being from the River Foss, as opposed to a road.

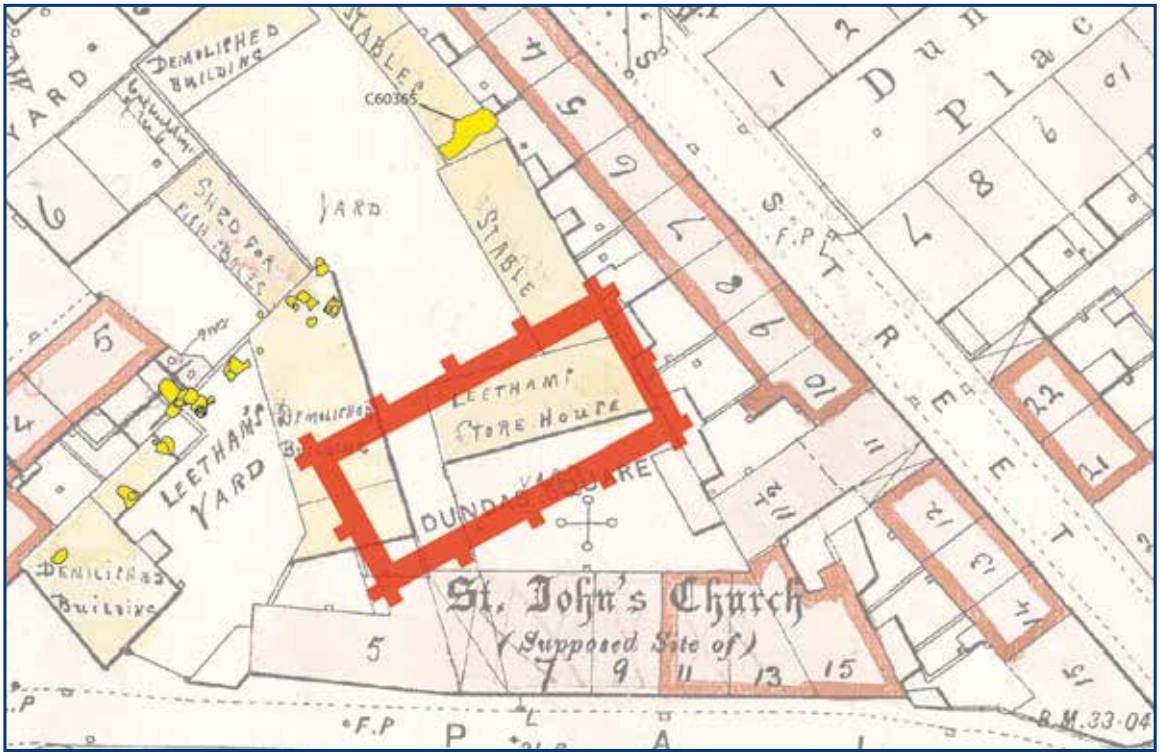
The streets of Palmer Lane (originally Pound or Pond Lane) and Haver Lane served to link the main thoroughfare of Hungate to the churches of St. John's and All Saints, Peasholme. While medieval Hungate was by no means a busy, built-up part of medieval York, the two churches were clearly the focus of this small corner of the city.

The 15th century proved to be something of a golden age for St. John's as two noted York figures and former Lord Mayors, Richard Russell and John Thirsk, made numerous endowments to the church. The patronage of these wealthy benefactors saw the church receive a new bell tower, several new windows, altars and a profitable chantry. It is clear that the Thirsk and Russell families felt a great connection to the Hungate area.

The good times weren't to last, however, as the changing fortunes of the 16th century would prove. In 1409, the church authorities complained of butchers from the Shambles dumping waste against the south side of the building. Unsanctioned dumping in the Hungate area would be a longstanding issue for the church, with services disrupted by the smell and nuisance of dogs and birds attracted by the refuse. By 1524, civic authorities acquiesced and deemed Hungate a sanctioned site for the disposal of dung. As St. John's no longer received the support of wealthy patrons and Hungate's population was falling, the church entered terminal decline. In 1586, the parish of St. John's was joined with St. Saviour's and the already decaying church was decommissioned.

The 2013 excavation revealed that St. John's was quickly and comprehensively demolished, with any materials of value being reclaimed. Much of the church fabric was most probably quarried to be incorporated into new constructions. Church stone has also been found in the footings of many Victorian buildings across Hungate; clearly recycling had been a local concern for some time.

Despite the wholesale removal of church



Footprint of St. John's church overlaid on the sanitation survey map reveals the church's lasting influence. Boundary features are marked in yellow.

structure, St. John's continued to have an effect on the development of the area. When the church plan is overlaid on the Sanitation map, it is possible to see how it influenced the 18th and 19th century landscape.

The rear yard walls of 5–10 Dundas Street sit on an odd angle, a quirk that may be explained by the fact that the footings of the east wall of the church were re-used as a foundation for the later boundary wall. The north-western boundary of the church (post holes and a low clay bank marked in yellow on the plan above) is also echoed in the later landscape by the northern boundary of Leetham's Yard. Clearly, parts of the church precinct acquired by the Cordwainers Guild in the 16th century survived post-medieval expansion in Hungate and as the land around the former churchyard became built-up, some of the old boundaries lingered on.

The Archaeology Live! 2013 excavations fixed the exact location of the parish church of St. John the Baptist for the first time in over 450 years. The patronage of several wealthy parishioners allowed the church to enjoy spells of prosperity, but the frailties of the marginal location and the upheavals of the 16th century proved impossible to survive. The re-discovery of St. John the Baptist allows us to read medieval echoes in the boundaries of the early modern landscape and to begin to build an image of this small but fascinating church.

The author would like to thank the trainees and all involved with Archaeology Live! for their excellent work. Bookings for the 2014 season at All Saints, North Street are now being taken. Contact trainingdig@yorkat.co.uk for further information.

WHERE IS WARE?

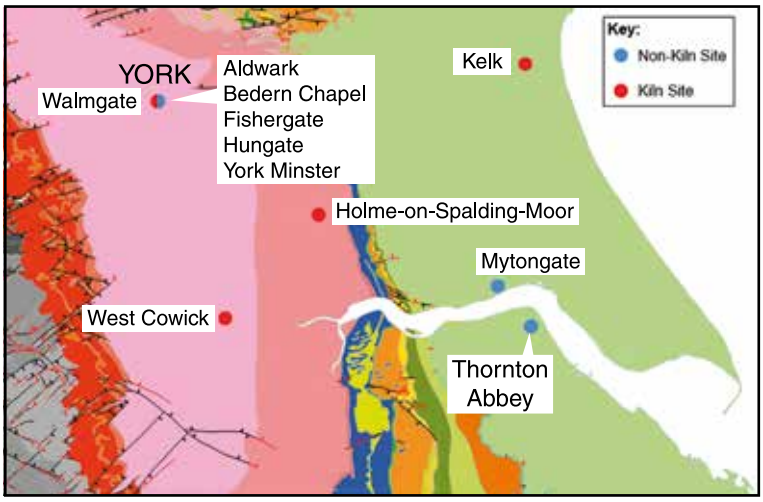
Provenance and Characterisation of 15th Century Red Wares in Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire

Tom Watson, University of Sheffield

'Humberware' is a type of 15th-century pottery made from a red, iron rich clay known to be produced in various kiln sites around the Humber basin as well as in the city of York. Examples are found both in kiln sites such as West Cowick, and domestic sites such as Hungate. My study at YAT involves visually identifying the mineral inclusions both added by the potter and within the natural clay, in order to determine where it was made. As part of my undergraduate case study, I will be focussing on sherds excavated at the monastic site of Thornton Abbey in North Lincolnshire.

Sherds were analysed with photomicroscopy, i.e. using a microscope to visually determine what material makes up each sherd in question, hopefully linking sherds from non-kiln sites to their parent kiln sites through close comparison. A similar project has been conducted in Scotland using ICPS (Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometry), known as the Scottish Redware Project, which produced encouraging results. ICPS focuses more on the chemical makeup of the clay, as opposed to visual analysis of the inclusions. A similar study could perhaps be conducted on Humberware in England, if significant results are found in photomicroscopy. Mineral analysis could help to produce more conclusive results than visually comparing the sizes and shapes of inclusions in the clay fabric, but limited resources precluded this.

Example of a complete Humberware cistern



Included Study Sites with Humberware sherds

One major revelation for this study is just how different the sherd sections from the

The remains of Thornton Abbey in North Lincolnshire

Humberware sherd sections from separate kiln sites: West Cowick (top) and Walmgate (bottom)

various kiln sites look from each other. Sherds from the major Humberware production site of West Cowick had smaller, rounder quartz grains with few visible iron oxide inclusions. Sherds from the production site of Walmgate in York had larger, more jagged quartz grains with more obvious patches of dark red iron oxide. This kind of distinction makes it easier to identify individual production sites among the non-kiln assemblages. At least one of the sherds in Aldwark does seem to resemble many of the sherds found on the production site of Holme-On-Spalding-Moor, suggesting a possible producer-consumer link.

Sherds we have from the production site of Kelk in East Yorkshire resemble sherds from Bedern Chapel in York, which suggests that non-kiln sites in York are obtaining their Humberware from outside the city, rather than obtaining it solely from local producers. This would make sense as York was a major trade hub for the area in the 15th century. There are also sherds with a particularly fine sand that are found in Hungate and Bedern Chapel – both non-kiln sites – that do not resemble any of the sherds analysed from the kiln sites so far. Material from York Minster has not yet been analysed, but brief inspection under the microscope revealed far fewer inclusions than any sherd analysed so far. Perhaps York Minster, because of its prominence in the 15th century, had the money to pay for the finest quality of Humberware. However, it is unclear whether this suggests the presence of a kiln site that specialised in particularly fine ceramics, or whether the known kiln sites produced this finer Humberware as an aside or for a more affluent market.

As for my case study of Thornton Abbey, I expected to find that the site was obtaining pottery from West Cowick, given its proximity and ease of access via land compared with the other kiln sites. However, no such connection


Sherd section from Holme-on-Spalding-Moor: x50 magnification


Sherd section from Aldwark, York: x50 magnification

Sherd sections from Holme-on-Spalding-Moor (left) and Aldwark (right). The similarities suggest a possible trade link

has been found. Its sherds seem to resemble those found in York in sites such as Hungate, but so far no definite source has been determined. This may be resolved when more sherds from Thornton Abbey have been analysed. While the absence of a clear producer-consumer link may suggest that more sherds from these kiln sites may be needed, they may also suggest the presence of a Humberware production site that has yet to be discovered.

Many pottery wares are defined by the tradition of manufacture rather than the clay source, but if enough of a fabric difference can be established, characterisation of previously unidentified redwares may materialise. Locational data involving clay sources may need to be established, so geological mapping is also being implemented, which should put all data collected into a good visual context.

Time and resource constraints have limited this project, which could be expanded to utilise ICPS in the same way as the Scottish Redware Project, thin-section analysis and a wider range of ceramic material, including that available by international collaboration with countries such as Sweden.

The author would like to thank Anne Jenner, YAT pottery department, and Gareth Perry, University of Sheffield Archaeology Department, for support and guidance with this project.


Sherd section from Kelk: x50 magnification


Sherd section from Bedern Chapel: x50 magnification

Sherd sections from Kelk (left) and Bedern Chapel (right). The similarities also suggest a possible trade link

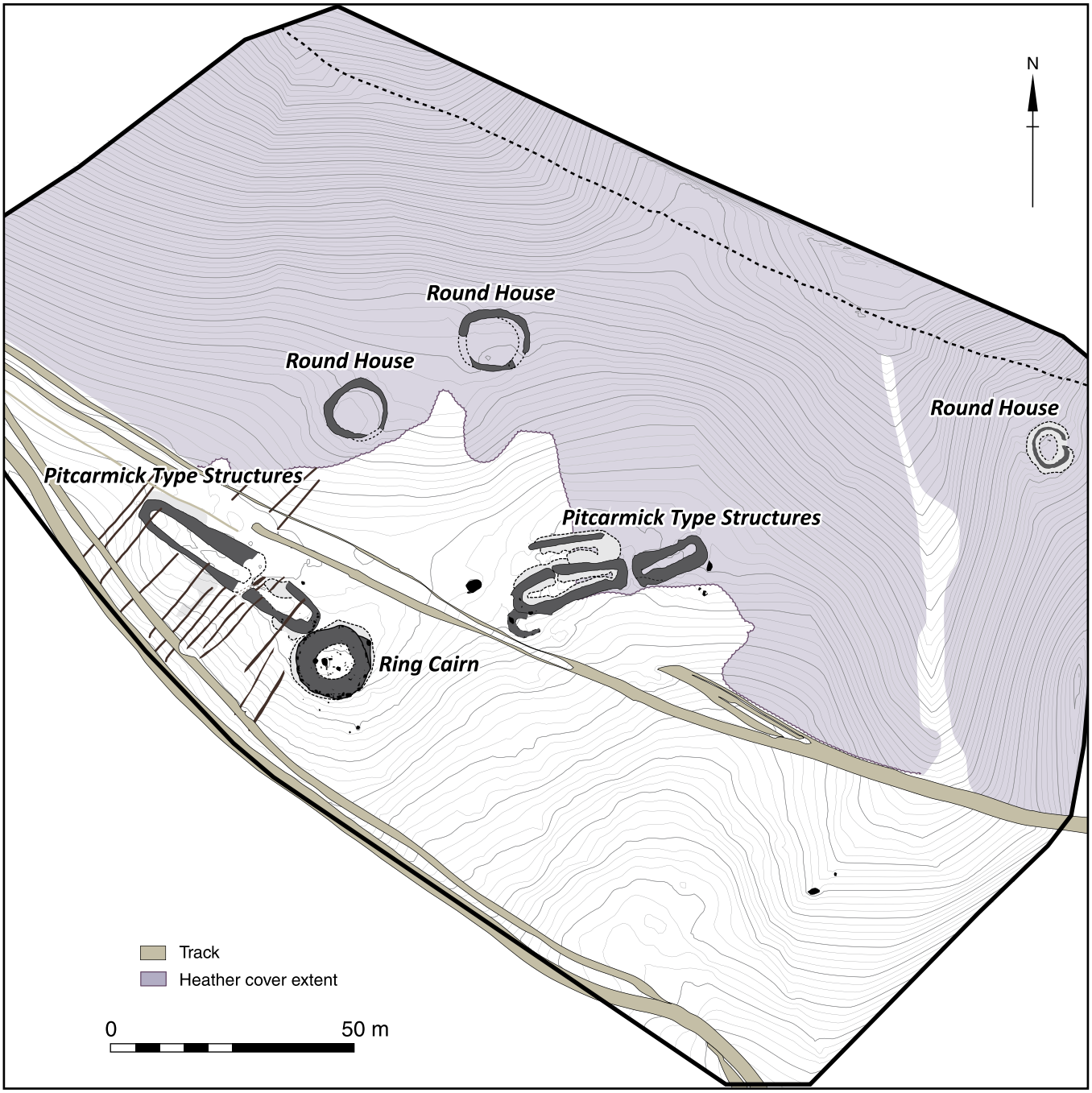
The Turf Longhouses of Glenshee

David Sneddon (Northlight Heritage) and David Strachan (Perth And Kinross Heritage Trust)

Glenshee, in northeast Perthshire, boasts a remarkable wealth of upland archaeology visible as low-lying earthworks that survive due to the limited agricultural improvements of the eighteenth century. The monuments include prehistoric round houses and ritual monuments, the ubiquitous stone-built fermtouns and shielings of the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries and the remains of Major Caulfeild's military road of 1750 which connected Perth with the then newly-constructed Fort George at Inverness. Perhaps one of the most interesting type of site present in this picturesque landscape of mountain and glen are the so-called 'Pitcarmick buildings'. They appear as low earthworks of elongated longhouses with distinctive rounded ends and take their name from two excavated examples in neighbouring Strathardle, which were found to be of early medieval date. In 2012 Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, in partnership with Northlight Heritage, instigated a programme of archaeological research which aimed to investigate these enigmatic turf-built Pictish longhouses through The Glenshee Archaeology Project, which in 2014 moves into its final excavation year.

Excavating longhouse with Mount Blair in the background, looking East. Photo © George Logan: PKHT

The Pitcarmick buildings were first identified during a survey of north-eastern Perthshire in the late 1980s by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). The results, published in 1990 as *North-East Perth: an archaeological landscape*, showed their distribution to be restricted to Strathardle and Glenshee with only a few examples in the neighbouring Angus glens. At that time their date was a mystery and, while clearly post-dating the prehistoric round-houses, it was widely mooted that they may have had early medieval or medieval origins. These buildings are perhaps made more curious due to their general absence from the archaeological



The study area for this article

record in Scotland, the exception being north-eastern Perthshire, and particularly when compared to the earlier round houses and later fermtouns whose presence is relatively abundant. With turf being a major building component there is always going to be the problem of poor preservation where even limited ploughing can have a significant effect on the visibility of these buildings. However, this issue is not absent in Perthshire so why such a relative density of these types of structures here?

In 1993 and 1994 the Department of Archaeology at the University of Glasgow carried out excavations at Pitcarmick and found a series of these buildings on the site of a Bronze Age settlement comprising round houses, field systems and clearance cairns. The full publication of those excavations has only recently come into print (Carver *et al* 2013) which confirmed that the buildings dated from the seventh to ninth centuries AD and that they comprised primarily turf walls, with some stone

Vertical aerial view of the smaller longhouse showing the possible stone foundation

being used as a footing while also being layered between the turf walls. Evidence was found for the buildings having a slightly sunken floor and probably a cruck-type structure supporting a thatched, or possibly turf, roof.

Despite being often cited as important and rare survivors of early medieval rural buildings in Scotland (the other exception being Viking settlement in the Outer Isles) since the excavations of the 1990s the Pitcarmick structures have had very little work carried out on them. Even the increase in developer-funded upland archaeology over the last decade, as a result of wind-farms and hydro-electric schemes, has failed to progress our understanding. In response, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust in partnership with Northlight Heritage began The Glenshee Archaeology Project, a new research venture delivered through Perthshire Archaeology Month, to further investigate these turf long houses. Over the past two excavation seasons the project has engaged a team of over thirty volunteers each year originating from the local community and further afield. Outreach activities have also included those for the visiting public and local schools. The results thus far make for interesting reading and illustrate that important research issues can be addressed by a 'citizen science' approach, even on the most ephemeral of sites such as early historic turf structures.

The Glenshee Archaeology Project has focused on the site of Lair, located around 7km to the south of the Spittal of Glenshee and about 40 km north of Perth. Like the previously excavated site at Pitcarmick, Lair comprises a relatively dispersed settlement of longhouses on the site of previous prehistoric settlement consisting of round houses of probable late Bronze Age date, themselves set around a prehistoric ring-cairn of probable earlier Bronze Age or late Neolithic date. The general aim of the excavation was to confirm whether there were any similarities of date and construction techniques used between the longhouses at Lair and the excavated Pitcarmick buildings in Strathardle to the west.

Geophysical survey and detailed topographical surveys were followed by a series of trenches across the two longhouses located immediately to the west of the ring-

In the foreground of this image the kerbstones of the ring cairn are easily discernible

cairn. Partial excavation of the north-western building, the longer of the two, showed very little or no sign of stone being used as a foundation for the turf walls, even at the north-western end where the building sloped down considerably and a stone foundation might have been expected in order to provide a solid base. The south-eastern longhouse, however, revealed a substantial amount of stone had been used to provide a foundation for the turf walls at its north-western end. In contrast the sides of the building contained very few stones and certainly nothing that could be defined as a foundation. Although the south-eastern end remains so far unexcavated, clear signs of stone being used are visible on the surface where, quite strikingly, some of the kerb stones from the adjacent ring cairn have been rolled over to define the outer edge of the building.

Both buildings held a series of post holes beneath the stone foundations and collapsed turf walls, which could relate to timber roof supports or internal divisions. As yet no hearth has been located in either longhouse but, to date, radio-carbon dating strongly suggests the structures were in use during the seventh to ninth centuries AD and, therefore, potentially representing contemporary examples of turf longhouses excavated at Pitcarmick.

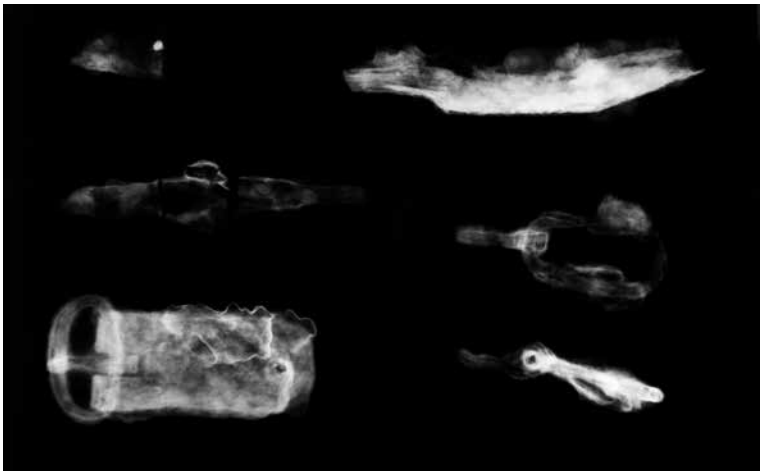
Significant finds have included a flint arrow head, perhaps an indication of activity at the roundhouses, and a series of iron artefacts, including buckles and knives, from both longhouses. These iron finds require further study but initial indications suggest that the two knives may be early medieval and contemporary with the longhouses. This could prove to be important as low status domestic metalwork from this period is very rare, possibly because so few sites have been excavated. Further to these finds recovered during the excavation, the ongoing processing and sorting of the soil

samples, at York Archaeological Trust's Dixon Laboratory for Bio-Archaeology in Glasgow, recovered three tiny green glass beads from the fill of a pit inside the north-western longhouse.

Excavations planned for this year will hopefully shed more light on the purpose of the two longhouses investigated at Lair. The absence of a hearth in either building lends itself to suggestions of non-domestic use although it is still feasible that the hearth(s) exist in areas of the buildings that have not yet been investigated. These two buildings do, however, vary from the more common layout of Pitcarmick buildings that frequently consist of a primary longhouse with an additional parallel structure to the rear and a small 'porch' off the front. An example of this is seen at Lair to the north-east of the ring cairn. Does this suggest the two longhouses excavated at Lair represent out buildings of a main dwelling or do the varying designs represent different phases of settlement? Clearly there is much more of the story to uncover at Lair.

Small glass beads recovered during soil sample processing

In future years the ambition is very much to develop a broader archaeology project, looking from the buildings at Lair to the surrounding landscape and studying how they sat in both the immediate environment and in relation to other existing sites, both contemporary and otherwise. As a group the date and function of the turf longhouses in north-eastern Perthshire are still very poorly understood while their relationship to prehistoric sites remains elusive. Their location near much earlier settlements, already ancient monuments by the seventh



X-ray of metalwork recovered in 2012

century AD, may simply indicate a pragmatic reuse of resources in areas shown to be worthy of arable farming both in terms of the buildings and the field systems themselves. Mixed arable and cattle subsistence farming in upland Perthshire changed little over the millennia, from the Bronze Age to the time of the Picts and, as the nearby fermtouns and shielings show, right up until eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In recent decades, however, it has become clear that important Pictish sites, such as Forteviot and Scone, were located close to prehistoric ritual landscapes in order to appropriate some legitimacy from 'the ancients' and therefore, it is feasible, that cultural factors are also at play.

In addition to the continuing excavation, work this year is progressing on Glenshee place name research and environmental peat coring. This will culminate in August when a Heritage Fair in Blairgowrie will present all aspects of the project to the public along with a phase of experimental archaeology attempting to recreate one of the knives and the glass beads recovered from Lair.

See **www.glenshee-archaeology.co.uk** for further details and interim reports.

References

Carver, M., Barrett, J., Downes J., and Hooper, J., 2013, 'Pictish Byre Houses at Pitcarmick and their Landscape: investigations 1993–5' *Proc Soc Antiq Scot* **142**, 2012, 145–200.

Clifton Park and Ride Excavations

Aerial view of the site

As part of Nottingham's new Tram extension (NET 2), Trent & Peak Archaeology have carried out major excavations on behalf of Vinci Construction UK on the proposed Clifton Park and Ride Terminus. Machine removal of topsoil and colluvial subsoil over an area some 12 hectares on the upper slope of the valley of the Fairham Brook revealed a previously unknown portion of prehistoric landscape. The site was excavated between June and November 2012. The results of the excavation have now been fully reported upon and can now be presented.

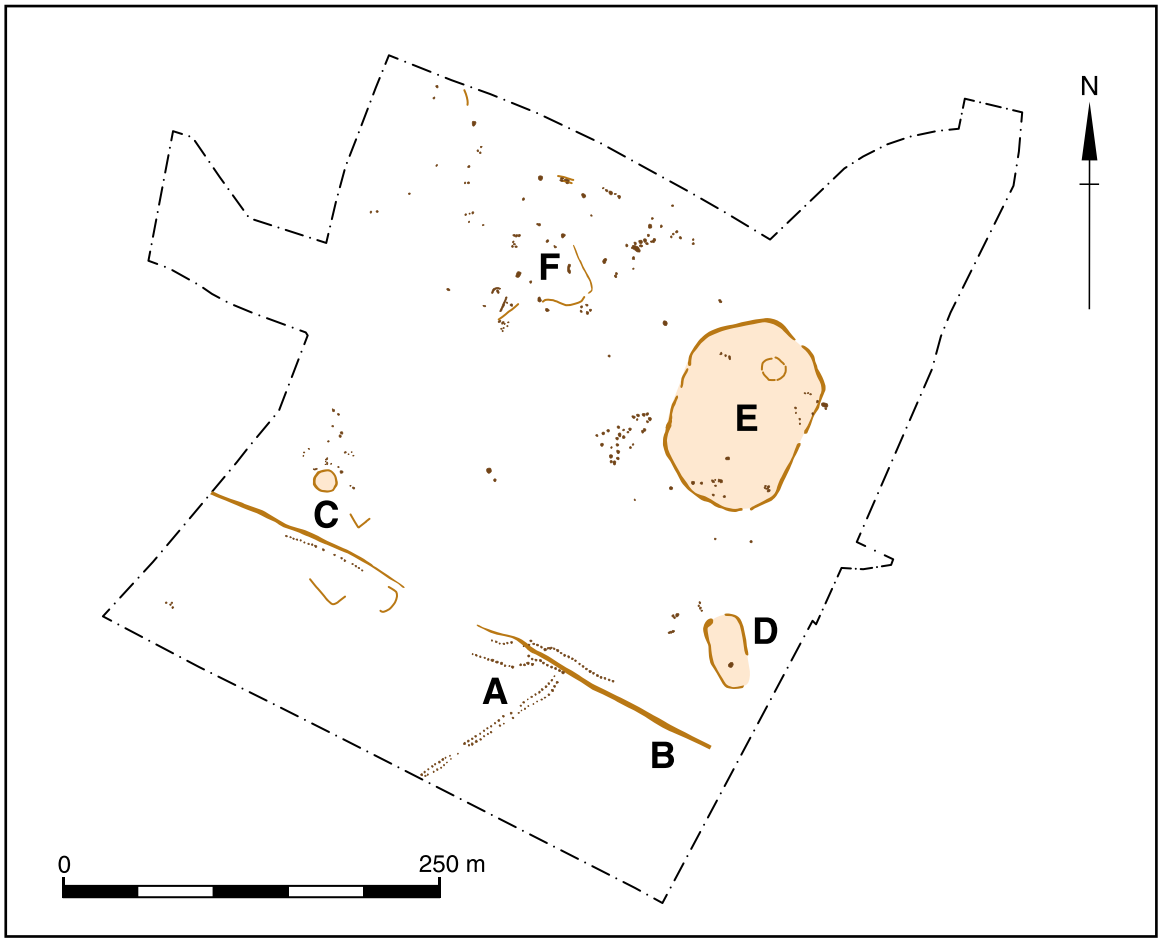
Mesolithic (c.9500 – c.4000 BC)

The earliest activity at the Clifton Park and Ride site was represented by a small amount of worked flints of Mesolithic date, and the wider landscape was certainly exploited at this time.

Neolithic (c.4000 – c.2200 BC)

The Neolithic period, and possibly the early Neolithic period, represents the earliest potential phase of concentrated human activity at the site. A large oval ditched enclosure (101m N to S by 71m E to W) with four entranceways (**E** on plan opposite) contained a fill which produced a thermoluminescence date of 4320 ± 700 years BC, although there is a possibility that this result actually dates the formation of ancient colluvium on the site. However, in combination with additional sparse finds of Neolithic and Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age pottery and flint, a very early date for the construction and initial infilling of the oval enclosure may tentatively be suggested. Indeed, if it is Neolithic, the enclosure would fall into the date range of a type of early seasonal meeting place where feasting and other ceremonies may have taken place known as a 'causewayed enclosure' (typically dated to c.4,000 – 3,300 BC), although its morphology is not entirely typical of such monuments. Unfortunately, a lack of preserved faunal remains and deposits conducive to the identification of periodic ditch re-cutting has curtailed further exploration of this idea.

Further evidence for potential Neolithic activity on the site occurred in the form of a sub-



Plan of features identified in excavation. Letters in bold correspond to references in text

rectangular enclosure with open ends (35m N to S by 18m E to W) at the southern side of the site (**D** on plan). This ditched featured, although unfortunately undated, is not morphologically dissimilar to enclosures elsewhere interpreted as Neolithic rectilinear enclosures. The evident spatial relationship between the sub-rectangular enclosure (**D**) and the large oval enclosure (**E**), sitting within a small dry valley facing the floodplain, is of interest in respect to landscape organisation.

Neolithic activity was also represented by a small amount of, probably residual, worked flints and pottery within later prehistoric features. Of particular interest are some pieces of (and flakes from) Neolithic polished stone axe heads of Langdale type from Cumbria. Given the other potential Neolithic activity at the site, the significance of these finds in terms of reconstructing activities such as trade requires further research following specialist analysis.

Bronze Age (c.2200 – c.800 BC)

Towards the west of the site, a ring ditch of Bronze Age date (13m in diameter) was observed (**C** on plan above). No burials were identified, but a small amount of mound material remained. Ring ditches indicative of ploughed-out Bronze Age burial mounds are often located in prominent topographic positions and this is

Bronze Age ringditch with the archaeology team standing in excavated sections

the case here, where the feature is positioned on a plateau that forms a false summit some way south of the prominent ridge and Roman routeway that now carries the A453. In contrast, Bronze Age barrows previously identified and excavated in Clifton further to the northeast occupy much lower-lying positions close to the course of the River Trent.

Bronze Age barrows often remained as prominent earthworks during later phases of land use, and it is possible that identified Iron Age features at this site, including a ditch and a pit alignment (see below) make some form of reference to this earlier landscape feature.

Where artefacts were abundant within isolated pit features (area **F** on plan), spot-dating of pottery and flint finds from up to 9 pits implied that initial infilling may have occurred during the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age. Although a coherent zone of early settlement-related activity is not indicated, the recovery of this material does allow for a Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age date for the start of settlement related activity.

Iron Age (c.800 BC – c.AD 43)

The Iron Age activity identified at the site, although evidently heavily truncated by ploughing, can be divided into two contrasting zones: a divided and managed landscape to the south where evidence for a habitation focus is largely absent (**A-B** on plan), and land to the north where evidence for habitation is present in the form of numerous pits (**F** on plan).

The southern half of the site was dominated by the presence of pit alignments (**A**) a well know Bronze Age and Iron Age landscape boundary feature in the East Midlands. The pit alignments comprised two dual alignments (E to W aligned and NE to SW aligned) that apparently formed a junction. Further to the west only a single, heavily truncated, pit alignment was observed. The pit alignments may indicate the formalisation, with boundaries, of earlier droveways. Artefacts from the feature fills seem to indicate that they were infilled during the Iron

Iron Age pit alignment

Age, but it would not be surprising if further analysis on radiocarbon samples indicate a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. In particular, a Bronze Age date is sometimes suggested for dual pit alignments with pairs of parallel pits. A notable find from one of the pits was this Iron Age decorated glass bead.

The W to E orientated pit alignment was later replaced by a continuous ditch on the same alignment (**B**), also Iron Age in date. The

Excavation in progress on Iron Age pits

establishment of a more permanent boundary in replacement of a more porous landscape feature might indicate the establishment of new forms of social relationship within the resident communities.

A large number of pits, together with some truncated bases of possible enclosure ditches, suggest that there may have been habitation areas within the northern half of the site (perhaps centred around area **F**). The pit features generally contained Iron Age pottery and, although awaiting final analysis at time of writing, the pottery assemblage indicates a main activity phase that is not specifically diagnostic to either the Late Bronze–Early Iron Age or the very late Iron Age. It therefore seems likely that the majority of the pits are of Middle Iron Age date, although a date as late as the 1st century BC cannot yet be ruled out. The pits seem to indicate a range of settlement-related activities, including storage, working areas, quarrying and a possible well/watering hole. The large oval ditched enclosure (**E**) may also have been in use during the Iron Age, and may represent a larger stock enclosure. Internal features within the ditched enclosure (**E**) included Iron Age pits and an undated possible ring ditch.

Conclusion

The most important outcome of the Clifton Park and Ride excavation is the identification of a portion of prehistoric landscape in the valley of the Fairham Brook where concentrated activity ceased perhaps as early as the Middle Iron Age. The complete lack of Romano-British activity over the entirety of the 12-hectare site (only three sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered) is striking. Because of the excavation results, we must now surmise that concentrated settlement activity shifted further south to the watershed of the Trent valley during the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods (as is suggested by the results of a recent excavation by Wessex Archaeology further to the northwest adjacent to the A453). It is likely that there are a number of wider social transformations that dictated this evident shift in settlement pattern, reflected by the move to an enclosed landscape of Late Iron Age settlements, and the later reorganised landscape as a result of Roman influence in the area.

Historical Archaeology in Sheffield:
Charles Street excavations

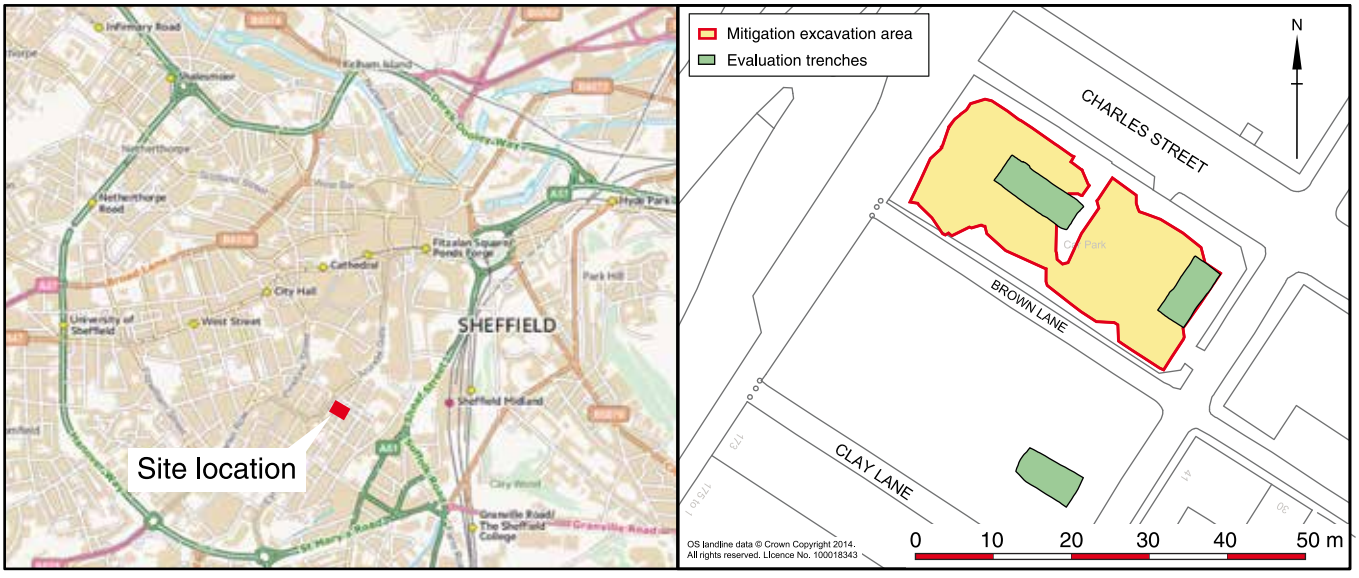
Gary Millward

One of the challenges in Historical Archaeology is providing a considered balance between physical archaeological data and historical information. However, the gaps between archaeological and historical narratives can leave perplexing questions that remain unanswered, as is the case with a recent excavation in Sheffield. In December 2013 ArcHeritage undertook an archaeological excavation at land off Charles Street and Arundel Gate, Sheffield for Sheffield Hallam University, as part of the planning condition on proposed redevelopment of the site.

The site was located within Sheffield city centre covering an area of approximately 820m^2. It was bounded on the north west by Arundel Gate and on the north east by Charles Street. The south east and south west sides were bounded by Eyre Lane and Brown Lane respectively.

The archaeological remains identified on this site related to 19th and 20th century development of the area for residential and industrial use. During the fieldwork three clearly distinct phases of development were recorded. The site was initially developed in the late 18th to early 19th century, with many of the structural features revealed during the excavation belonging to this first phase of development. Many of these early structures were modified throughout the 19th century. The next distinct phase related to the construction of a large works in the southern part of the site. The final distinct phase of activity related to the construction of newer 20th-century buildings and modifications associated with the continued use of pre-existing structures. These structures stood until their eventual demolition in the late 20th century.

Even though three distinct physical phases could be detected in the archaeology there was an obvious disparity between the historical and cartographic evidence when compared to the surviving archaeological evidence. The wide variety of changing industrial practices, identified in the documentary evidence, was almost completely absent from the archaeological record.



Historical Evidence

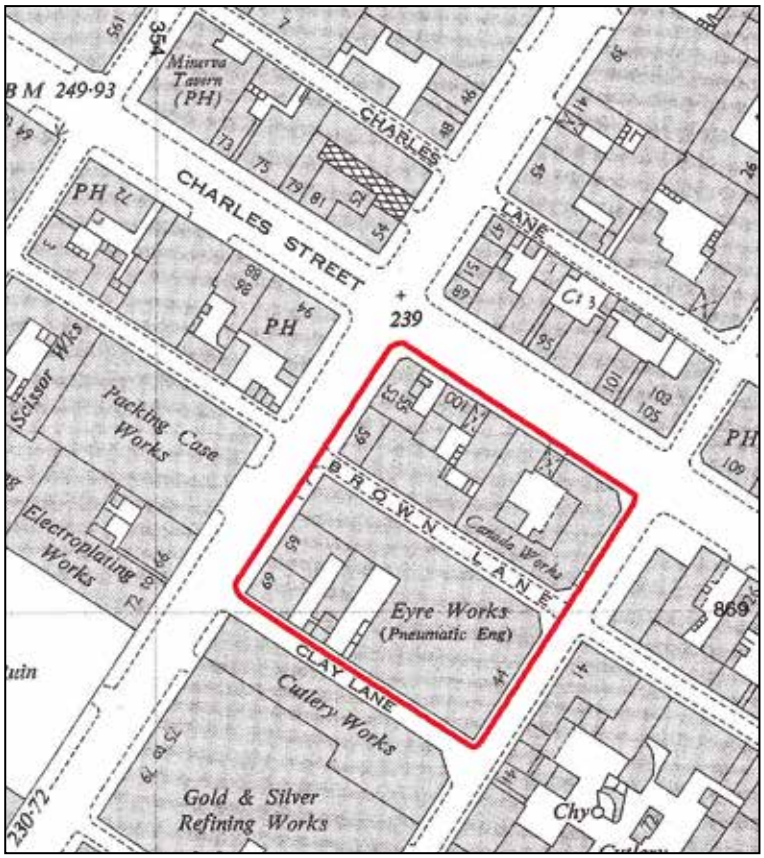
The area comprised fields prior to the early 19th century, when it was sold off in plots for development. The land at this time was owned by the Duke of Norfolk; the 1771 Fairfield map shows proposed development plans. The site appears to have been purchased by Thomas Holy in 1804 and buildings were shown along the Eyre Lane and Brown Lane frontages by 1818.

The newly-formed streets bore names related to important persons involved in the development of the area. Charles Street and Charles Lane (later Brown Lane) were named for the Duke of Norfolk, whose first name was Charles. Eyre Street and Eyre Lane were named for Vincent Eyre, a prominent member of the town trust and chief agent for the development of the land on behalf of the Duke of Norfolk.

The majority of the space between Charles Street and Brown Lane was developed by 1829, incorporating what appear to have been houses, shops and possibly workshops.

By 1850 the maps indicate a mixture of terraced and back-to-back housing and a larger metal trade's works. Industries represented within the block fronting onto Charles Street in the 19th to 20th centuries included listings for piercers, razor manufacturers, scissor manufacturers, manufacturing opticians, shoe makers and brass founders. In addition a Charles Street Works (Steel and Iron) was clearly marked on the 1851 OS map.

Later 19th century activity in the area indicates modifications to the structures, with 52 to 55 Eyre Street converting to a single structure that would be used as a shop until its demolition in the 1970s. Further changes along the Eyre Street frontage included an Electro plate and Britannia metal manufacturer identified in 1876, replaced by a Mark Maker by 1888. These buildings were later converted into one large building marked as a Die Stamper on the 1896 OS map. The building marked on the 1850 OS map as the Charles Street Works was subsequently marked



1953 OS map with the project area outlined in red

as a Whitesmith's owned by William Radford between 1856 and 1865. This building changed use and ownership again by 1888 when it is marked as a cabinet manufacturers owned by George Thomas Spurr.

The other major change in the late 19th century involves the development of the Canada Works in 1876 which then extended to cover most of the south eastern plot by 1888. The Canada Works started out as a brass foundry and subsequently became a saw manufactory.

The early to mid 20th century map evidence shows that the Canada Works expanded further and removed the row of houses that fronted on to Eyre Lane. This building later housed Hallamshire Electrical Company which occupied the plot between 1948 and 1972. When Eyre Street was widened and renamed Arundelgate in 1970 there appeared to be very little change to the structures, which continued to stand until their eventual clearance after 1997.

The historic and cartographic evidence

Site plan of the project area

indicates a wide variety of rapidly changing industrial enterprises within the buildings on this plot of land. One of the primary objectives of the excavation was to identify any evidence for this industrial activity.

Archaeological Evidence

The Earliest Phases

The initial development of the site, during the early 19th century, was represented in the archaeological record by the cellars fronting on to Arundel Gate, Brown Lane, Eyre Lane and possibly Charles Street. In the northern part of the site the build-up of yard deposits also appears to relate to this earliest phase of development.

It appears that the Brown Lane cellars (A and B) were first constructed in the early 19th century and may also relate to buildings visible on an 1829 site plan. A chute in the north eastern wall and buttresses on the north western wall of Cellar B appear to have been part of its original construction. The two adjacent cellars along Brown Lane (Cellars D and E) also appear to have been constructed in the early 19th century. The dividing wall between Cellars D and E seems to form part of a northeast to southwest aligned plot boundary which survived up until the 20th century clearance.

The Eyre Lane cellars, located at the southeast end of the site, were related to a terrace of residential buildings. These were subsequently impacted on by a later phase of redevelopment in the southern half of the site. The main rear wall of these cellars formed another of the plot boundaries visible on earliest maps (1829 onwards). This plot division had disappeared by the time the area was surveyed for the 1953 OS map indicating that the Canada Works had expanded to the edge of Eyre Lane.

The yard in the northern part of the site, containing a well, was also visible on maps from the early 19th century onwards. This well was built from similar construction materials, handmade bricks, to the other early structures.

Looking northeast towards cellars C (foreground) and B (background)

The Canada Works

The next phase of development, in the second half of the 19th century, related to the construction of a large works in the southern part of the site and a new cellar under the Charles Street frontage. All of the earlier structures continued to be used throughout this phase with the possible exception of the Eyre Lane cellars which appear to have been backfilled due to the development the Canada Works.

The large scale industrial archaeological remains that were uncovered in the southern half of the site appeared to belong to the former Canada Works. The excavation uncovered the central yard of the Canada Works and also revealed a large machine base bonded to the south-eastern yard wall.

Elsewhere within the site it appears that the cellars continued in use and further modifications were carried out on them into the late 20th century (see below). Direct evidence for continued use of the yards was more difficult to determine in the archaeological sequence but it appears that the wells in the area were backfilled during this phase.

Twentieth Century Development

The evidence for 20th century development takes the form of a structure in the western corner of the site, modifications to 19th century cellars, services and the re-laying of yard surfaces. The later part of this phase involved the construction and pouring of a large concrete surface after the demolition of the Canada Works but before the general clearance event across the entire site.

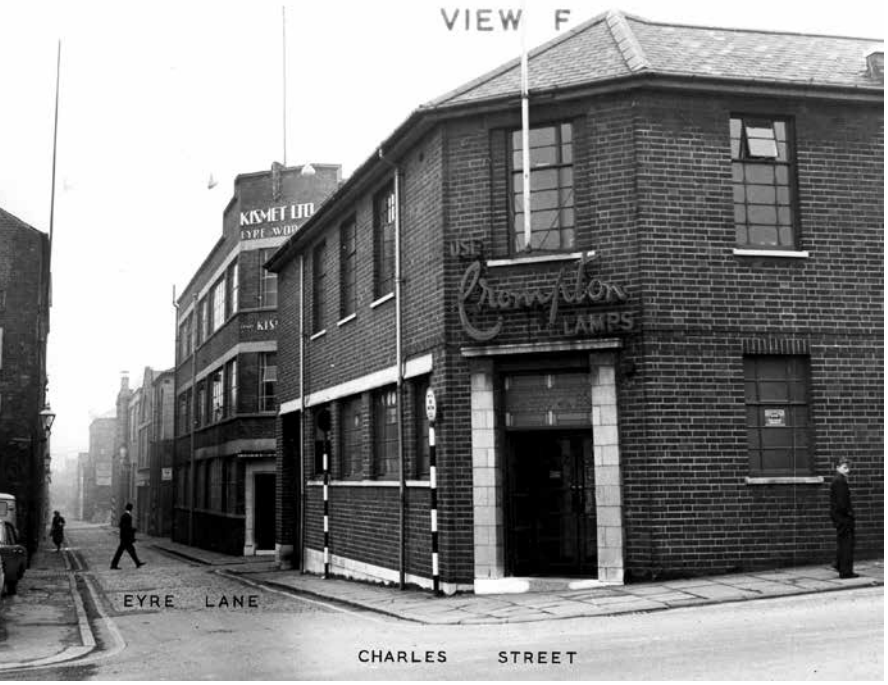
A section through the substantial machine base located in the Canada Works central yard

The structure in the western corner of the site formed a building with a cellar on the corner of Arundel Gate and Brown Lane (Cellar A). This area had been built upon since at least 1853, but the walls and character of this surviving structure were distinctly 20th century in date. This building was constructed respecting the earlier 19th century buildings around it, demonstrating that the earlier buildings were still extant at the time.

Initially the residential properties on Eyre Lane were unaffected but by 1953 the OS map no longer marks them as separate structures and they appear to have been incorporated into the Canada Works.

Further modifications in the form of a new buttress in Cellar B and internal wall skin in Cellar D indicates that these spaces continued to be used in to the late 20th century. In the southern part of the site the later 20th century activity was represented by machine made brick walls and poured concrete surfaces laid over the top of the area formerly occupied by the Canada Works and Eyre Lane cellars.

The final stages of the 20th century were characterised by the complete demolition of any standing structures, the infilling of any remaining cellars and ground levelling to enable the construction of a car park.



Looking west towards the Canada works after expansion over Eyre Lane terraces (1967)

Artefacts, or lack thereof!

Interestingly, in comparison to the substantial physical remains of the buildings in the study area, which allowed for the development of the space to be clearly detailed, there was almost a complete absence of any *in situ* deposits of artefacts relating to the activities and processes that were undertaken in specific spaces and buildings. This lack of artefactual evidence appears to indicate that most of the material produced by the various industrial activities undertaken in this plot of land over nearly 200 years had been completely removed and cleared away. This complete removal is reasonably unusual and the lack of evidence in the material culture for historically attested activities is difficult to explain any other way.

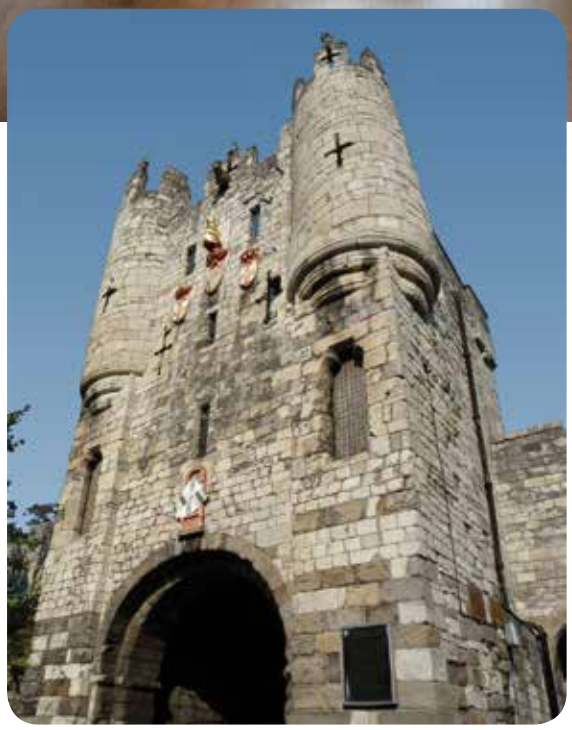
The few industrial artefacts recovered from the site included cutlery, metal off-cuts, worked shell, worked bone and industrial residues in the form of slag and a crucible fragment. While scarce they do provide limited evidence of cutlery making, bone handle working, button making and metal working in the area.

The ceramics recovered from site appear mainly to be domestic and are relatively poor in quality, suggesting they derive from households without wealth. Most of the artefact assemblage was recovered from cellar demolition fills that could not be related to specific houses, although domestic material was found in association with the houses fronting on to Eyre Lane.

Conclusion

The Charles Street site provided a fascinating example of one of the vagaries of Historical Archaeology; a site with excellent structural remains and relatively poor survival of evidence for the activities within those structures. It has only been possible to associate specific structures with industrial or domestic activity by combining the results of the excavations with the historical and cartographic evidence available.

Inside the new Henry VII Experience at Micklegate Bar



On 5th April 2014 the JORVIK Group* officially launched the newest addition to its attractions portfolio: the **Richard III Experience at Monk Bar**. On the same day, Micklegate Bar Museum reopened as the **Henry VII Experience at Micklegate Bar**, creating a thematic and narrative link between the exhibitions at these two fortified medieval gatehouses on York's city walls.

Monk Bar was formerly home to the Richard III Museum, which had been developed and run by Mike Bennett, who passed away earlier this year after two decades dedicated to educating visitors to York on the life and reputation of England's most controversial king. The JORVIK Group took on the museum at the start of the year, and commenced an ambitious refurbishment, all accomplished with its in-house exhibition-building expertise. The new exhibition tells the story of the turbulent era into which Richard was born, and uses a range of exhibits and video presentations to introduce visitors to the late fifteenth century and the Wars of the Roses. The atmospheric setting of Monk Bar, with its stone vaults, arrow slits and working portcullis, helps to set the scene: the Bar was itself extended around the time of Richard's reign. Richard's own life and his death on the battlefield at Bosworth are explored in detail, as is his legacy and reputation as England's last 'medieval' monarch.

For those wishing to find out more, a new, free trailsheet guide to the city walls available in the shop encourages visitors to make their way around to Micklegate Bar, ceremonial point of entry to the city, and the place where Richard's

**JORVIK Group is the new umbrella name for York Archaeological Trust's attractions, events and festivals*

nemesis, Henry Tudor, entered as king in 1486. The records of the pageantry attendant on Henry's arrival are unparalleled in their completeness and interest, so there are few better places in the city to tell the story of York in the early Tudor period. The new exhibition uses a range of historical sources, including archaeological finds, to evoke the landscape and people of York in the early sixteenth century, as well as exploring the story of a dynasty whose impact on the city was lasting and transformative, and not necessarily for the better!

Both exhibitions include a number of hands-on and family-friendly resources for the benefit of younger visitors, and families visiting York for the first time now have a compelling narrative in a range of media to give context and structure to a walls walk. In addition, the JORVIK Group Medieval Pass offers joint admission to these two sites, and to Barley Hall, thus linking three of York's most important medieval sites.

Chris Tuckley

Armour in the Richard III Experience at Monk Bar

Opening Times

Both the Richard III and Henry VII Experiences are open 7 days a week:

Richard III Experience at Monk Bar:

April to June and September to October: 10am to 5pm

July to August: 10am to 8pm

November to March: 10am to 4pm

Henry VII Experience at Micklegate Bar:

April to October: 10am to 4pm

November to March: 11am to 3pm

Please note: in the case of extreme weather the city walls are closed and may affect access to the Experiences, call 01904 615505 for more information.

Prices

	One Experience	Richard III & Henry VII	Medieval Pass	PastPort
Adult	£3.50	£5.00	£8.00	£17.50
Child (5-16)	£2.00	£3.00	£4.50	£12.00
Concessions	£2.50	£3.50	£6.00	£14.00
*Family 4	£9.00	£14.00	£22.75	£48.50
*Family 5	£10.00	£14.50	£23.75	£51.00

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