

YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REPORT

SITE ADDRESS	Utility trench, Kings Square, York		
CLIENT NAME	Northern Powergrid		
YAT PROJECT #	5718	YAT REPORT #	2013/39
MUSEUM ACCESSION #	n/a	GRID REFERENCE	SE 6047 5193
PLANNING REFERENCE #	n/a	AAI OPS NOTICE #	13017

INTRODUCTION

On 17th June 2013 York Archaeological Trust undertook a watching brief during utility works at Kings Square, York. The objective was to record any deposits, features or buried structures exposed during works associated with the excavation of a shallow trench across the Colliergate side of the square for a power supply to a kiosk in the pavement situated adjacent to 1 Colliergate. The site lies within the City of York Central Area of Archaeological Importance. Recording was by means of written notes and measured sketches supplemented by a number of colour digital photographs. A single representative section was recorded and is described below.

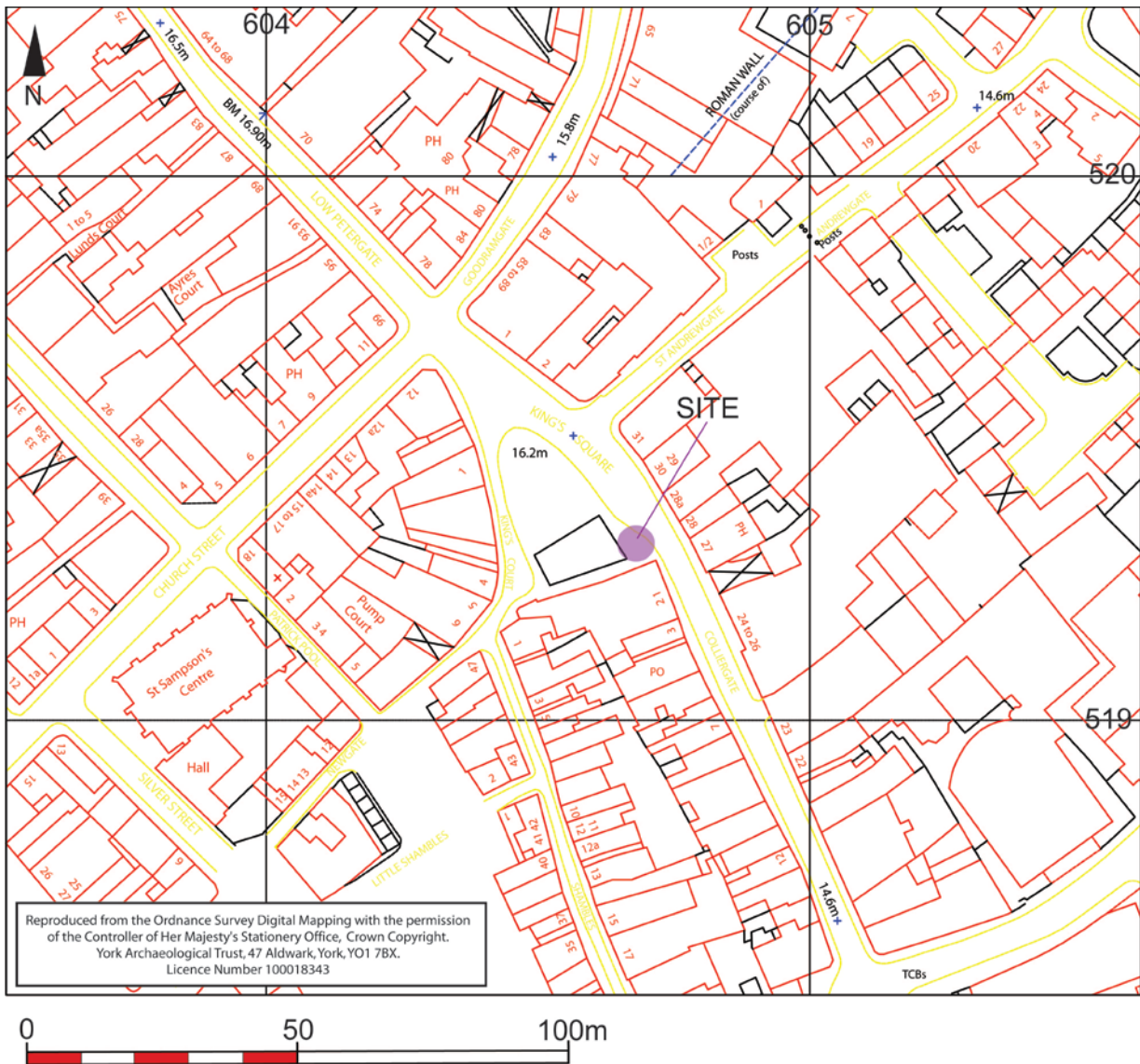


Figure 1 Site location

COMPLETED BY	D.T. Evans	CHECKED BY	D. Aspen	FINISHED	08/10/13
FINDS	No	SAMPLES	No	PHOTOS	Yes
				PAGE	1 of 3

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RESULTS

The earliest deposit noted, at between 0.35m and at least 0.45m below modern ground level (BGL), was a mid brown silt (1000) which produced a small amount of human bone. Above this was a 0.1m deep layer of pale brown mortar (1001) and overlying this was a 0.2m deep deposit of mid brown silt with occasional brick / tile (1002) forming the bedding for the modern ground surface of stone slabs (1003).

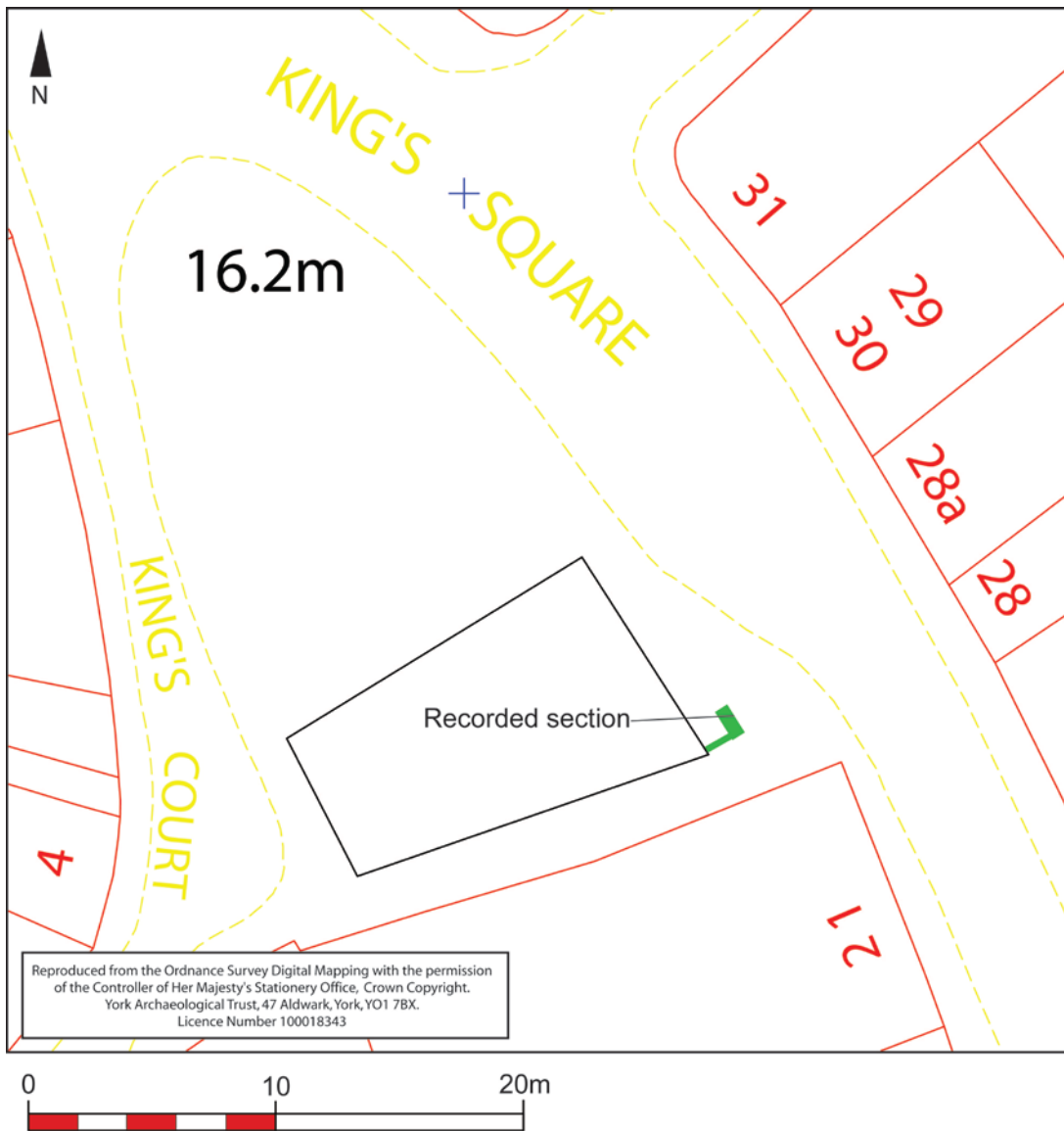


Figure 2 Location of trench and recorded section

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Plate 1 General view of trench, looking north-west

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Examination of the deposits within the trench quickly established that they were all clearly modern and derived from the excavation of trenches for various utilities. No archaeology of any note was disturbed during the current works. The few pieces of human bone recovered, including one substantial fragment of skull, all exhibited old and worn breaks indicating they were redeposited and disarticulate fragments. They were therefore placed in a black plastic bin liner and reburied at the north-west end of the trench in line with normal current practice.

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				PAGE	3 of 3

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