Archaeological Services
University of Durham

Gisborough Priory Gardens, Guisborough, Redcar and Cleveland

archaeological evaluation

on behalf of

Gisborough Priory Project Ltd

Report 1649

April 2007

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50 Severn Drive, Guisborough, TS14 8AT

Contents

1. Summary

The project

1.1 This report presents the results of an evaluation conducted in advance of the proposed restoration of part of Gisborough Priory Gardens, Guisborough. The works comprised the excavation of three trial trenches.

1.2 The works were commissioned by Gisborough Priory Project Ltd, and conducted by Archaeological Services in accordance with a specification provided by Tees Archaeology and a project design provided by Archaeological Services and approved by Tees Archaeology.

Results

1.3 Medieval wall foundations relating to the nearby Priory buildings were identified at depth in Trench 1. A rough stone foundation for the later terrace, with a ditch to its north, overlay these medieval remains.

1.4 In Trench 2, the Monk's Walk, consisting of a path surface made from jet shale, was found at shallow depth. Pits had been cut through the shale surface for the planting of the lime avenues that currently flank the path, proving that these trees are a later feature. A great thickness of soil underlay the path with various deposits beneath it that could not be investigated.

1.5 In Trench 3, a number of large pits were identified at depth. They may relate to an industrial process involving the preparation and use of clay and are possibly medieval in date, although this date is insecure. A considerable thickness of soil overlay them. No evidence was found for the cross-paths depicted on a map of 1773.

Recommendations

1.6 Although all trenches identified remains earlier than the 18th and 19th-century gardens, these earlier deposits will not be disturbed by the proposed restoration as this will only affect surface deposits. In fact, restoration of the gardens will assist in the preservation of these earlier remains, as the removal of intrusive tree and scrub vegetation will reduce root penetration.

1.7 It is recommended that all significant groundworks relating to any restoration plan should be monitored, through the maintenance of an archaeological watching brief. This will ensure that any further remains identified are adequately recorded, and that earlier features are not disturbed by this work.

1.8 In light of the importance of the site, full analysis of the data in accordance with standard archaeological practice (English Heritage 1992) is recommended. This should include data obtained from the watching brief recommended above. An updated project design should be included in the report on this monitoring, detailing the tasks required for full analysis. It is further recommended that a short note on the results of the archaeological work should be prepared for publication in an appropriate journal..

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

2.1 The site is located to the south of Gisborough Priory, Guisborough, Redcar and Cleveland (NGR: NZ 618 160). It is an area of overgrown plantation bounded by the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Gisborough Priory immediately to the north and a market garden to the west. Fields of pasture, part of the Gisborough Hall Estate are present to the east and the Whitby Road to the south. Note that although the town is correctly spelt as Guisborough, by convention the priory, hall and hall estate are termed Gisborough.

Development proposal

2.2 A local community group is developing proposals for the re-instatement of 17th -19th century formal gardens in the area. This is to be the subject of funding bids and as part of the project an archaeological evaluation of the area is required.

Objective

2.3 The aim of the archaeological work was to assess the survival and significance of archaeological deposits that may be affected by the proposed re-instatement work, and to provide information to inform the design of that re-instatement.

Methods statement

2.4 The works have been undertaken in accordance with a specification provided by Tees Archaeology (Appendix 3) and a Project Design provided by Archaeological Services (RA06.217).

Dates

2.5 Fieldwork was undertaken between 6th and 19th March 2007. This report was prepared between 2nd and 10th April 2007.

Personnel

2.6 Fieldwork was conducted by Jamie Armstrong, Janet Beveridge and Andy Platell, the project supervisor. Soil sample processing was undertaken by Dr David Webster. This report was prepared by Andy Platell, with illustrations by Janine Wilson and David Graham. Specialist analysis was conducted by Dr Chris Cumberpatch (ceramics), Michelle Mundee (animal bone), Dr Jennifer Jones (shell, clay pipe, glass, metals and jet bead), Dr Pam Graves (glass) and Dr Charlotte O'Brien (macrofossil analysis). The Project Manager was Richard Annis.

Archive/OASIS

2.7 The site code is **GPG07**, for **G**isborough **P**riory **G**ardens 20**07**. The archive is currently held by Archaeological Services and will be transferred to Tees Archaeology in due course. Archaeological Services is registered with the **O**nline **A**cces**S** to the **I**ndex of archaeological investigation**S** project (OASIS). The OASIS ID number for this project is **archaeol3-25980**.

Acknowledgements

2.8 Archaeological Services is grateful for the assistance of members of the Gisborough Priory Project and businesses in the Bow Street Centre in facilitating this scheme of works.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

3.1 At the time of the evaluation the study area comprised an area of overgrown plantation.

3.2 The site lies at a mean elevation of approximately 95m OD and slopes gently southwards as a series of degraded terraces. The solid geology of the site is Liassic clay of the Lower Jurassic Period. This is overlain by glacial deposits in the vicinity of the site.

4. Historical and archaeological background

4.1 The historical and archaeological background to the project has been extensively covered by an assessment report (Gisborough Priory Project 2005). The main findings are summarised below.

4.2 Guisborough is a medieval town that succeeded an earlier Anglo-Saxon settlement. An Augustinian priory was founded here in the 12th century and dissolved in 1540. Following dissolution, the estate came into the possession of the Chaloner family. In subsequent years they erected a hall on Bow Street.

4.3 An engraving of *c.*1709 shows the hall, with extensive gardens extending as far as the remains of the priory. These ruinous remains formed a backdrop for the formal gardens. A terrace is visible on this engraving extending as far as the southern edge of the priory. This terrace was investigated by Trench 1 of the current works.

4.4 An estate plan of 1773 shows the gardens to have been extended eastwards to include land immediately south of the priory (this land appears to have been rough pasture on the 1709 engraving). A lozenge-shaped area (the 'Monk's Walk') had been demarcated by two peripheral paths, with two further paths criss-crossing the interior. Today lines of mature lime trees flank both sides of the peripheral paths. It is not known whether these were an original feature or a later addition. Trenches 2 and 3 were located to investigate this area.

4.5 Soon after inheriting the estate in 1793, Robert Chaloner had the old hall on Bow Street demolished and a new house erected to the east of the gardens. In spite of this move, the gardens appear to have been little changed; an estate plan of 1854 that shows relatively little alteration from the 1773 plan.

4.6 Having been separated from the main house, the gardens gradually fell into disrepair. Much of the ground has been used for market gardening during the 20th century, although today only the western end of the gardens is in such use.

Previous archaeological works

4.7 A number of excavations have been carried out on the remains of the Priory but no previous archaeological work has taken place on the remains of the gardens.

5. The evaluation trenches

Introduction

5.1 Three trenches were excavated, as shown in Figure 2. Trench 1 was placed over the line of the main terrace, in order to sample this feature. Trench 2 was located over the southern path in the Monk's Walk and Trench 3 was located in the centre of the ground enclosed by the Monk's Walk, in an area depicted on an estate map of 1773 as having two paths that crossed each other. Although the original project design had provided for the excavation of five trial trenches, Trenches 1 and 2 were extended to twice their specified lengths and therefore the three final trenches were equivalent in area to the original specification.

Trench 1 (Figure 3)

5.2 This trench was 10m by 1m in size, and was located over the main terrace of the 18th century gardens, immediately south of the scheduled area of the Priory. The earliest deposit identified was a brownish-red silty clay [16], that was reached at depths over 0.6m. This deposit (only a small part of which was excavated) resembled boulder clay and may have been the natural ground surface. However, a number of finds were recovered from the top of it, but these could have been pressed in by later activity.

Phase 1 (Medieval)

5.3 The southern side of an east-west orientated foundation cut [F19 - 0.2m deep] was present 4m from the northern end of the trench (Figure 3, Plan 3). It had a flat base and contained the foundations for a substantial stone wall [48], which was 2.5m thick. This was made of angular sandstone blocks, bonded together with a sandy lime mortar. Its north face consisted of a line of large dressed sandstone blocks, up to 0.6m long by 0.4m wide and 0.4m thick, forming a smooth face to the north. The wall's southern face consisted of smaller undressed blocks (up to 0.3m in all dimensions) that would have formed a rougher outside surface. Two of these blocks survived within the trench, and a third block had been robbed out to the north; its setting was filled with later silt. On both faces of the wall, only one course of stonework survived. The wall core was made from smaller, irregularly laid stones, up to 0.2m long, that survived to a greater height, the core being some 0.3m above the height of the wall faces.

5.4 The wall did not entirely fill the foundation cut. A gap of 0.7m was present to the south of the wall and this was filled by a yellow puddled clay [13] that did not appear to underlie the stonework and had therefore been deposited after construction of the stonework, perhaps as a waterproof seal. To the north of the wall the ground had been truncated by later activity (see below, paragraph

5.9) so it could not be determined whether a similar clay had originally been present here or not.

5.5 A line of sandstone slabs [18] was present 0.5m to the south of the wall foundation, and aligned parallel to it. These slabs included re-used roof slates, some of which contained peg holes. They were laid directly on the (possibly) natural ground surface [16] and may have been the foundation for a timber lean-to structure attached to the south side of the wall.

5.6 A second wall on the same orientation [15] was present 3.9m to the south of the main wall [48]. This consisted of a single line of dressed stones, with a face towards the south. No core or north face was present and the stones were unbonded, so the wall was too insubstantial to have formed a structural feature. It is likely to have been a retaining wall for a terrace in the ground surface; this interpretation is supported by the presence of a slight (0.1m) drop in ground level to the south of this feature.

5.7 Four closely-packed rectangular stone setts [14], probably the remains of a path, were present 1.6m to the south of the main wall [48]. Again they were on the same alignment, suggesting they belong to the same phase of activity. However, they were at a slightly higher stratigraphic level than the features described above, being separated from other Phase 1 features by 0.1m of silt (although for convenience they are shown on Figure 3, Plan 3). These are likely to be a late addition.

5.8 The main wall [48] can be seen to be a continuation of the north wall of the surviving undercroft in the southwest corner of the Priory (see inset plan on Figure 3). This passageway is thought to represent the south wall of the cloister. The wall found in Trench 1 is identical in orientation and width to that in the undercroft, and has a similar north face of dressed stones. However the south face in the excavation is undressed stone, unlike the one in the passageway. Wall [15] was on exactly the correct alignment to be a continuation of the south face of the southern wall of the passageway, but was much too insubstantial to have been a direct continuation of the whole wall; the south wall of the undercroft is 2m thick. The northern wall of the passageway can therefore be seen to be the main wall of the cloister, with the undercroft lying outside. This does not continue as far as the excavation, but is instead replaced by a terrace aligned with the south face of this wall. The fact that the south face of wall [48] lay outside the building may explain why it was of undressed stone here.

Phase 2 (post-dissolution)

5.9 A deposit of demolition rubble [20] filled the extreme northern end of the trench, beyond wall [48]. This was a mixture of building stone (including a piece of a corbel from the undercroft), mortar and silt; it contained a large quantity of animal bone, together with medieval pottery and glass (see section 6 below). The animal bone assemblage contained remains of high status foods such as suckling pig, veal calf and the only known example of grey heron from a priory in northern England. This deposit is likely to derive from demolition of the priory in the immediate post-dissolution era. It could not be fully

excavated due to depth and restricted access. However, it was more than 0.3m thick and extended below the base of the facing stones in wall [48], suggesting that floor tiles had been robbed out before this deposit accumulated.

5.10 A second demolition deposit [11] overlay this layer with a marked break of horizon. This upper deposit contained less silt and was virtually free of artefacts, except for a number of ceramic pantile fragments and a broken piece of medieval masonry. Such tiles were not present in medieval contexts; the priory used sandstone roof slates instead. This deposit is therefore significantly more recent than the original demolition of the priory, and is likely to have resulted from levelling of the ground surface prior to the laying-out of the gardens. It raised the ground surface north of the wall to the same level as the surviving wall core.

5.11 Two silt deposits [10 to the north and 17 to the south of wall 15] were present in the remainder if the trench. These were identical to each other and almost certainly a continuation of the same deposit. Post-medieval glass and clay pipe stems were recovered from near the top of context [17].

Phase 3 (late 16th / early 17th century)

5.12 A deposit of stone 4.5m wide and 0.15m thick [9] overlay silts [10 and 17] in the centre of the trench (Figure 3, Plan 1). This was orientated northeast-southwest , in line with the grand terrace of the 18th century house, making it readily distinguishable from the east-west orientated medieval features. It had a rough surface with several concentrations of coarser stone (one of these was given the context number [12] during excavation but proved to be part of the same deposit). The irregularity of the deposit would have made it unsuitable as a path surface, making it likely that it was just a foundation that had been grassed over during use.

5.13 A cut [F7] filled with orange-brown silty sand [6] was partly exposed at the northern end of the trench. It was 0.2m deep, more than 0.4m wide, on the same orientation as path foundation [9] and cut the upper demolition rubble deposit [11]. Since rubble deposit [11] and the highest part of wall [48] were at the same level as the path foundation [9], it is possible that the terrace extended right across this area, so that cut [F7] formed the northern boundary of a path that was 7.2m wide. Although a silt deposit [8] separated the upper surviving part of wall [48] from the remainder of path foundation [9], the mixed nature of the latter deposit, with several almost stone-free sections, does not preclude this possibility.

Phase 4 (modern)

5.14 A brick retaining wall formed the southern end to the trench. The bricks are of probable 19th-century date, indicating that this wall is a recent addition. However, upon excavation, it was found that the internal (north) face, but not the external one, changed to stone construction at a depth of 0.55m below the current ground surface, so this wall may conceal an earlier feature. A silt deposit containing mortar and ceramic roof tile fragments [49] was present to

the north of this wall and appeared to be infill following its construction. It was not excavated to avoid undermining the wall.

5.15 Silts similar to the topsoil were present to both the north [5] and south [4] of the path foundation. The whole trench was covered by topsoil [1], 0.3m thick in its centre, deepening to 0.55m thick at the northern end. This deepening at the northern end accounts for the rise in ground level here. Deposits relating to the grand terrace rise to a uniform level across the trench. The raised ground at the northern end results from recent tipping of soil and other waste at this point, which is the closest piece of scrub land to the market gardens. The recentness of this activity was demonstrated by the presence of a pit [F3] within the topsoil containing a dump of bottles, cans and confectionery wrappers dating from the 1970s [2] (not shown on Figure 3, Section 6).

Trench 2 (Figure 4)

5.16 Trench 2 was originally 5m long and located over the southern path in the Monk's Walk. During excavation it became clear that the trench had not crossed the full width of the path surface, that a feature was present immediately south of the excavated area and that the path stood on a substantial terrace extending southwards beyond the trench edge. As the original brief had called for the excavation of another 5m-long trench in a position to be determined by the results of the original ones, it was decided to extend Trench 2 southwards. The completed trench was 10m long and was excavated in two stages; for convenience the drawings in Figure 4 are composites, incorporating features from both stages of the excavation.

5.17 The earliest deposit present in the northern end of Trench 2 was a firm, brown, mixed gravelly clay [34]. Towards the south, a mixed silty clay containing frequent large (up to 0.2m in diameter) stones [51] was present. Between them was a very firm brown silt [35] that overlay both deposits (Figure 4, Plan 18). None of these deposits were the natural ground surface as medieval pottery was present in all three contexts. At the extreme south end of the trench, a deposit of angular building stone mixed with yellow-brown clay and containing brick and tile fragments [50] appeared to be cut through clay [51]. None of the above contexts were fully investigated due to their depth within the trench.

5.18 The entire trench above these deposits was filled with up to 0.7m of dark grey-brown garden soil [33]. The depth of this deposit suggested that the ground surface had been deliberately built up to form a terrace and one reason for extending the trench had been to identify any retaining wall for this terrace. No such feature was found, although a deposit of bricks [47] was exposed at the south end of the trench. These bricks were randomly scattered, indicating that they had been dumped there rather than deliberately laid as a wall.

5.19 At the north end of the trench, context [33] was overlain by a dark brown silt containing frequent large stones. A concentration of these stones was originally interpreted as a wall [31]; however excavation proved it to be part of the general deposit. It was overlain by an path surface [22] of pink shale, probably derived from the spoil from jet mines on the escarpment a short

distance to the south. The path was 3.1m wide by 0.2m deep. An area of soft yellow sandstone [36] formed a repair in the centre of this path. This feature had just been visible in the southern baulk of the original trench and had been one of the reasons for extending it southwards. A thin smear of jet shale [40] overlay the sandstone and had probably been accidentally spread by trampling during later use of the path.

5.20 Two similarly-sized circular pits were cut through the shale (and in the case of one pit, through the sandstone patch as well). Pit [F38] was 0.7m in diameter and 0.35m deep, and contained a silt fill similar to the topsoil, with redeposited jet shale [37]. A sherd of 18th-century pottery was recovered from this context. Pit [F46], 1m to the south, was more irregular and contained a fill [45] that was similar to that of pit [F38] except that it contained frequent large tree roots that made full excavation impractical. Since it was aligned with the trees in the southern row of limes along the path, and was within a gap in this row, it clearly was the planting hole for a now-missing member of this line of trees. Pit [F38] is likely to have originally been dug for this tree but then backfilled when it was realised that it was out of alignment with the other trees. The two pits demonstrate that the line of trees post-dates the shale path.

5.21 Topsoil, 0.1 to 0.2m thick, overlay all of these features. To the north of the path, the lower part of this topsoil was removed as context [23].

Trench 3 (Figure 5)

5.22 Trench 3 measured 5m in length and was located 12m to the north of Trench 2, in the centre of the land enclosed by the Monk's Walk. Two paths are shown crossing each other in this area on an estate plan of 1773.

5.23 The earliest deposit identified was a brown sand [52] that was identified at a depth of 0.6m in the south of the trench. Towards the north this deposit dipped downwards to a depth of 1.2m below the current ground surface and was overlain by a pink clay containing sand lenses [42], and then a pink clay without sand but containing three very large stones [41]. It was not clear whether these deposits were in a large cut [F43] that truncated the sand deposit [52], or whether they were tip lines within a large volume of made ground that included the sand.

5.24 A large pit [F39] was partly exposed in the southwest of the trench. It measured more than 2m in length by more than 0.6m in width by 0.3m in depth, and was filled by a grey-brown sandy silt containing clay patches [32], overlain by a mixed deposit of clay and silt [30]. This pit in turn was truncated by a second pit [F29] that was part-exposed in the north of the trench. This pit measured more than 1m in both length and width and was over 0.3m deep. It was filled by a grey-brown sandy silt [28], overlain by a very pure deposit of pink clay [27].

5.25 A limited number of finds were recovered from these pits, including several fragments of medieval pottery, some roof tile and a brick fragment (see section 6 below). No useful data was provided by environmental sampling of the fills.

The general lack of artefacts, together with the pure nature of the clays, suggests that the pits were related to an industrial use such as the puddling of clay for pottery manufacture. Since the medieval material within them could be residual, the dating of the features is insecure.

5.26 All of these deposits were overlain by 0.45m of silt [26] and then the topsoil [25]. An area of disturbance in the southern baulk of the trench [40], unnoticed during excavation, appears to have been a recent tree-throw.

5.27 No evidence was found for any hard surfaces corresponding to the paths shown on the 1773 estate plan. It seems likely that these paths were simply grassed corridors without any foundations.

6. The finds

Pottery assessment

6.1 The pottery assemblage consisted of 101 sherds of pottery weighing 1528 grams, representing a maximum of eighty-seven vessels. The data are summarised in Appendix 2, Table 2.1.

6.2 The pottery was classified with reference to Wrathmell's publications covering the pottery of Hartlepool (1987, 1990) and the author's earlier work on sites in the same town (Cumberpatch 2005). Full discussion of the issues raised by the pottery assemblage must await a full report on the material, but some notes may be relevant to the assessment of the site.

6.3 Three principal groups of pottery can be defined within the assemblage ; earlier medieval wares (later 11th to 13th century), medieval wares (13th to 15th century) and later wares (early modern and recent). Two sherds of German stoneware (Raeren type and Westerwald) were also present.

6.4 The problems surrounding the definition and characterisation of the earlier medieval splash glazed wares and the identification of Tees Valley and Scarborough wares have been discussed in detail elsewhere (Cumberpatch 2005), but have yet to be resolved and this should be taken into consideration when trying to relate the material from this site to other, larger, assemblages. While not identical to the Tees Valley wares, the earlier splash glazed Sandy wares would appear to be of local origin, although as yet no production sites have been located. This type of pottery would appear to predate both the Scarborough ware and Tees Valley ware industries and as such is of considerable importance in understanding the post-Conquest origins and organisation of the pottery industry in the Tees Valley specifically, and the wider area more generally.

6.5 The later medieval ware group is dominated by Reduced Greenwares (also known as Later Medieval Reduced ware) and a number of sherds showed distinctive traits, particularly those from context [4]. These sherds appeared to be from a single vessel and were characterised by their odd, friable glaze. The decay of the glaze and the appearance of corrosion products has resulted in a brownish finish, occasionally gold in colour. Similar effects have been noted

on pottery from Durham (Cumberpatch 2001) where it was suggested that this might be a result of the use of poorer-quality glaze and may indicate an early date. Alternatively, it might be that the nature of the burial environment on these sites has led to the decay of the glaze. Like all vitreous substances, glaze is normally stable, but, as with glass, variations in the composition of the material itself and the nature of the burial environment can lead to decay. Analytical work will be required if this problem is to be solved satisfactorily.

6.6 While the quantification of the assemblage is complete, a full report on this assemblage should include the creation of a type series for the site and a description of the various fabrics to conform to accepted standards. Comparison between the proposed pottery dates and those from other finds may be of value in refining the proposed dates of the various types of pottery (which at present are largely based on the characteristics of the sherds themselves), although the extent of residuality on the site may render such a process difficult or even impossible.

Animal bone assessment

6.7 Animal bone was recovered from 16 stratified contexts. Many bones derived from context [20], thought to represent the medieval demolition of the Priory, and others were from pit fills or garden terracing. There is a mixed state of preservation, as exemplified by context [20], from which both poorly preserved or decaying long bone fragments were recovered along with well-preserved, delicate fish, bird and rodent bones. This finding further supports the mixed, residual nature of the deposits. Overall, the material from Trench 2 provided the majority of the better preserved remains.

6.8 For the purposes of this assessment, fragments were counted as identifiable if they retained a discrete anatomical feature. Therefore, most small fragments of rib and long bone shaft have not been counted. Species lists and identifications are presented in Table 2.2, and approximate fragment counts in Table 2.3.

6.9 Many elements showed evidence of butchery, including chopping and cut marks. Cattle limb bones may have been broken to extract the marrow. There is no evidence for any domestic craft or industrial processing of animal carcasses at this site. Most faunal material derived from context [20], which produced numerous indicators of high-status diet including sucking pig, veal calf, fallow deer, hare, chicken, goose, heron and large fish, in addition to common domesticates. This varied range of fauna probably represents the rich diet of a medieval monastic community at the site. The presence of grey heron in this assemblage is particularly notable, as there is no known parallel from comparable archaeological sites in the North of England, and it is thought that only certain inhabitants of the Priory would have eaten such birds (L. Gidney, *pers. comm*). Contexts in Trench 2 showed the widest range of animal species. Trenches 1 and 3 were dominated by later deposits of probable domestic refuse containing common species such sheep, cow and pig. Ageing evidence for the species in the collection is sparse, however. In context [20], very young animals including a veal calf and a piglet are represented alongside mature animals such as a possible ‘bacon pig’, evidenced by a mandible with

worn teeth suggesting an age of 2-3 years. There are no remains of the heads of sheep and therefore it is not possible to estimate their age at slaughter. Few epiphyses were preserved in this collection to provide any further details of the age at which the animals were slaughtered. Dog remains were the only evidence for any companion animals in the assemblage, with a fragment of a mandible including teeth and a pre-maxilla fragment found context [28], a pit fill, though it is possible that this could represent a pet from a later period. There is an absence of obvious dog gnawing on any of the bones in this collection, which suggests that most of the assemblage was buried before dogs could gain access to it. One specimen in context [20] appears to have been gnawed by a rodent; indeed this context also produced the only rodent remains, including a complete mandible. These remains may however be the result of mixing with later material. No other gnawing marks were identified. Within this small, mixed assemblage, context [20] is the most notable, possessing faunal remains believed to originate from the medieval priory. Other contexts are likely to represent mixed dumping of domestic refuse.

6.10 Even though it was disturbed, the material from context [20] should be retained and curated as it contains many species of interest, including the unique (to the present) find of grey heron bones, which are indicators of the medieval monastic diet. Soil sample flots should be examined for further fish remains, which should be analysed by an appropriate specialist.

Shell

6.11 A small quantity of shell was recovered from contexts [20] and [21], comprising 12 oyster shells and one cockle shell (Table 2.4). This material probably represents food remains, and the shell from context [20] is a further indicator of the range of foodstuffs included in the diet of the medieval priory.

Clay pipe

6.12 Five fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. Three came from topsoil in contexts [1] and [21], and two from medieval or post-medieval contexts [17] and [23]. The pieces are all stem fragments with no makers' stamp or decoration. Bore size ranges from 2-3mm diameter.

Glass assessment

6.13 51 pieces of glass from eight stratified and one unstratified contexts were examined. Most of the material was found to be window glass. The glass is catalogued in Table 2.5.

6.14 Sherds from a bottle were recovered from context [4]. The glass is pale green and slightly weathered. This vessel is likely to be post-medieval in date. Five fragments from a possible pale green glass bowl were also recovered from this context. One of these is a rim sherd, with a curvature suggesting an original diameter of 220mm. The glass is only slightly weathered, and together with the large size, a post-medieval date is most likely for this vessel.

6.15 A single body sherd from a possible drinking glass was recovered from context [17]. This is weathered with an uneven surface and many bubbles

visible in the glass. It has probably been hand blown and may be date from the late medieval period onwards.

6.16 Window glass made up the remainder of the material. This was mostly highly decayed, with little evidence for the original colour of the glass. The largest quantity came from context [1], which was topsoil. This context produced 28 sherds of window glass, three of which could be seen to be clear. One of these had been distorted by exposure to heat. Fourteen of the fragments from context [1], plus a further single piece from context [20], had traces of grisaille painted decoration, which dates them (and probably the associated undecorated fragments) to the late 13th or early 14th century.

6.17 Much of the window glass was received damp. As it appeared fragile and very weathered, consolidation of the glass was carried out to prevent lamination and disintegration upon drying. After washing, the pieces were immersed in 100% industrial methylated spirits to begin the de-watering process. After two days, they were immersed in 100% acetone. After a further three days, they were then immersed in 8% Paraloid B72 (an ethyl methacrylate copolymer) in acetone, under vacuum. They were then air dried.

6.18 Grisaille painted window glass dates to the late 13th or early 14th century, and was often used in panels around and between areas of coloured glass. Much of the coloured glass used in medieval ecclesiastical windows let in very little light, and the grisaille painted border glass, which was originally clear, had the effect of improving light levels. Grisaille glass was commonly painted with hatched, linear and leaf designs using a monochrome red-brown colour. Little of the design scheme has survived on the Gisborough fragments, but traces of leaf and linear patterns are represented.

6.19 As little of the painted design has survived, and most of the fragments of window glass were recovered from topsoil, no further work is recommended.

Building materials assessment

6.20 35 fragments of ceramic building material plus two pieces of mortar were examined, recovered from 14 contexts (see Table 2.6). The contexts appear to be mostly disturbed or post-medieval in date.

6.21 There were 12 fragments of floor tile, none complete. All except one were plain and unglazed, with no datable features. One fragment, from context [17], had traces of a greenish glaze on one face and edge. There was no discernible pattern to the glaze.

6.22 19 pieces of roof tile were examined, 11 of which were pantile fragments with one sanded face. This type of tile was known and used in both the medieval and post-medieval periods. Context [27] produced part of a nib tile with a sanded face, which could be medieval in date. There were two pieces of stone tile, one pierced and one with mortar traces. The pierced fragment came from a medieval context and may have been part of the Priory buildings. The mortared stone tile fragment from context [20] could be material derived from the demolition of the priory.

6.23 Three of the four brick fragments had measurable thicknesses, and these were all found to be thinner than modern bricks.

6.24 Many types of ceramic building material were in use over very long periods, and can be difficult to use as dating material. It is clear that buildings roofed with both flat and pantiles have been present on the site. The presence of the stone tile fragment in the demolition context [20] suggests that stone was the roofing material used for the main Priory buildings. The larger quantity of ceramic roofing material alongside a lack of decorated floor tile, however, would suggest that most of the excavated features were not in the vicinity of the main Priory buildings.

6.25 No further work is recommended for this small assemblage.

Architectural fragments

6.26 Two architectural fragments were recovered, both from demolition deposits in Trench 1. Context [11] contained a section of a shallow block with an attached string course. The fragment measures 470 x 140 x 110mm deep, with all original faces squared and dressed. The side and lower faces are marked with shallow hatched tooling to improve adhesion. The chamfered moulding is part of a curved projection of large diameter, and has been whitewashed.

6.27 In context [20] a broken corbel was found. The piece measures 230mm high, up to 200mm wide and 180mm deep. It is recognisable as one of the springing corbels for the rib vault in the surviving section of the undercroft, a short distance to the west of Trench 1.

Iron objects

6.28 Eight iron nails were recovered from three contexts. One came from topsoil context [1], five from context [20], and one from context [45]. All the metalwork was X-radiographed (XR5620) to confirm identification. Most of the nails are broken, with heads or points missing. However, one nail from context [20] appears to be complete. It is 63mm long, with a circular head 20mm diameter. It has extensive mineralised wood on its shank, showing that it was driven through two differently orientated pieces of wood, *c*.20mm and *c*.23mm thick. The pointed end of the nail has been hammered over. The thickness of the wood suggests that this was a nail used in the construction of a building rather than as part of a portable artefact.

Copper alloy objects

6.29 An unstratified fragment of copper alloy was recovered. It was X-radiographed (XR5620) to confirm identification and is a neatly and tightly folded sheet fragment of the type used to repair to metal vessels.

Lead objects

6.30 Fragments of lead were recovered from five contexts. Three fragments were small pieces of melted lead waste, one from context [1] and two from context [33]. A folded fragment of lead sheet came from context [24], and a possible

rim fragment from a small lead container was recovered unstratified. Context [45], a 19th-century tree pit, produced a 51mm-wide piece of folded and slashed lead sheet, 44mm long. None of these pieces, apart from the unstratified possible vessel fragment, have any distinguishing features to permit identification. They probably represent waste and discarded fragments.

Conservation assessment

6.31 The metal objects should be stored in an airtight container at a stable temperature and below 20% RH, to inhibit further corrosion. No further work is recommended on any of them.

Jet bead

6.32 A very small bead was recovered from soil sample 4, taken from the demolition deposit [20]. The bead is circular, 4.5mm diameter, with a 1mm perforation. One face is rounded and the other is flat. The material used is jet-like, although the surface is dull. There is evidence of slight scratching, but no wear. As was common during manufacture of jet beads, the perforation has been made from both faces of the bead, the hole meeting in the centre and leaving a small ridge. This was in order to minimise the risk of breakage during the perforation process. Beads of this type are known from the Neolithic period onwards, but the small size of both the bead and especially the perforation, along with the lack of visible drill marks, suggests that this example is of medieval or later date.

7. The environmental evidence

Methods statement

7.1 Plant macrofossil assessment was carried out on samples from undated pits [contexts 28, 32 and 42] and a demolition deposit [context 20]. The samples were manually floated and sieved through a 500μm mesh. Residues were retained, described and scanned using a magnet for ferrous fragments. The flots were dried slowly and scanned at x 40 magnification for waterlogged and charred botanical remains. Identification of these was undertaken by comparison with modern reference material held in the Archaeological Services Environmental Laboratory. Plant taxonomic nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

Results

7.2 The only charred plant remains were a hulled barley grain in pit fill [28] and an oat grain in pit fill [32]. Uncharred seeds included a sun spurge seed in pit fill [32] and a buttercup achene and yew fruitstone in demolition deposit [20]. The residues of [28], [32] and [20] contained unburnt bone fragments and context [20] also contained a pot fragment and mollusc shells. Charcoal and coal were present in the flot matrices of all of the samples and clinker was abundant in pit fills [28] and [32]. The contents of the residue and flot are listed in Table 2.7.

7.3 The assessment can provide little economic or palaeoenvironmental information about the site due to the low number of charred plant remains present. The occurrence of a single oat and barley grain suggests these cereals formed part of the diet, although it is unclear if they were cultivated at the site or were purchased elsewhere. Oats and barley were important cereals in northern England throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods (Huntley & Stallibrass 1995).

7.4 The occurrence of clinker, coal and charcoal in the flots suggests that the pits were used for the disposal of fuel waste. A piece of oak roundwood (30mm diameter) charcoal was present in [32], which may indicate that this species was growing in the vicinity and was used for fuel.

7.5 The uncharred seeds of sun spurge, yew and buttercup may indicate the former presence of these taxa. However, in view of the non-waterlogged nature of the site, these seeds may be modern introductions. Modern roots were present in the flots of [43] and [20].

7.6 No further plant macrofossil analysis is recommended due to the low number of charred plant remains. The oak roundwood charcoal in [32] would be suitable for radiocarbon dating and the charred barley grain in [28] may provide enough material for a radiocarbon date.

8. Conclusions

8.1 Medieval wall foundations relating to the nearby Priory were identified at depth in Trench 1. Since the Priory is a scheduled monument, and therefore by definition of national importance, these remains should be regarded as being similarly important. A rough stone foundation for the later terrace, with a ditch to its north, overlay these medieval remains.

8.2 In Trench 2, the Monk's Walk, consisting of a path surface made from jet shale, was found at shallow depth. Pits had been cut through the shale surface for the planting of the lime tree avenues that currently flank the path, proving that these trees are a later feature. A great thickness of soil underlay the path with various deposits beneath it that could not be investigated.

8.3 In Trench 3, a number of large pits were identified at depth. They may relate to an industrial process involving the preparation and use of clay and are possibly medieval in date, although this date is insecure. A considerable thickness of soil overlay them. No evidence was found for the cross-paths depicted on a map of 1773.

8.4 Although all trenches identified remains earlier than the 18th and 19th-century gardens, these earlier deposits will not be disturbed by the proposed restoration as this will only affect surface deposits. In fact, restoration of the gardens will assist in the preservation of these earlier remains, as the removal of intrusive tree and scrub vegetation will reduce root penetration.

8.5 It is recommended that all significant groundworks relating to any restoration plan should be monitored through the maintenance of an archaeological watching brief. This will ensure that any further remains identified are adequately recorded, and that earlier features are not disturbed by this work.

8.6 In light of the importance of the site, full analysis of the data in accordance with standard archaeological practice (English Heritage 1992) is recommended. This should include data obtained from the watching brief recommended above. An updated project design should be included in the report on this monitoring, detailing the tasks required for full analysis. It is further recommended that a short note on the results of the archaeological work should be prepared for publication in an appropriate journal.

9. References

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Gisborough Priory Gardens, Guisborough, Redcar and Cleveland archaeological evaluation

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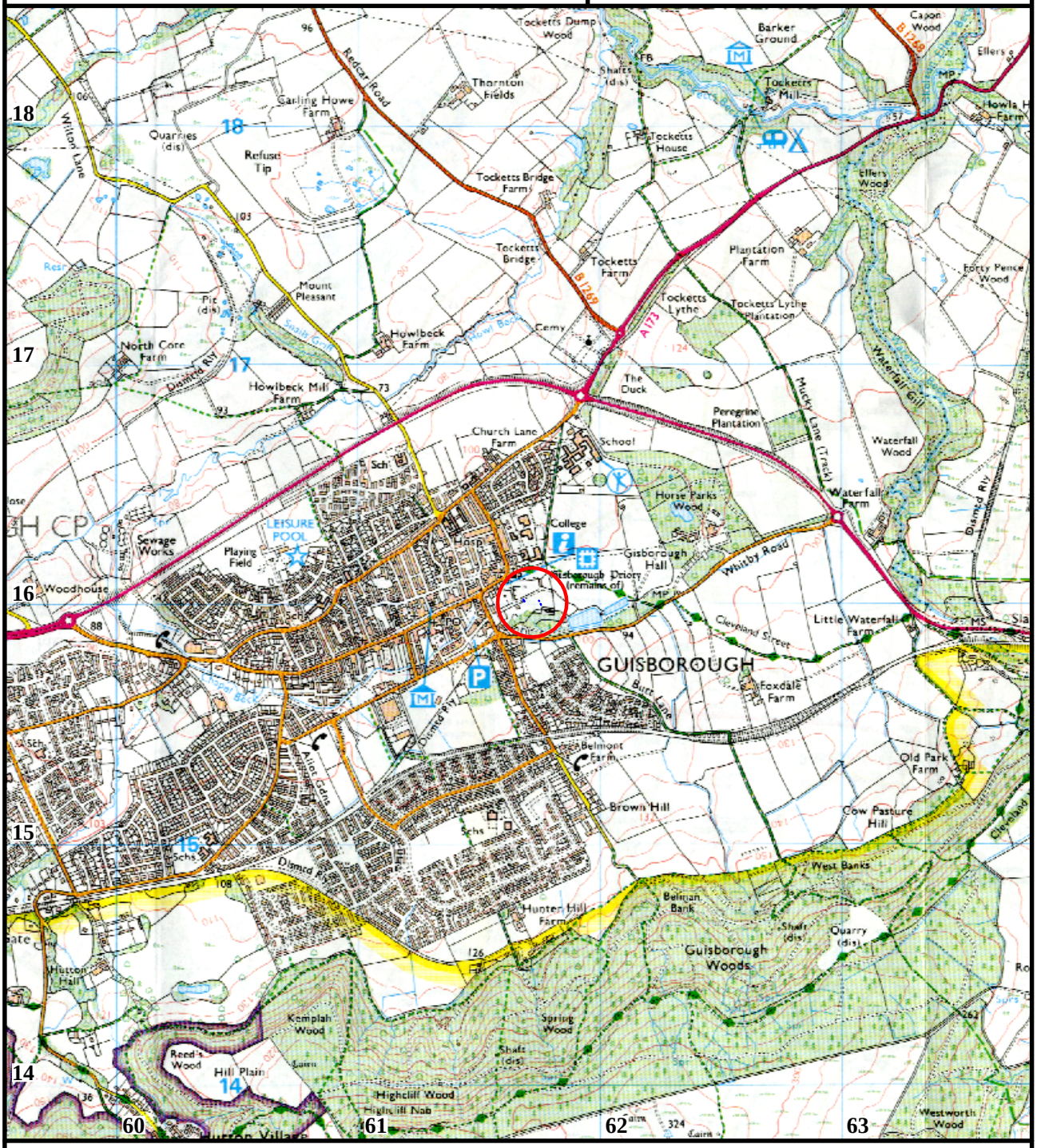
Figure 1
Location of archaeological evaluation

on behalf of
Gisborough Priory Project Ltd



site location

0 1km

scale 1:25 000 - for A4 plot

CHURCH S

Parish Church

162

Remains Of
Guisborough Priory

Dovecote

Path

Trench 1

Trench 3

Trench 2

Priory Gardens

demolished glasshouses

161

616

617

618

0 40m

scale 1:800 - for A3 plot

trench

buildings

approximate location of Monk's Walk

boundary of Gisborough Priory Gardens

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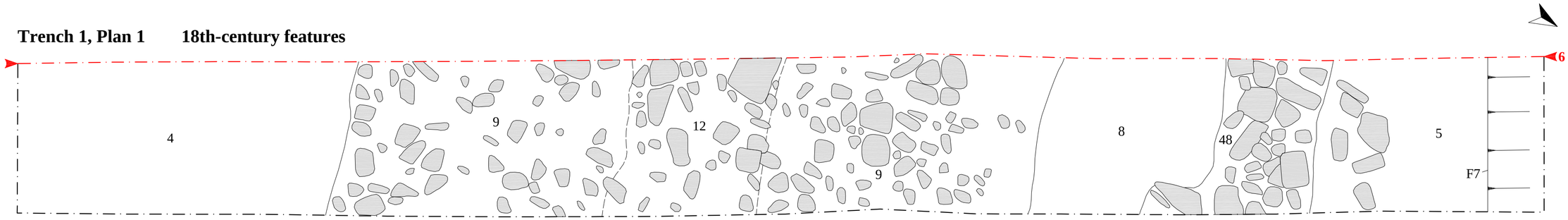
Figure 2

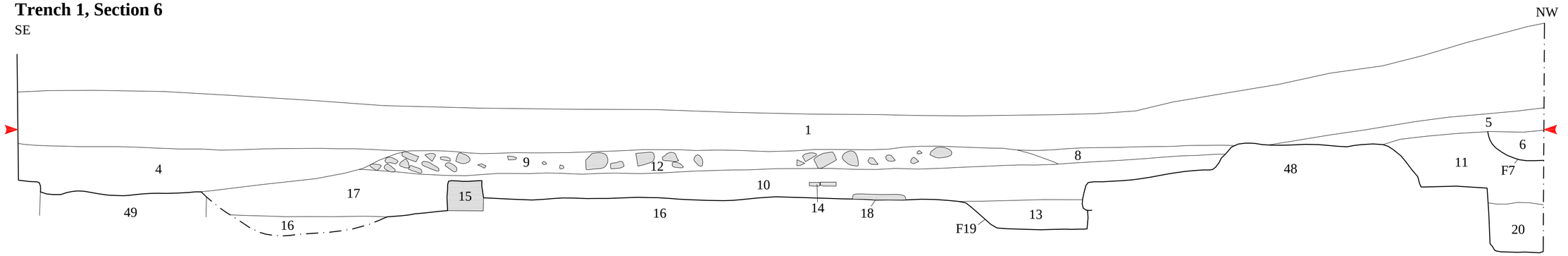
Location of evaluation trenches

on behalf of
Gisborough Priory Project Ltd

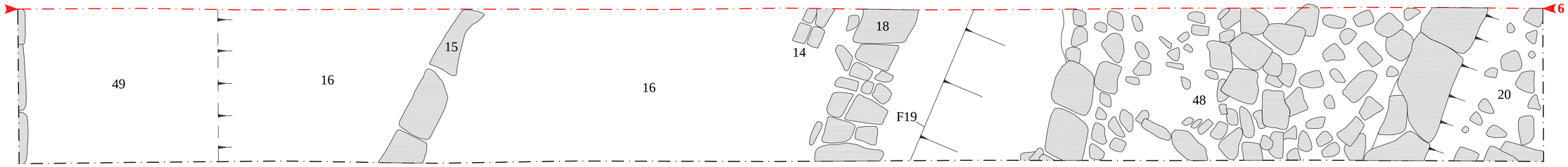
Trench 1, Plan 1 **18th-century features**



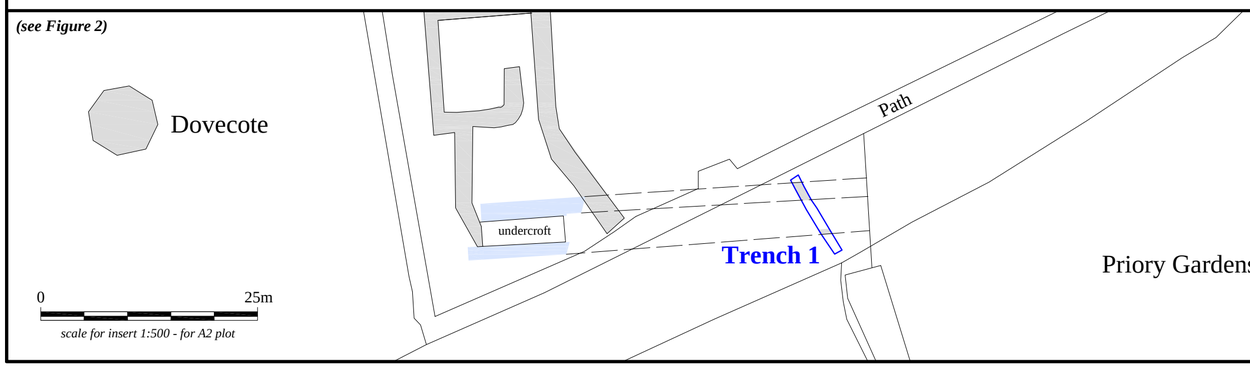
Trench 1, Section 6



Trench 1, Plan 3 **Medieval features**



(see Figure 2)



limit of excavation

section 23

stone

walls

projected line of wall

on behalf of

Gisborough Priory Project Ltd

0 1m

scale 1:20 - for A2 plot

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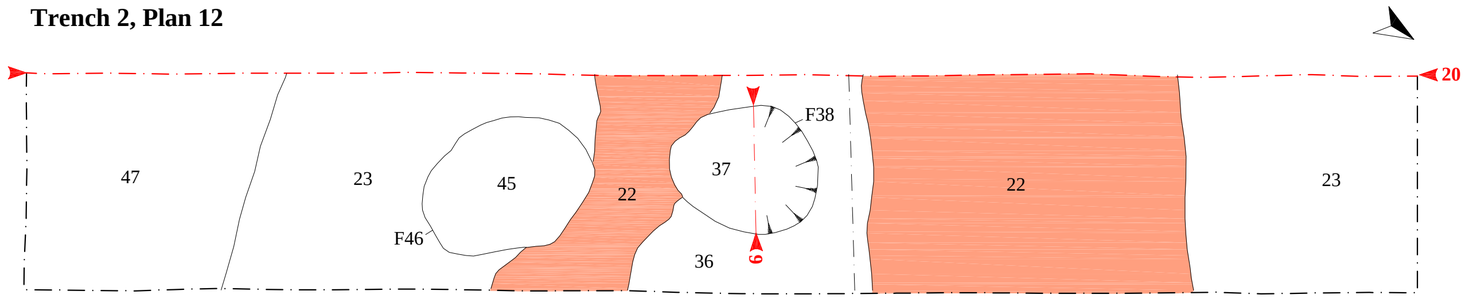
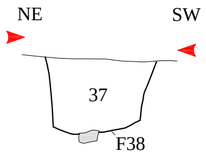
Figure 3
Trench 1, plans and section

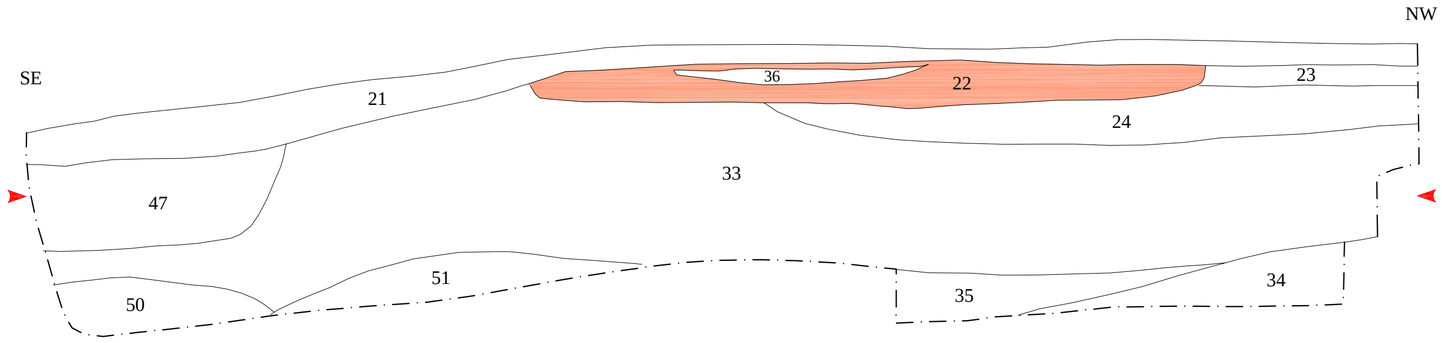
Trench 2, Plan 12



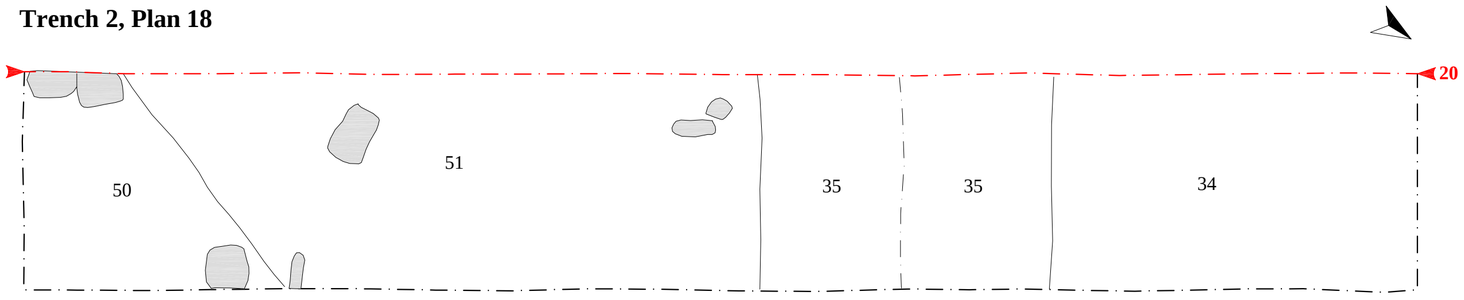
Trench 2, Section 9



Trench 2, Section 20



Trench 2, Plan 18



limit of excavation

section (23)

stone

shale

on behalf of

Gisborough Priory Project Ltd

0 1m

scale 1:20 - for A2 plot

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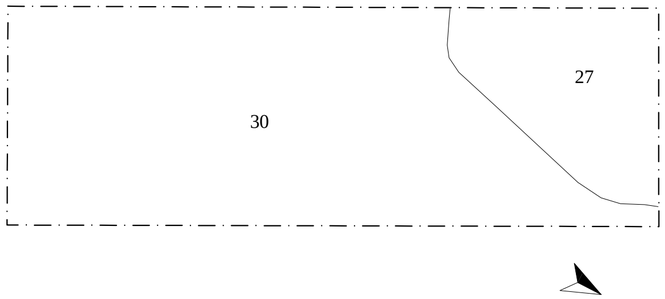
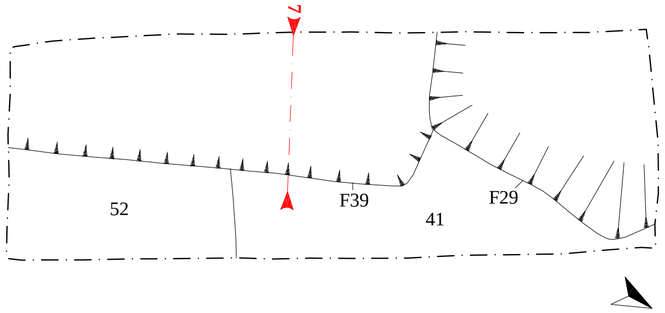
Figure 4
Trench 2, plans and sections

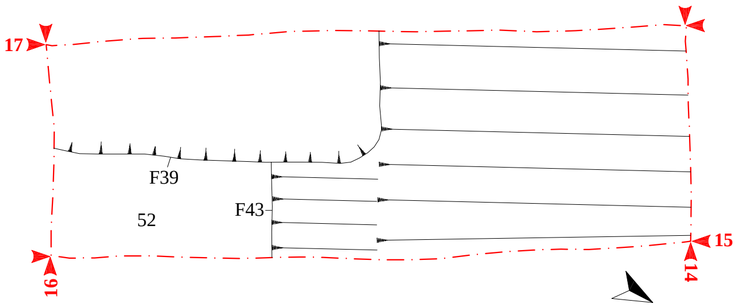
Trench 3, Plan 4



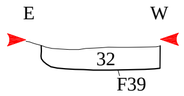
Trench 3, Plan 8



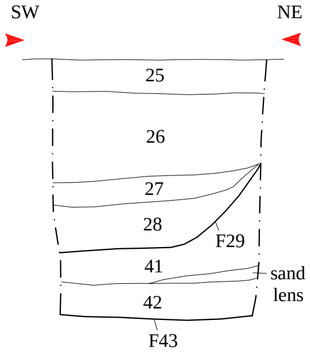
Trench 3, Plan 10



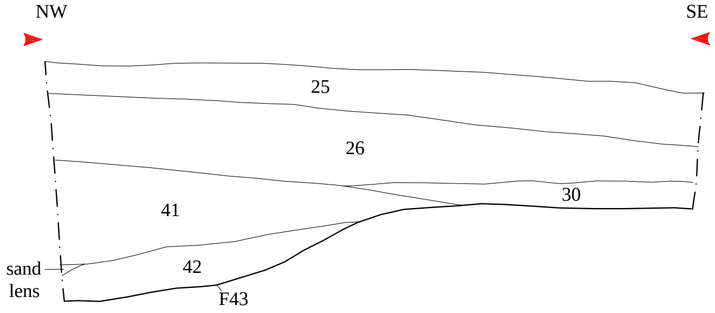
Trench 3, Section 7



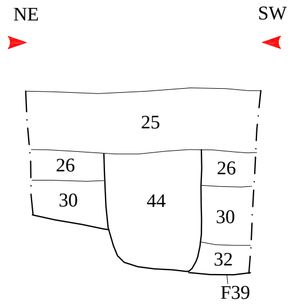
Trench 3, Section 14



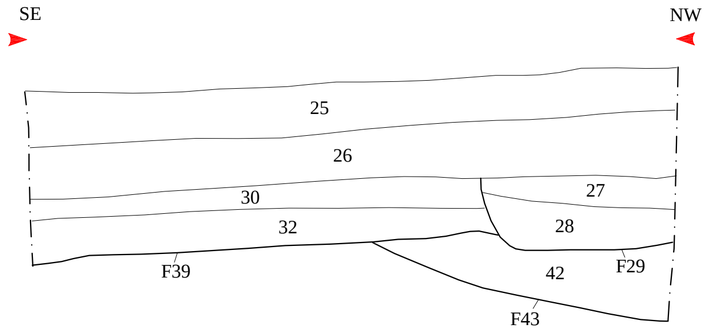
Trench 3, Section 15



Trench 3, Section 16



Trench 3, Section 17



limit of excavation

section 23

on behalf of

Gisborough Priory Project Ltd

0 1m

scale 1:20 - for A2 plot

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Figure 5
Trench 3, plans and sections

Appendix 1: Context data

The • symbols in the columns at the right indicate the presence of finds of the following types: P pottery, B bone, M metals, F flint, S slag, O other materials.

No	Tr	Description	P	B	M	G	O
1	1	Topsoil	•		•	•	•
2	1	Fill of F3					
F3	1	Modern rubbish pit					
4	1	Silt deposit, S end of trench	•			•	
5	1	Silt deposit, N end of trench		•		•	•
6	1	Fill of F7		•			•
F7	1	Ditch cut, N end of trench					
8	1	Silt deposit, mid N end of trench	•	•			•
9	1	Stone foundation for path					
10	1	Silt under path 9	•	•			
11	1	Tumble deposit at N end of trench					•
12	1	Larger stones in centre of trench					
13	1	Puddled clay packing in F19	•				
14	1	Stone setts					
15	1	Wall in S half of trench					
16	1	Red clay (natural?)	•				•
17	1	Silt S of 15	•	•		•	•
18	1	Line of stone flags					•
F19	1	Foundation cut for wall 48					
20	1	Lower tumble deposit at N end of trench		•	•	•	•
21	2	Topsoil	•	•			•
22	2	Alum shale path					
23	2	Silt to N of path 22	•				•
24	2	Mixed rubble / silt deposit under 22	•	•	•	•	
25	3	Topsoil					
26	3	Silt deposit	•	•			•
27	3	Clay fill of F29					•
28	3	Silt fill of F29	•	•			•
F29	3	Pit cut					
30	3	Mixed deposit cut by F29					
31	2	Rubble concentration within 24					
32		Fill of F39					•
33	2	Soil deposit under 24/31	•	•	•	•	•
34	2	Clay/silt deposit at base of trench (N end)	•	•			•
35	2	Silt at base of trench (centre)	•	•			
36	2	Yellow sandstone repair to 22					
37	2	Fill of F38	•				
F38	2	Cut for unused tree pit					
F39	3	Pit cut					
40	2	Shale smear over 22					
41	3	Clay fill of F43					
42	3	Sandy clay fill of F43					
F43	3	Cut or tip line occupying N half of trench					
44	3	Tree throw					
45	2	Fill of F46		•	•		
F46	2	Cut for tree pit					
47	2	Brick deposit at S end of trench					
48	1	Medieval priory wall					
49	1	Recent infill behind brick wall at S end of trench					
50	2	Mixed stone/clay deposit at base of trench (S end)		•			
51	2	Mixed clay/silt deposit at base of trench (S centre)	•			•	
52	3	Brown sand deposit (natural?)					

Appendix 2: Data tables

Table 2.1: Pottery

Cxt	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
1	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	Rilled band ext	C18th	Probably a mug
1	Cistercian ware	1	5	1	Handle	Cup/tyg	U/Dec	c.1450 - c.1600	Abraded
1	Reduced Sandy ware	1	10	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	Medieval	Unidentified dense reduced fine sandy ware with occasional mica at the surface
1	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	Medieval	Reduced core, oxidised margins with moderate to abundant fine quartz
1	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	7	1	Base	Hollow ware	Spots of splashed glaze ext	C12th - C13th	Fine sandy ware, reduced int, oxidised ext
1	Sponged ware	1	1	1	BS	Flatware	Blue sponging int	c.1830+	
1	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	8	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C18th - C19th	
4	Buff Sandy ware	1	10	1	Rim	Jug	Green glaze on flanged rim and int	Later medieval	Unusual fabric and finish
4	Coarse sandy ware	1	13	1	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	C13th - C15th	Abundant quartz in a dull orange to pale grey body
4	Hambledon ware	1	20	1	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	LC14th - C15th	
4	Micaceous sandy ware	1	16	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	Medieval	Broad reduced core, bright orange margins int & ext with fine muscovite
4	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	25	1	Rim	Jug	Raised cordon below rim, sparse glaze ext	C13th - C14th	Soft bright orange fabric with sparse quartz and red grit
4	Reduced Greenware type	8	267	1	Base & BS	Hollow ware	Decayed green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	Thick walled vessel; grey reduced body with abundant fine quartz grit
4	Reduced Greenware type	1	51	1	Strap handle	Jug	Friable green glaze ext, shallow grooves on handle	LC13th - C15th	Fine reduced fabric with thin oxidised margins
4	Reduced Greenware type	1	59	1	?Base	U/ID	Patchy green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	Appears to be a splayed base but may be a candlestick
4	Reduced Greenware type	1	25	1	Rim	Jug	Cordon below rim and combed wavy lines on neck	LC13th - C15th	Reduced body with moderate to abundant rounded quartz grit
4	Reduced Greenware type	2	17	2	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	Reduced throughout with pale grey external margin
4	Westerwald Stoneware	1	7	1	Rim	Hollow ware	Rilled band below rim with painted purple bands	LC16th - C17th	
8	Tees Valley ware B	1	52	1	Rod handle	?Urinal	Patchy green glaze ext	MC13th - C15th	Buff to pale orange quartz tempered ware
10	Buff Sandy ware	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	Yellow glaze (crazed and friable) ext with small dark pellets	C12th - C13th?	Fine buff sandy body with fine quartz and red non-crystalline grit
10	Buff Sandy ware	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	Pale green glaze ext	C13th - C15th	Fine buff sandy ware with fine quartz and occasional red grit
10	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	Odd yellowish (?)glaze on one side	Medieval	One surface removed; oxidised quartz tempered sherd
10	Reduced Greenware type	2	89	2	BS	Hollow ware	Decayed green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	
10	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	2	20	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy green splash glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Possibly hand made; oxidised margins, reduced core, mica visible on surface

Cxt	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
10	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	17	1	BS	Hollow ware	Spots of clear splash glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Oxidised ext margin, reduced core and int, very fine muscovite visible on surfaces
10	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	12	1	Rim	Jug	Spots of splashed glaze ext, cordon below rim	LC11th - C13th	Orange sandy ware containing quartz, muscovite and occasional large soft dark red grit
10	Tees valley type ware	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C13th - C15th	Heavily burnt ext, oxidised orange/buff elsewhere
10	Tees Valley ware A	1	14	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	EC13th - EC15th	Abraded
13	Beverley 1 type ware	1	27	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	LC11th - M/LC13th	Unglazed with bright orange ext surface, reduced int
13	Staxton-Potter Brompton	2	20	1	BS	Hollow ware	Spots and streaks of thin green glaze ext	C12th - C14th	
16	Buff Sandy ware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	Friable brown glaze ext	C12th - C13th	Buff margins, reduced core
16	Cistercian ware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	Dark glaze int & ext	MC15th - c.1600	
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	6	36	6	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	LC11th - C13th	Closely resembles the splash glazed wares, mica may be more abundant
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	27	1	Rod handle	Jug	U/Dec	C12th - C13th	Reduced core, bright orange margins, abraded
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	20	1	Rim & spout	Jug	Patchy green glaze ext, triangular rim section	C12th - C13th	Reduced core, orange margins int & ext
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	15	1	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	C13th - C14th	Reduced core, oxidised margins with abundant fine quartz and muscovite
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	18	1	Base	Hollow ware	Patchy green (?splashed) green glaze ext, pinched foot	C12th - C13th	Reduced core and int surface; fine quartz and mica
16	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	10	1	BS	Jug	Patchy green (?splashed) green glaze ext	C12th - C13th	Reduced core, oxidised margins, quartz and fine mica inclusions
16	Reduced Greenware type	6	57	6	BS	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	
16	Reduced Greenware type	1	71	1	Rod handle	Jug	Patchy green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	Reduced core, pale grey margins
16	Reduced Greenware type	1	19	1	Rod handle	Jug	Grooves running down the handle; green glaze	LC13th - C15th	Reduced core, pale grey to orange margins
16	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	9	72	9	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy green splash glaze ext	LC11th - EC13th	Fine orange sandy ware with grey core
17	Reduced Greenware type	2	46	1	Base	Hollow ware	Dark green glaze ext	LC13th - C15th	
17	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	12	1	BS	Hollow ware	Spots of splashed glaze int	LC11th - EC13th	Possibly hand made; black core with dull orange margins int & ext
21	?Whiteware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	Bluish coloration	M - LC19th	Unlikely to be Pearlware
21	Transfer printed Whiteware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	Flow Blue decoration	c.1835+	
21	Whiteware	1	3	1	Rim	Small jar	U/Dec	M - LC19th	Wide shallow groove below rim
23	Hambledon ware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	Dark green glaze int	LC14th - C15th	
24	Hambledon ware	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy green glaze ext	LC14th - C15th	
26	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	Medieval	Bright orange sandy ware with quartz grit & rounded red grit
26	Sandy ware	1	10	1	BS	Hollow ware	Flakey green glaze ext, spots of glaze int	C13th - C14th?	
28	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	Medieval	Small flake, external surface removed

Cxt	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
28	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	Sparse splash glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Reduced core, orange margins int & ext; probably local
33	Raeren type stoneware	1	10	1	Base	Mug/jug	Mottled brown salt glaze ext	LC14th - C15th	Langewehe / Raeren
33	Reduced Greenware type	1	32	1	Base	Hollow ware	Green glaze ext	C13th - C15th	Reduced throughout, patchy green glaze ext
33	Reduced Sandy ware	1	61	1	Rod handle	Jug	Patchy green splashed glaze ext	C12th - C13th	Reduced core, ox margins, fine texture with sparse/moderate quartz and red iron-rich grit
34	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	3	27	1	Base	Hollow ware	Patchy splashed green glaze int	LC11th - C13th	A fine sandy textured fabric with a distinctive streaky (white, pale orange) x-section
35	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy clear splash glaze ext	LC11th - EC13th	Probably local
37	Late Blackware	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	Dark brown glaze int & ext	C18th	
51	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	Impressed grooves ext with friable clear glaze	C13th - C14th	
51	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	17	1	Rim	Jug	Patchy pale green glaze ext & on flanged rim	LC11th - C13th	Buff body with pale grey core; quartz, non-crystalline grit & muscovite; probably local
51	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	5	42	3	BS	Hollow ware	Sparse or occasional spots of glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Fine orange sandy wares with dark grey cores; fine mica visible on surfaces
51	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	9	1	BS	Hollow ware	Sparse splashed glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Slightly sandier texture than other examples from this context
51	Tees Valley ware B type	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	MC13th - EC14th	
U/S	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	57	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	LC18th - C19th	
	Total	101	1528	87					
51	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	1	9	1	BS	Hollow ware	Sparse splashed glaze ext	LC11th - C13th	Slightly sandier texture than other examples from this context
51	Tees Valley ware B type	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	MC13th - EC14th	
U/S	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	57	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	LC18th - C19th	
	Total	**101**	**1528**	**87**					

Table 2.2: Animal bone identifications

Tr	Ctxt	Species	Element	Comments
1	5	cow sized	long bone	frag
1	6	chicken	scapula	
1	6	cow sized	tibia	chopped
1	8	cow	metacarpal	fused
1	8	cow	maxillary molar	
1	8	cow sized	rib capitulum	
1	8	pig	canine	
1	10	cow size	long bone	decaying
1	17	pig	metatarsal	frag
1	17	sheep	scapula	frag
2	20	calf	various frags of skull	frontal bone, teeth- Udp4, Udp2, Udp3, Udp4, little wear, veal calf?
2	20	cow	1st phalanx	
2	20	cow	2nd phalanx	
2	20	cow	distal femur	
2	20	cow	distal femur	
2	20	d.fowl- chicken?	frag	
2	20	fallow deer	proximal radius	chopped
2	20	goose	metacarpal	
2	20	goose?	tibia	
2	20	goose	ulna	
2	20	grey heron	radius	
2	20	grey heron	ulna	
2	20	hare	proximal radius	
2	20	hare	scapula	frag
2	20	juvenile domestic fowl	frag	
2	20	large fish	various frags	
2	20	pig	astragalus	chopped
2	20	pig	calcaneum	
2	20	pig	dp4	unworn
2	20	pig	mandible	dp4 unworn sucking pig?
2	20	pig	mandible	M1(g), M2(d), M3(1/2), MWS:25, 2-3yr old bacon pig?
2	20	piglet	humerus	sucking pig?
2	20	sheep	distal tibia	Pf chopped
2	20	sheep	radius	frag
2	20	sheep	tibia	frag
2	20	sheep	tibia distal shaft	
2	20	sheep sized	proximal femur shaft	rodent gnawed
2	20	sheep sized	few rib frags	chop marks
2	20	sheep sized	rip capitulum	
2	20	small rodent	mandible	complete

Tr	Ctxt	Species	Element	Comments
	<4>			
2	20 <4>	pig	dp4	unworn
2	20 <4>	fish	various small bones	
2	20 <4>	tiny mammal	few small bones (4)	
2	21	cow	L premolar	
2	21	cow	LM3	worn
2	24	fallow deer	tibia shaft	chopped
2	33	cow	centracortal	
2	33	sheep sized	radius	frag
2	34	s/g	femur	frag, cracked
2	35	indet		
2	45	indet		
2	50	cow	proximal femur	chopped
2	50	cow	proximal humerus	chopped, cut marks
2	50	cow	tibia	chopped, split
2	50	cow	radius	Pf chopped
2	50	cow sized	lumbar vertebrae	frag
3	26	cow sized	vertebrae	unfused
3	28	cow-sized	rib fragments	many cut marks
3	28	cow	axis	chopped
3	28	cow	pubis	frag
3	28	cow	scapula	frag
3	28	cow	scapula	frag
3	28	pig	maxilla	UM1, UM2, worn
3	28	sheep	scapula	frag
3	28	sheep sized	scapula	chopped
3	28 <1>	fish	vertebrae	frag
3	32	cow sized	long bone	chopped
3	32	dog	mandible	LM1, LM2
3	32	dog	pre-maxilla	frag

Table 2.2: Approximate fragment count for the species present

Species	Frequency
Cattle	18
Cattle size	8
Sheep	6
Sheep size	5
Sheep/Goat	1
Pig	10
Fallow deer	2
Dog	2
Domestic fowl	3
Heron	2

Species	Frequency
Goose	3
Hare	2
Small rodent	1
Tiny mammal?	Few (4?)
Fish	Few large, various small fragments

Table 2.4: Shell

Context	Type	No
20	oyster	12
20	cockle	1
21	oyster	1

Table 2.5: Glass

Ctxt	Type	No	Colour	Date	Comments
u/s	window	1	decayed		undecorated
1	window	28	most decayed, 3 green	l13th/e14th c	14 plain, 14 grisaille painted
4	bottle	4	pale green	post-med	weathered; 3 pieces associated?
4	?bowl	5	pale green	post-med	diameter 220mm
5	window	1	decayed		undecorated; heavily scratched
17	?drinking glass	1	clear		weathered
20	window	6	decayed	l13th/e14th c	1 piece grisaille painted
24	window	1	green/clear	post-med	
33	window	1	decayed		undecorated
51	window	3	decayed	?medieval	

Table 2.6: Ceramic building material

Context	Brick	Floor tile	Roof tile	Mortar	Comments
1	1	2	2		
5				2	
5		2			undecorated
6			2		pantile, traces of mortar
8			2		pantile
11			7		pantile, some with mortar
11			1		stone with mortar traces
16	1	1	1		brick 26mm thick
17		1	1		traces of green glaze on floor tile
18			1		pierced stone
26	1	1			brick 48mm thick
27			1		nib tile
28			1		
32	1	1			brick 46mm thick
33		3			undecorated
34		1			undecorated

Table 2.7: Environmental samples: contents of the residues and flots

Sample	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Context	**28**	**32**	**42**	**20**
Volume processed (ml)	10000	10000	10000	10000
Volume of flot (ml)	200	200	10	150
Volume of flot assessed (ml)	200	200	10	150
Residue contents (relative abundance)				
Bone (unburnt)	3	1	-	3
Pot (number of fragments)	-	-	-	1
Mollusc	-	-	-	2
Flot matrix (relative abundance)				
Bone (unburnt)	2	-	-	2
Charcoal (undifferentiated)	3	3	1	3
Charcoal (oak)	-	1	-	-
Clinker	4	4	1	-
Coal	3	3	2	3
Modern roots	-	-	2	2
Mollusc	-	-	-	2
Charred remains (relative abundance)				
(c) *Avena* sp (Oats)	-	1	-	-
(c) *Hordeum* sp (Hulled barley)	1	-	-	-
Waterlogged seeds (relative abundance)				
(a) *Euphorbia helioscopia* (Sun spurge)	-	1	-	-
(t) *Taxus baccata* (Yew)	-	-	-	1
(x) *Ranunculus* subgenus *Ranunculus* (Buttercup)	-	-	-	1

(a: arable weed; c: cultivated plant; t: trees/shrubs; x: wide niche)
Relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest)

Appendix 3: Project specification

Brief for evaluation at: Gisborough Priory Gardens, Monks Walk, Guisborough.

1 Background

1.1 The site is an area of overgrown plantation to the immediate south of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Gisborough Priory and to the east of a market garden (NZ 618 160).

1.2 A local community group is developing proposals for the re-instatement of 17th -19th century formal gardens in the area. This is to be the subject of funding bids and as part of the project an archaeological evaluation of the above area is required.

1.3 Guisborough is a medieval town (SMR 0926) that succeeded an earlier Anglo-Saxon settlement. The application site lies to the south of Gisborough Priory (SMR 148), founded in the 12th century. To the immediate west of the site stood Guisborough Hall (SMR 344).

1.4 No previous archaeological work has taken place at this site.

2 Aims

2.1 The evaluation should consist of five trial trenches to assess the level of survival and importance of archaeological deposits to be disturbed by proposed re-instatement works. Evidence should be particularly sought for the following: -
- location, construction and character of footpaths and their edgings
- the presence or otherwise of deposits which relate to the medieval priory
- any other archaeological deposits

2.2 The purpose of the work is to locate footpaths shown on the 1773 and subsequent plans of the gardens and to advise on their character and to advise on the impact of the proposed re-instatement of the gardens on archaeological remains. This will inform the design process and allow for the preservation of important deposits in situ. This is in accordance with the advice given in P.P.G. 16 and the Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan.

3 Methodology

3.1. The trial trenches should be stripped, either by hand or small machine (if practical), with subsequent hand excavation and sampling of archaeological deposits.

Trench 1 will be sited on the terrace. The location of this should be agreed with English Heritage, paying particular attention to it being sited outside the area of the scheduled ancient monument. This trench will examine evidence of the surface treatment, construction and date of the terrace. The trench should measure 3 metres by 1 metre and should run across the terrace at right angles to it. Spoil should be scanned with a metal detector for the retrieval of all metal objects.

Trenches 2 to 5 will be sited in the lower lying wooded area and should be positioned to intersect the lines of footpaths at right angles. Best estimates suggest that the paths are 6m plus wide. Each trench should be 3m x 1m and designed to locate the edge and part of the exterior and interior of a path. No precise locations are given as the best location will depend on spaces between trees and scrub.

3.2 The area will be fully recorded following stripping. The project should include the following:
i) Archaeological supervision of any machine stripping;
ii) Inspection and cleaning of the subsoil to properly expose archaeological features;
iii) The investigation, recording and sampling of any archaeological features/deposits;
iv) Examination of spoil for archaeological material by hand and eye and with a metal detector;
v) Appropriate treatment of human remains (see sections 3.2-3.5) in accordance with the guidance set out in McKinley, J.I & Roberts, C. 1993. *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains*. (IFA Technical Paper No. 13);

vi) Retrieval, processing, conservation and specialist examination of artifactual and environmental information.

3.3 General excavation requirements

3.3.1 Following stripping and cleaning a sampling strategy for the site should be agreed with the Tees Archaeology Officer. It is envisaged that all features will be recorded in plan. Linear features such as ditches or trackways should be sampled in sections totalling at least 20% of their length. Discrete features, principally graves, will require 100% excavation.

3.3.2 The excavation should be carried out in such a way that the records obtained may be easily integrated with any future investigation. This will involve the accurate location and levelling of trenches and the recording of features and contexts at the appropriate scale.

3.3.3 Specialist reports should be produced for all excavated material.

4 Method Statement

4.1 The current brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the execution of the project. A method statement will be required to provide the basis for a measurable standard for monitoring. The method statement should be prepared in response to this brief in the format set out in Appendix 2 of English Heritage. 1991. *Management of Archaeological Projects*.

4.2 The method statement should particularly:-
- demonstrate the techniques, materials and recording systems to be employed
- provide a provisional programme for undertaking the fieldwork, processing of the data, report preparation and the deposition of the project archive
- identify the staff involved, their qualifications, and those who will be carrying out specialist assessments
- demonstrate that the work will be undertaken in accordance with all relevant health and safety legislation.
- a strategy for the recovery and analysis of environmental samples and human remains.

5 Report and Recommendations

5.1 The information from the fieldwork should be brought together in a report. The report should present the information together with local, regional and national parallels. Reference and comparisons should be made to contemporary sites.

5.2 The report should include: -

i) supporting text and illustrations providing historical background, an interpretation of the development of the site, and detailed interpretation of each phase of archaeological activity.

ii) a statement on the archaeological potential of the site and a strategy for the preservation of important remains should be included. Where remains do not require physical preservation then a suitable mitigation strategy should be included for preservation by record.

5.3 Three copies of the report should be forwarded to the Tees Archaeology Sites and Monuments Record.

6 Archive

6.1 An appendix (Appendix 2) is attached detailing the archival requirements. A copy of the documentary and photographic archive should be deposited with Tees Archaeology at Sir William Gray House, Clarence Road, Hartlepool. TS24 8BT. Unless overridden by National Law any artifacts recovered from the site belong to the landowner. The contracting archaeologist should arrange for the artifacts to be deposited with a suitable repository. In the first instance in the Boroughs of Hartlepool, Middlesborough, Stockton-on-Tees and Redcar & Cleveland this will be Tees Archaeology. A completed transfer of title deed (Appendix 3) should accompany any material deposited with Tees Archaeology. Tees Archaeology must have legal ownership of artefacts in order to justify expenditure on, documentation, packaging, storage and research that each item will require.

6.2 The contractor should inform of the results of the work by forwarding three copies of the report to the SMR and one copy to the NMR and completing a model Archaeological Fieldwork Record Form (Appendix 4). This form is taken from SCAUM. 1997. *Recording Information about Archaeological Fieldwork.*

7 OASIS

7.1 Tees Archaeology supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork.

7.2 The archaeological contractor must therefore complete the online OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ within 3 months of completion of the work. Contractors are advised to ensure that adequate time and costings are built into their tenders to allow the forms to be filled in.

7.3 Technical advice should be sought in the first instance from OASIS (oasis@ads.ahds.ac.uk) and not from Tees Archaeology.

7.4 Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, Tees Archaeology will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

8 Health and Safety

8.1 Contractors are expected to abide by the 1974 Health and Safety Act and its subsequent amendments. Safe working practice should be adopted as described in the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers manual on archaeological health and safety. It is recommended that a risk assessment for the site is completed prior to the start of works.

Brief prepared by Robin Daniels, Archaeology Officer, March 2006