

ARH

# Environmental evidence from St Leonard's Church, Malton (YAT/Yorkshire Museum sitecode: 1991.5006)

by

J. B. Carrott, A. R. Hall and H. K. Kenward

## Summary

Six samples of deposits from five contexts from excavations at St Leonard's Church, Malton, were inspected. None were judged to have potential for biological analyses. All were described and their mode of formation assessed where possible.

## Authors' address:

Environmental Archaeology Unit  
University of York  
Heslington  
York YO1 5DD

Tel: 0904 433843-51

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## **Introduction**

This report discusses the results of a rapid inspection of samples from deposits excavated from the St Leonard's Church, Malton (YAT/Yorkshire Museum sitecode: 1991.5006) site.

## **Methods**

Subsamples of raw sediment were examined in the laboratory for plant and invertebrate animal remains. All of the samples were judged to have only a small organic content at the time of inspection; their sedimentary characteristics were recorded, and no further action was taken.

## **The samples and results of the analyses**

The analyses carried out on each sample, and the remains recovered, are described below, together with a laboratory description of the sediment. A brief archaeological description and/or interpretation of the context is given in brackets where available. The samples are presented in context order.

**Context 1025** [Found next to left foot of skeleton (in coffin), originally something like flat sheet or fragmented baby skull. Clearly NOT baby. What is it?]

Sample 001: Somewhat calcareous deposit formed against wood and apparently bearing the impression of the wood grain.

**Context 2058** [Is this natural?]

Sample 002: Natural ?sub-soil showing no sign of human activity.

**Context 2074**

Sample 003: Slightly clay, granular deposit containing large numbers of large angular pieces of oolitic limestone. Much of the sediment consists of dissociated ooliths derived from the decay of this limestone.

**Context 2081** [Taken from fill of a flue/channel. Any evidence of human activity?]

Sample 004: This tiny sample contained small fragments of charcoal, possibly indicative of human activity, but was too small to merit detailed analysis.

**Context 2096** [Indication of function for sample 006]

Sample 005: Light to mid, grey-brown, moist to dry, crumbly to brittle, sandy, silt with a few small stones (6 mm to 20 mm), possibly slightly concreted.

Sample 006: Slightly rotten, extremely calcareous material. Appears to have been lime.