



Community Archaeology Study Days 2007/8



Archaeology Live

Hungate, York

June 2007

Feedback from the training school:

'Excellent- with plenty of motivation to do more and extend our interest and knowledge.'

'Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to enjoy myself, extend my knowledge and practice new skills.'

'All the guidance and instruction was first class.'

Hungate is the biggest archaeological excavation in over 25 years within the City of York. The dig is taking place before the beginning of extensive development at the site by Hungate (York) Regeneration Ltd. It is hoped that the investigation at Hungate will provide useful information about 2,000 years of York's history, from Roman times to the more recent past. Current work has uncovered the Victorian street of Haver Lane, where factory workers' houses and a mill once stood. This work allows for the consideration of life in one of York's poorer areas during the nineteenth century. One of the greatest benefits of the dig at Hungate is the opportunity for the public to observe and engage with the work being done there. Adults and children alike can see how an archaeological excavation works and what evidence of history exists beneath their very feet.



The training school involves gaining practical experience of many aspects of archaeological investigation. The training began with a tour of the Hungate site to allow those participating to see how work is progressing. There was a good crowd of about 19 people. Trainees participated in all facets of investigating and excavating a site, including recording features, environmental sampling, and cleaning and processing finds. This was a great opportunity for participants to gain hands-on experience of working on a large archaeological excavation under expert supervision. It is hoped that this day will inspire many involved to continue working at this important site through volunteer opportunities.