St Gregory’s Minster, Kirkdale, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Investigations and Historical Context

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The result of c. 20 years of work on and around the church of St Gregory’s Minster, Kirkdale, North Yorkshire, this work is concerned primarily with the 8th century onwards, but also extends the time-period of this isolated site, particularly for the post-Roman to middle Saxon period, but also as an earlier probably religious landscape.

Against the background of this data, it is argued that the area of Kirkdale may have been linked to the neighbouring Roman villa of Beadlam. The church's dedication to St Gregory is suggested to be important in understanding the milieu of its Christian origins and to its regional significance at one stage of its development. A possible evolution in the character of lordship is explored, from circumstances marked only by high-status objects to conditions that can be linked more securely to a secular family associated with the nearby town of Kirkbymoorside. Finally, Kirkdale's position in the landscape is considered and an explanation sought for the long use of this non-settlement locale.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS VOLUME
Professor Philip Rahtz was founder of the Department of Archaeology at the University of York, where he was primarily interested in equipping students with techniques that would enable them to be able to excavate and produce reports on all periods.

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