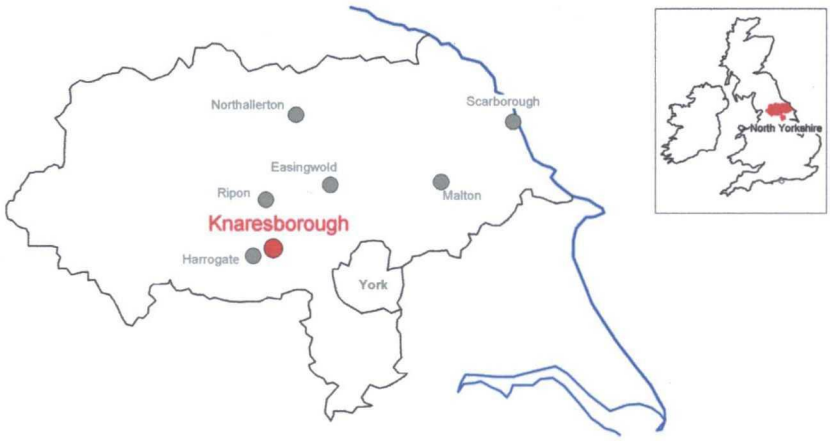
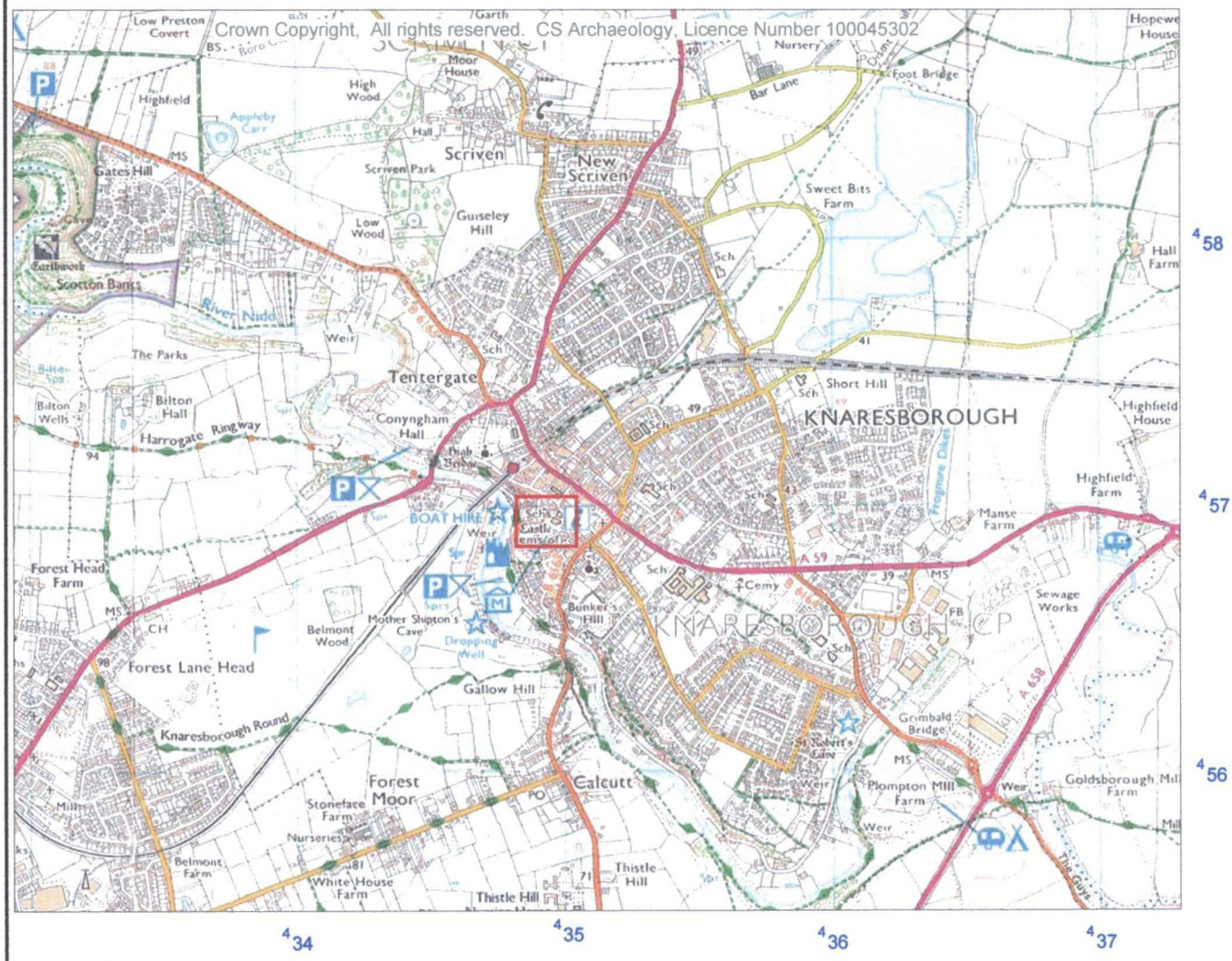
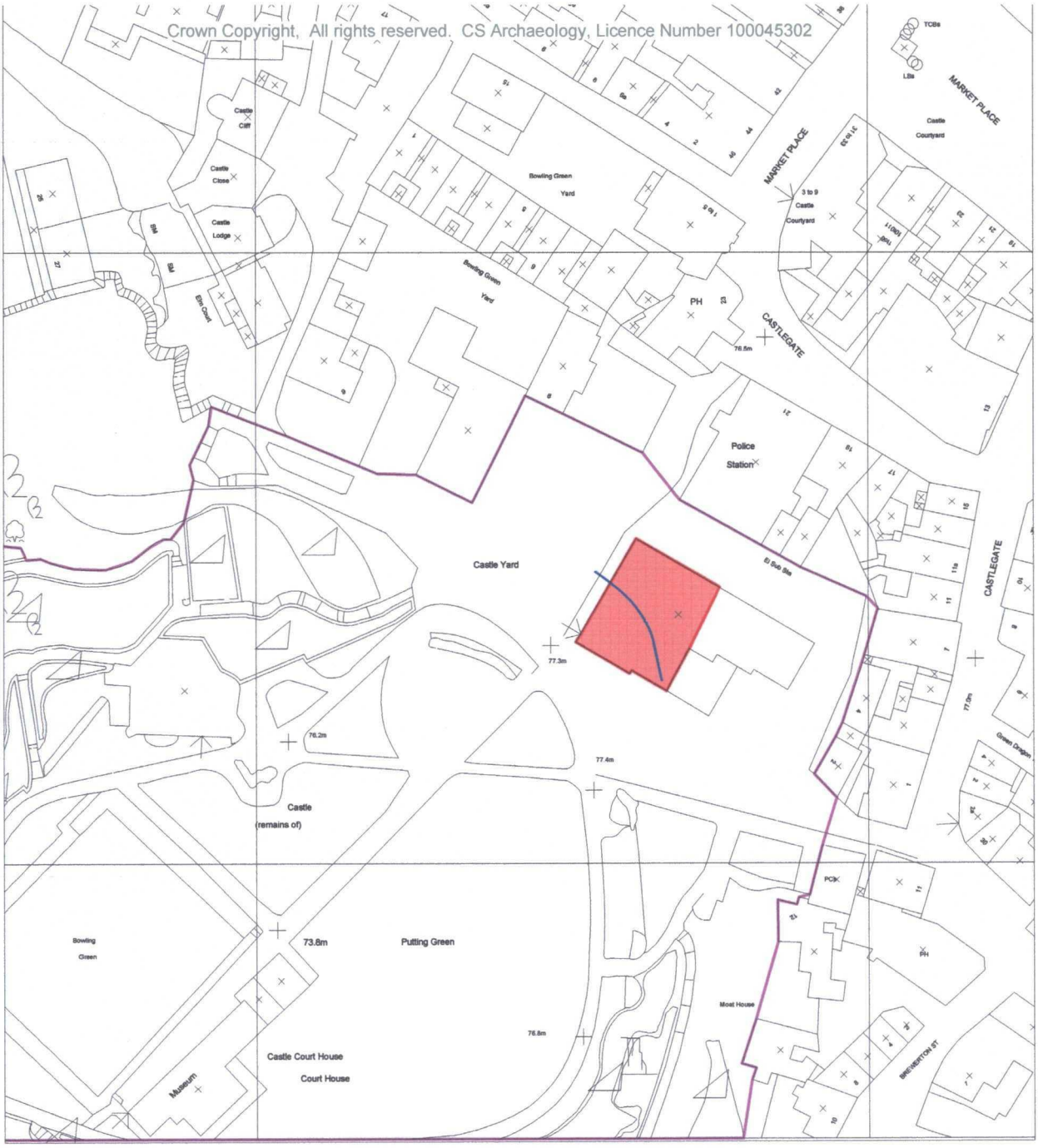




scale: 1:25000

for inset see Figure 2

Unit 1, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: An Archaeological Watching Brief	Figure 1: Location Map	CS Archaeology December 2009



key

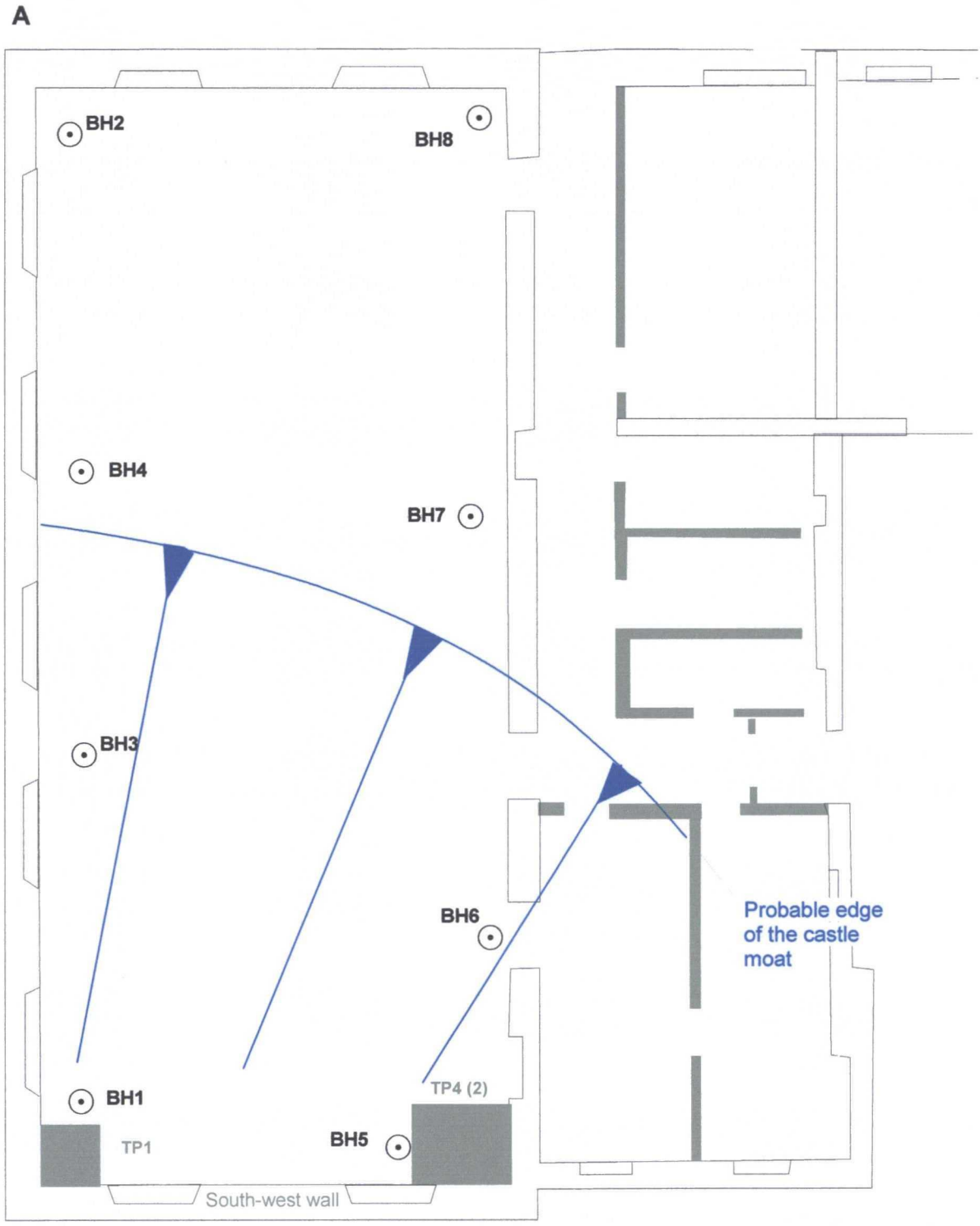
northeast boundary of the castle moat (approximate)

Scheduled Monument Boundary

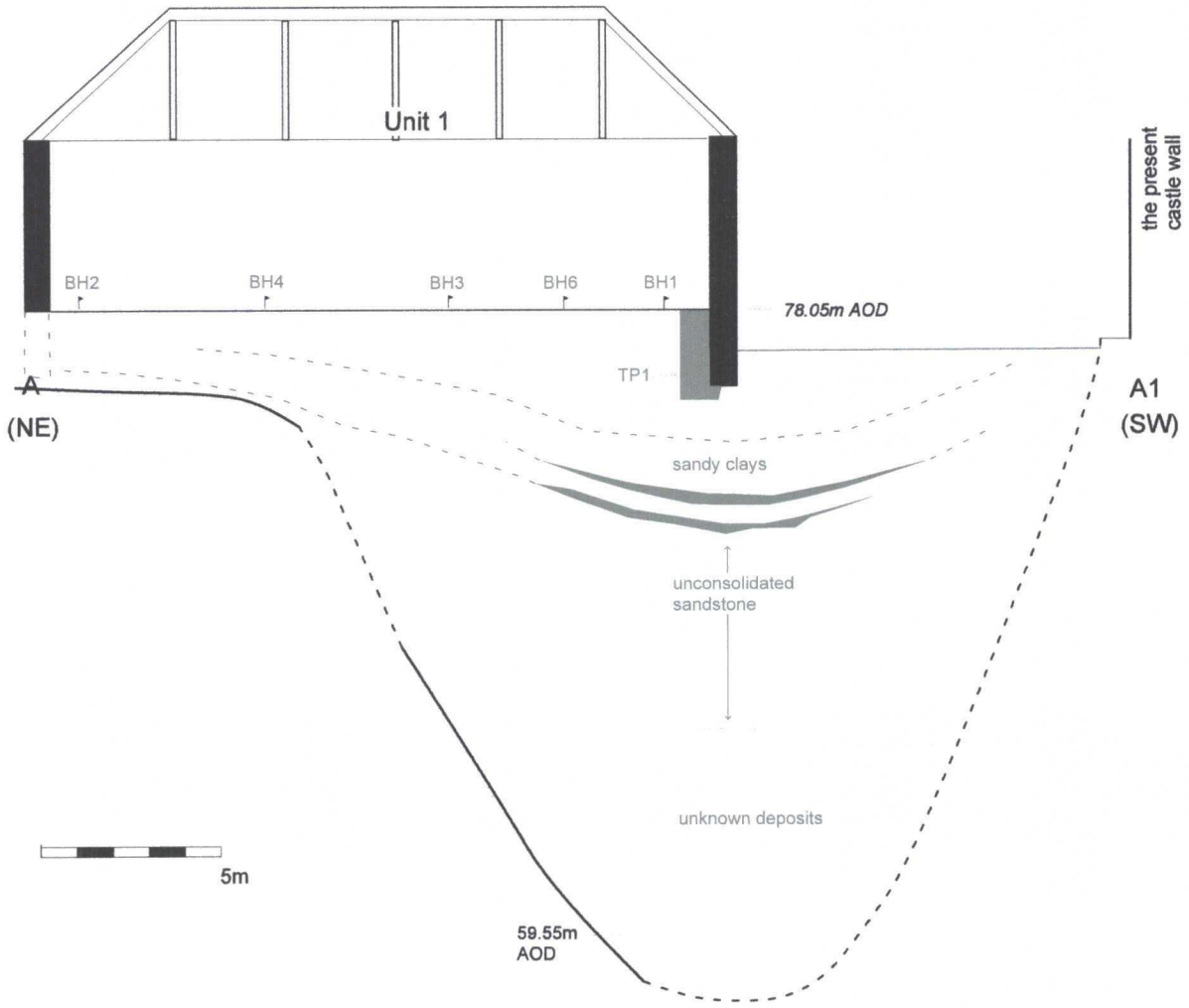
Proposed Development Area (PDA)

scale 1:10000

Unit 1, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: An Archaeological Watching Brief	Figure 2: Location Map of the PDA	CS Archaeology December 2009



Unit 1, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: An Archaeological Watching Brief	Figure 3: Borehole Location Plan	CS Archaeology December 2009



Unit 1, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: An Archaeological Watching Brief

key

- indicative context boundaries
- organic layers
- projected line (moat)
- confirmed line (moat)
- sandstone walls of the former school (Unit 1)

scale 1:200

Figure 4: Cross Section (A-A1) of the PDA

CS Archaeology
December 2009

PLATES

Plate 1 BH1, view of the cores, from the southwest

Plate 2 BH3, view of the cores, from the northwest

Plate 3 BH4, view of the cores, from the northwest

Plate 4 BH2, view of the cores , from the northwest

APPENDICES

UNITS 1 AND 2 CASTLE PRECINCT, KNARESBOROUGH, NORTH YORKSHIRE:

A WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CS Archaeology

October 2009

0 SUMMARY

0.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is in response to a condition placed on Scheduled Monument Consent (Monument No. 34841) by English Heritage which permits ground investigation works (boreholes) to proceed subject to an approved written scheme of investigation. This WSI is to be agreed in advance of any site work can take place.

0.2 This condition has been imposed because the Proposed Development Area (PDA) is situated within a Scheduled Monument will impact on archaeological deposits of national significance.

0.3 This WSI proposes that an archaeological Watching Brief is implemented to ascertain the nature and extent of these archaeological deposits during the drilling of geo-technical boreholes.

0.4 The results from this archaeological work will provide a more detailed assessment of the PDAs archaeological resource, and will contribute to work already undertaken in the PDA (CS Archaeology 2008).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details

1.1.1 *Site Name:* Unit 1

1.1.2 *Location:* Castle Precinct, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire (Figure 1).

1.1.3 *Status:* Scheduled Monument (No. 34841)

1.1.4 *Grid reference:* SE 3494 5696

1.1.5 *Area of site (hectares):* *c*.0.032

1.1.6 *Purpose of the work:* to record the archaeological resource. This record will establish the presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the PDA outlined in Figure 2.

1.2 Archaeological Background

1.2.1 The earliest documentary reference to Knaresborough is recorded in the Domesday Book of AD 1086. The exact origins of the place-name, Knaresborough is uncertain but it generally indicates a defended settlement prior to the Norman Conquest. Anglo-Saxon *burghs* usually had a defensible bank or ditch but there are no surviving records for the construction of a bank or ditch around Knaresborough.

1.2.2 After the Norman invasion it became an important administrative centre with its focal point of Knaresborough Castle, which dates to the early 12th century. The castle is situated west of the present town it is associated with a moat and was built on a readily defendable position on a precipitous valley side overlooking the River Nidd.

1.2.3 During the Medieval period the town's residents shared communal responsibilities and were known burgesses and burgesses were recorded in the town in 1169. The first record of a market to be held at Knaresborough was in 1206. During the 13th century the ironstone industry developed in the town's hinterland and the town developed in importance as a woollen centre (NYCCHS 2005, 2).

1.2.4 The Castle is typical of the medieval period with an impressive tower with walled enclosures or wards with an external moat. Access to the Castle was via two gateways which were defended by fortified gatehouses and spanned the moat. Remains of these bridges have been found below present ground level. The castle features two sally ports, which were large access tunnels and were large enough to allow a rider on horse back to pass through. The western side of the Castle features dry moat, this was up to 30m wide and excavations during the 1930s, of the southern section, revealed that it was at least 3.5m deep. The northern arm of the moat was landscaped in the 19th century as part of the creation of a pleasure garden and the eastern arm of the moat was filled in after the demolition of the castle after the civil war. It is considered that significant remains within the moat will survive (English Heritage 2002).

1.2.5 The PDA represents a former 'National School' and was built c.1814. The stone building is characterised by a hipped slate roof and gabled extension which feature large multi-light windows.

1.2.5 Two trial pits were excavated within the building in 2008 and the presence of Late Medieval deposits were confirmed and a stratigraphic section recorded (CS Archaeology 2008). These Late Medieval deposits were probably associated with the upper deposits of Knaresborough Castle's Moat.

1.2.6 It is hoped that future work will be able to more accurately define the extent of the moat and possibly associated features.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The PDA lies within Knaresborough Castle's Scheduled Monument Area (Number 34814). This WSI has been written in response to a condition placed Scheduled Monument Consent by English Heritage. The deposits beneath the school are of National Importance. This WSI covers the removal and assessment of archaeological deposits observed during the drilling of the boreholes. The watching brief will apply to all below ground works associated with the boreholes.

1.3.2 This WSI represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements to both mitigate and enable an assessment of the impact of the development proposal (geotechnical boreholes) on the archaeological resource of the PDA. This is in accordance with Harrogate Borough Council's Local Plan Policies and National Planning Policy Guidance, Note 16 on Archaeology and the Planning, 1990.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of this watching brief is to gather, as far as is possible, sufficient information to establish presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits. As part of this operation it is hoped that the medieval moat, and associated features, will be able to be better defined and this will help to inform future archaeological management of the site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Watching Brief

3.1.1 It is proposed to carry out a watching brief of the borehole drillings to ascertain the nature and extent of the archaeological deposits.

3.1.2 This project will be undertaken in a manner consistent with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and professional standards and guidance (IFA, 2001).

3.1.3 CS Archaeology will ensure that services are located prior to drilling by means of site plans.

3.1.4 The overburden, concrete and floor infill or other superficial fill materials will be removed by hand and or mini digger using a toothless/ditching bucket.

3.1.5 A series of between 6-8 boreholes will be drilled using a mini percussive rig (Solmek Ltd 2009). The boreholes will be carefully observed and all resulting debris monitored described and measured. Plastic liners will used to isolate the core material for quantification and site analysis. This will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision, down to the required depth (to be advised by the on site geotechnical supervisor).

3.1.6 It is anticipated that the natural geology will be encountered. A log will be kept of the resulting material and section drawings of each borehole, showing stratigraphic relationships made for each borehole, will be produced for the report.

3.1.7 The removed material will be scanned using a metal detector ensuring that all metal finds or iron deposits are located, identified, and possibly conserved. All site metal detection will be carried out following the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.

3.1.8 If any human remains are revealed their position and depth will be noted as it will be practically impossible to leave *in situ*. The coroner's office will be informed only if the remains appear to have been buried for less than 100 years. If the remains prove to be archaeological and have to be removed, a licence will be obtained from the Ministry of Justice and relevant regulations.

3.1.9 Where appropriate, standard context sheets, photographs and conventionally-scaled plans and sections will be employed. All features, if present, will be planned at 1:20, with individual features being planned at 1:10 where additional detail is required. The heights of the

underlying natural will in particular be recorded. Borehole locations will be shown in the final site plan.

3.1.10 All finds that are 'treasure' will be reported to the coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act Code of Practice (1997).

3.1.11 Attention will be paid to artefact retrieval and conservation, ancient technology, dating of deposits and the assessment of potential for the scientific analysis of soil, sediments, biological remains, ceramics and stone.

3.1.12 All artefacts and ecofacts, if identifiable encountered during the drilling, will be collected and processed, unless variations to this are agreed by the archaeological monitor (EH/NYCC). In some cases sampling may be most appropriate.

3.1.13 Finds, if encountered, will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in First Aid for finds (Watkins and Neal, 1998). In accordance with the procedures of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991), all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins) and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy should be X-radiographed before assessment. Where there is evidence for industrial activity, large technological residues should be collated by hand, with separate samples collected for micro-slags. In these instances, the guidance of Bayley *et al* (2001) will be followed.

3.2 Sampling Strategy

3.2.1 If the archaeological deposits are of sufficient interest Environmental sampling may be recommended. Different sampling strategies will be employed according to established research targets and the perceived importance of the deposits under investigation. CS Archaeology conventionally recovers three main categories of sample:

i) Routine Soil Samples; a representative 500g sample from every excavated soil context on site. This sample is used in the characterisation of the sediment, potentially through pollen analysis, particle size analysis, pH analysis, phosphate analysis and loss-on-ignition;

ii) Standard Bulk Samples; a representative 30-40 litre sample from every excavated soil context on site, in accordance with English Heritage Guidelines (2002). This sample is used, through floatation sieving, to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts;

iii) Purposive or Special Samples; a sample from a sediment which is determined, in field, to either have the potential for dating (wood charcoal for radiocarbon dating or in situ hearths for magnetic susceptibility dating) or for the recovery of enhanced palaeo-environmental information (waterlogged sediments, peat columns, etc).

3.2.2 Samples will be taken for scientific dating, principally radiocarbon (C14) and archaeomagnetic dating, where dating of artefacts is insecure and where dating is a significant issue for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies.

3.2.3 Environmental samples will be collected from primary and secondary contexts, where applicable, from a range of representative features, including pit and ditch fills, postholes, floor

deposits, ring gullies and other negative features. Positive features should also be sampled. Sampling will also be considered for those features where dating by other methods (e.g. pottery and artefacts) in uncertain. Animal bones will be hand collected, and from bulk samples collected from contexts containing a high density of bones.

3.2.4 Standard Bulk Samples of 50-60 litres or more will be recovered from every archaeologically significant soil context as part of a comprehensive environmental sampling strategy. NB for this Watching Brief standard bulk sampling is not envisaged at this stage.

3.2.5 Within each significant archaeological horizon a minimum number of features required to meet the aims of the project will be hand excavated. Pits and postholes normally will be sampled by half-sectioning although some features may require complete excavation. Linear features will be sectioned as appropriate. No deposits will be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. As the objective is to define remains it will not necessarily be the intention to fully excavate all trenches to natural stratigraphy. However, the full depth of archaeological deposits across the entire site will be assessed. Even in the case where no remains have been located the stratigraphy will be recorded.

3.2.6 Any excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ.

3.3 Photography

3.3.1 A detailed photographic record of each boreholes and context within the building will be made.

3.3.2 General and detailed photographs will be taken with a 35mm camera. All photographs will be in black and white using an appropriate silver based film (Ilford 400 Delta), this will form the primary photographic record.

3.3.3 If appropriate this record will be supplemented by 35mm colour slides, especially where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded, e.g. built structures and bedrock and characteristic stratigraphy. All photographs will contain an appropriate graduated photographic scale. Digital photographs will also be taken to illustrate the report and to supplement the archive, and supplied to both to EH and NYCC.

3.4 Site Monitoring

3.4.1 English Heritage (EH) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the site works and the start of the archaeological watching brief, so that arrangements for monitoring the work can be made.

3.4.2 Monitoring will be arranged so that all excavated areas can be inspected in an exposed condition.

3.5 Health and Safety

3.5.1 CS Archaeology will operate with due regard to health and safety and a copy of the risk assessment will be sent for approval to the archaeological monitors (EH and NYCC).

3.6 Post –Recording Work and Report Preparation

3.6.1 Once the field recording work has been completed, a full report of the results of the Watching Brief will be completed within 1 month of the end of the fieldwork. The post-excavation assessment of material will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991). The report will include: background information, methods, detailed results, grid references, conclusion and discussion.

3.6.2 The Watching Brief report will if possible include a phased interpretation of the site.

3.6.3 The Watching Brief report will also contain, if appropriate, a detailed context index to the archive.

3.6.4 The report will provide an interpretation of the results, placing them in local and regional context.

3.6.5 A copy of this WSI will be included as an appendix to the final report.

3.7 Report Submission

3.7.1 Copies of the completed report will be submitted in both hard and digital formats to:

- The Client and Client's consultant Project Building Solutions LLP;
- Ms G Falkingham, County Archaeologist Heritage Unit NYCC;
- Dr K Emerick, IAM, English Heritage;
- National Monuments Record, Swindon.

3.8 Submission and Deposition of the Archive

3.8.1 The archive, including a copy of the report, will be compiled, indexed and then offered for deposition with the appropriate repository (Yorkshire Museum).

3.9 Publicity

3.9.1 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, and an OASIS form will be completed for the project.

3.10 References

Bayley J, et al. 2001, *Archaeometalurgy, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines,* English Heritage

CS Archaeology 2008, *Units 1 and 2 Castle Precinct, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief,* unpublished client report

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects* (MAP2)

English Heritage, 2002, *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* [2002/01]

English Heritage, 2002, *Scheduled Monument Description (www.magic.gov.uk)*

Institute of Archaeologists, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* Reading

North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Section (*NYCCHES), 2005 Archaeological Trial Trenching* (10/2005) unpublished document.

North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Section (*NYCCHES), 2005 Guidelines for Reporting: A Check-list (undated)* unpublished document.

Solmek Ltd 2009, *Method Statement: Castlegate Knaresborough*, unpublished report

Watkinson D. & Neal V., 1998, *First Aid for Finds* (3rd edition), RESCUE & the Archaeological Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.

Treasure Act,1996, Code of Practice

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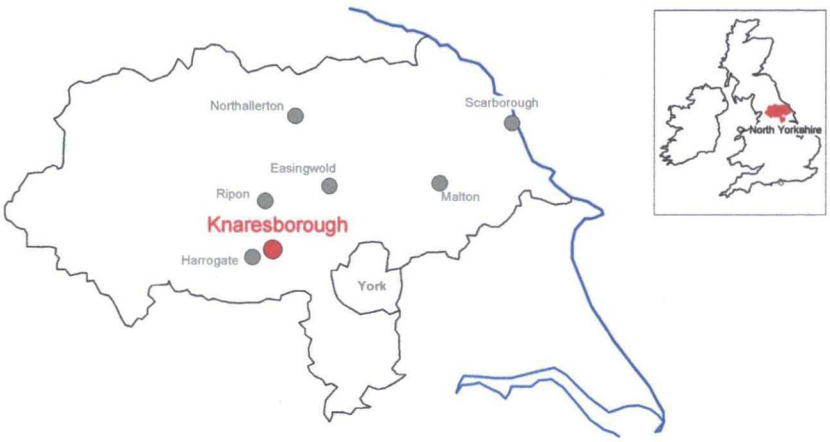
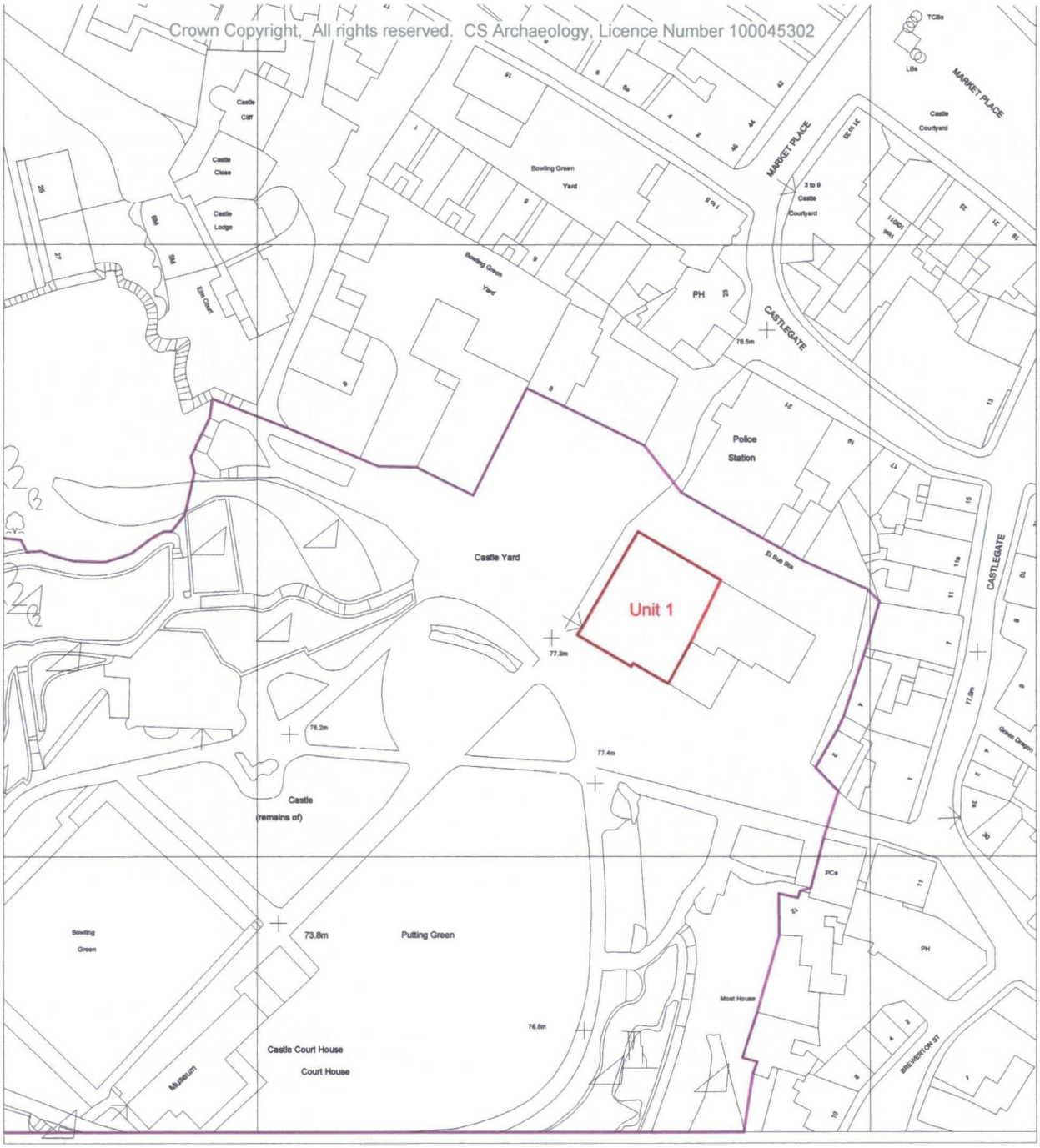


for inset see Figure 2

scale: 1:25000

Units 1 and 2, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: WSI for An Archaeological Watching Brief	Figure 1: Location Map	CS Archaeology October 2009



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Scheduled Monument Boundary

Proposed Development Area (PDA)

Units 1 and 2, Castle Precinct, Knaresborough: A WSI for An Archaeological Watching Brief	Figure 2: Location Map of the PDA	CS Archaeology October 2009

Appendix 2: Archive Inventory

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER A
35mm Black and White Film (Ilford Delta 400 Professional)

Film/ Frame No.	Plate	Location	Description	From
3	-	Unit 1 GF	BH6	SW
3	-	Unit 1 GF	BH7	SW
3/	-	Unit 1 GF	BH4	NW
2/1	-	Unit 1 GF	BH8	SW
2/2	-	Unit 1 GF	BH2	NW
2/3	-	Unit 1 GF	BH3	NW
2/4	-	Unit 1 GF	BH1	NW
2/5	-	Unit 1 GF	BH1	SW
2/6	-	Unit 1 GF	View of the exposed queen post roof trusses	SW
2/7	-	Unit 1 GF	View of the exposed queen post roof trusses	S

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER B
Digital colour 5 MB resolution

Film / Frame No.	Plate	Location	Description	From
BH1	1	Unit 1 GF	BH1	SW
BH1a		Unit 1 GF	BH1a	SW
BH1b		Unit 1 GF	BH1b	SW
BH2	4	Unit 1 GF	BH2	NW
BH3	2	Unit 1 GF	BH3	NW
BH4	3	Unit 1 GF	BH4	NW
BH6		Unit 1 GF	BH6	SW
BH7		Unit 1 GF	BH7	SW
BH8		Unit 1 GF	BH8	SW

BOREHOLES LOGS

Borehole (BH)	Depths *in metres, below 7.05m AOD*	Description
1	0-0.35	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate
	0.35 – 0.8	brick rubble
	0.8-2.9	red silty clay
	2.9-3.7	fragmentary sandstone
	3.7 – 4.0	brown sandy clay with brick fragments
	4.0 – 4.2	dark brown clay with sandstone fragments
	4.2 - 4.4	dark brown clay with frequent coal fragments
	4.4 – 5	reddish brown with occasional sandstone
	5 – 5.5	dark brown silty clay
	5.5-5.7	light brown/pale grey sandy clay
	5.7-5.8	brown sandy clay with sandstone fragments
	5.8 – 12	unconsolidated sandstone
	18.5	(probe refusal)
2	0-0.35	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate
	0.35 – 1.9	brown sandy clay
	>1.9	drill refusal (natural sandstone)
3	0.- 0.35	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate
	0.35-0.5	Brick rubble in a sandy clay matrix

	0.5- 0.8 0.5 – 1.2 1.2-4.5 4.5 – 4.6 4.6 – 4.7 5.1 – 5.5 5.5 – 7.7 7.7 – 12 12	Light brown sandy clay with frequent sandstone Brick rubble an a brown sandy clay matrix with burnt heat affected quartzite. Brown sandy clay with lenses of clay with yellow and grey mottles @ 2.7-2.8m Fragmented sandstone lenses Brown sandy clay Pale yellow fragmentary sandstone Light brown sandy clay with sandstone fragments Pale yellow silty sand Borehole completed
4	00 - 0.35 0.3-1.5 1.5 – 2.75 2.75	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate Brick rubble in a brown sandy clay matrix Brown sandy clay with frequent sandstone fragments Drill refusal
5	0 - 0.35 12.8	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate Probe refusal
6	0 – 0.35 0.35 – 1.8 1.8 – c.2.8 2.8 – 3.2 3.2 – 4.5 4.5 – 5.4 5.4 – 6.5 6.5 – 7.2 7.2 – 13.5 >13.5 16.5	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate Brown sandy clay Reddish brown clay Pale yellow clay Brown sandy clay (moist) Plate yellow clayey silt Dark grey sandy clay (moist) with frequent sandstone fragments Mid brown sandy clay Unconsolidated (loose) angular sandstone fragments with minimal sandy clay matrix Pale yellow clayey silt Probe refusal
7	0 - 0.35 0.3-1.5 2 – 2.5 >2.5 3.15	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate Mixed brick rubble in a brown sandy clay Brick rubble in a brown sandy clay matrix Brown sandy clay (compacted) Drill refusal (natural sandstone)
8	0-0.35 >0.35 1.9	Concrete, and damp proof course (DPC) and loose aggregate brown sandy clay drill refusal (natural sandstone)

DRAWING REGISTER

Dwg. No.	**Figure**	**Description**	**Scale Drawn**	**Reproduced in report at**
3	4	Cross Section of the PDA	1:200	1:200