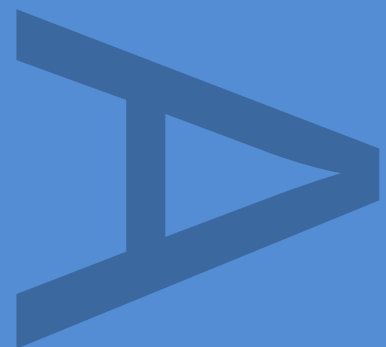


**NORTHUMBRIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
NORTH ROAD, PONTELAND,
NORTHUMBERLAND**

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

6 MARCH 2014



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT NORTHUMBRIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS, NORTH ROAD, PONTELAND, NORTHUMBERLAND

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Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 An historic environment desk-based assessment has been undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited ahead of the proposed re-development of the site of Northumbria Police Headquarters, North Road, Ponteland, Northumberland, NE20 0BL. The work was commissioned by EcoNorth Limited on behalf of Northumbria Police. The re-development scheme would see retention of the existing Communications Building of the Police Headquarters, refurbishment of a number of listed buildings occupying the central part of the site, demolition of the majority of the remaining buildings, and construction of residential housing in various parts of the site.
- 1.2 The site is situated to the north-west of the village of Ponteland, to the east of the A696 and to the west of North Road, from which the site is accessed. It comprises an extensive irregular shaped plot of land covering 23.81 ha, central National Grid Reference NZ 15550 74000. It is bounded to the north by the Small Burn, a tributary of the River Pont, to the west, south and south-east by agricultural fields and to the north-east by housing and a care home complex.
- 1.3 The site is currently occupied by the Northumbria Police Headquarters with the majority of its area having been previously developed. Of the existing buildings, some were built specifically as part of the headquarters, while others were pre-existing. The central and central eastern parts of the current site were originally developed in the early 20th century as 'The Ponteland Cottage Homes', a complex erected by the Newcastle Board of Guardians to house orphans and children of very poor families away from the Union Workhouse on West Road in Newcastle.
- 1.4 The Cottage Homes complex was designed to accommodate children in semi-detached 'cottage blocks' constructed in the Arts and Crafts style. The complex, which was extended in 1913, also included a school, infirmary and workshops, including a blacksmith's shop, and was surrounded by fields used to grow agricultural produce. Designed by architect John Leeson of Newcastle firm Oliver, Leeson and Wood, the main component of the complex was a crescent of semi-detached houses arranged along the north side of a large green. At the eastern end of the crescent was the Superintendent's House. All these buildings survive (as Blocks 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, with Block 13 the former Superintendent's House) and, along with a contemporary outbuilding (Block 27), all are designated as Grade II Listed Buildings.
- 1.5 The other surviving elements of the Cottage Homes complex, located east and south-east of the north crescent, are unlisted. They comprise another semi-detached house block (Block 14-15), two outbuildings to the north of Block 13, the former farm manager's house on the north side of the current entrance to the site, two former school houses at the eastern end of the green, two other semi-detached house blocks (Blocks 18-19 and 20-21) and a detached building (Block 17), extended from its original form, these on the south-east side of the green.

- 1.6 The Cottage Homes complex closed in 1959, and the site was subsequently occupied by Northumberland College of Education, from 1965 until 1981. Many of the utilitarian modern era buildings at the site were constructed as part of this phase of use. Following closure of the college, the site was purchased by the Police Authority and opened as the Northumbria Police Headquarters in November 1981. The current Communications Building of the Police Headquarters occupies the southern central portion of the site. An undeveloped pasture field lies to the west of this while, to the east, occupying the south-westernmost part of the site is a car park and hardstanding training area. The westernmost portion of the site, beyond a belt of long-established woodland, is occupied by a kennels compound for police dogs.
- 1.7 The desk-based assessment was required ahead of a planning application for the proposed re-development. The assessment aimed to determine, as far as reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a 5km radius of the centre of the site. It involved consultation with the Northumberland Historic Environment Record, a visual inspection of the site and examination of relevant and readily available cartographic and documentary material.
- 1.8 The assessment has established that the site contains eight designated heritage assets in the form of the Grade II Listed Buildings: Blocks 1-2; 3-4; 5-6; 7-8; 9-10; 11-12; 13 and; 27, all surviving from the Ponteland Cottage Homes complex. The Grade II Listed Building designation means that the buildings are of medium significance, of historical/architectural importance at a regional level. Furthermore, the buildings represent a rare example of the complete survival of such a complex, one that is probably unique to the region. In addition, the buildings have medium aesthetic value due to their architectural features, and medium communal value due to the social and symbolic values.
- 1.9 The assessment has also identified eleven non-designated heritage assets at the study site, which, although not included on the County Historic Environment Record, were also structural components of the Cottage Homes complex. Of these, ten comprise extant structures: Block 14-15; a sundial associated with Block 14-15; Block 17; Block 18-19; Block 20-2; the former farm manager's house; the two former school houses and; two outbuildings. Unlisted, these assets are considered to be of low significance, of historical/architectural importance at a local level, but certainly offering a contribution to the overall group value of the complex. The unlisted buildings from the Cottage Homes complex are considered to have low or medium aesthetic and communal value. A former swimming pool close to the northern site boundary, traces of which may survive as a buried feature, comprises the eleventh non-designated heritage asset associated with the Cottage Homes complex.
- 1.10 The re-development proposals will evidently see all the listed buildings retained, presumably refurbished for use as residential accommodation, but removal of some of the unlisted components. The precise direct impact on the designated heritage assets cannot be assessed without precise detail of refurbishment works, but, in broad terms, the assessment has concluded that refurbishment would likely result in negligible to moderate impact on the exteriors and interiors of the buildings, depending on the scope of refurbishment work. The direct impact on any non-designated heritage assets which are removed as part of the re-development would, necessarily, be major.

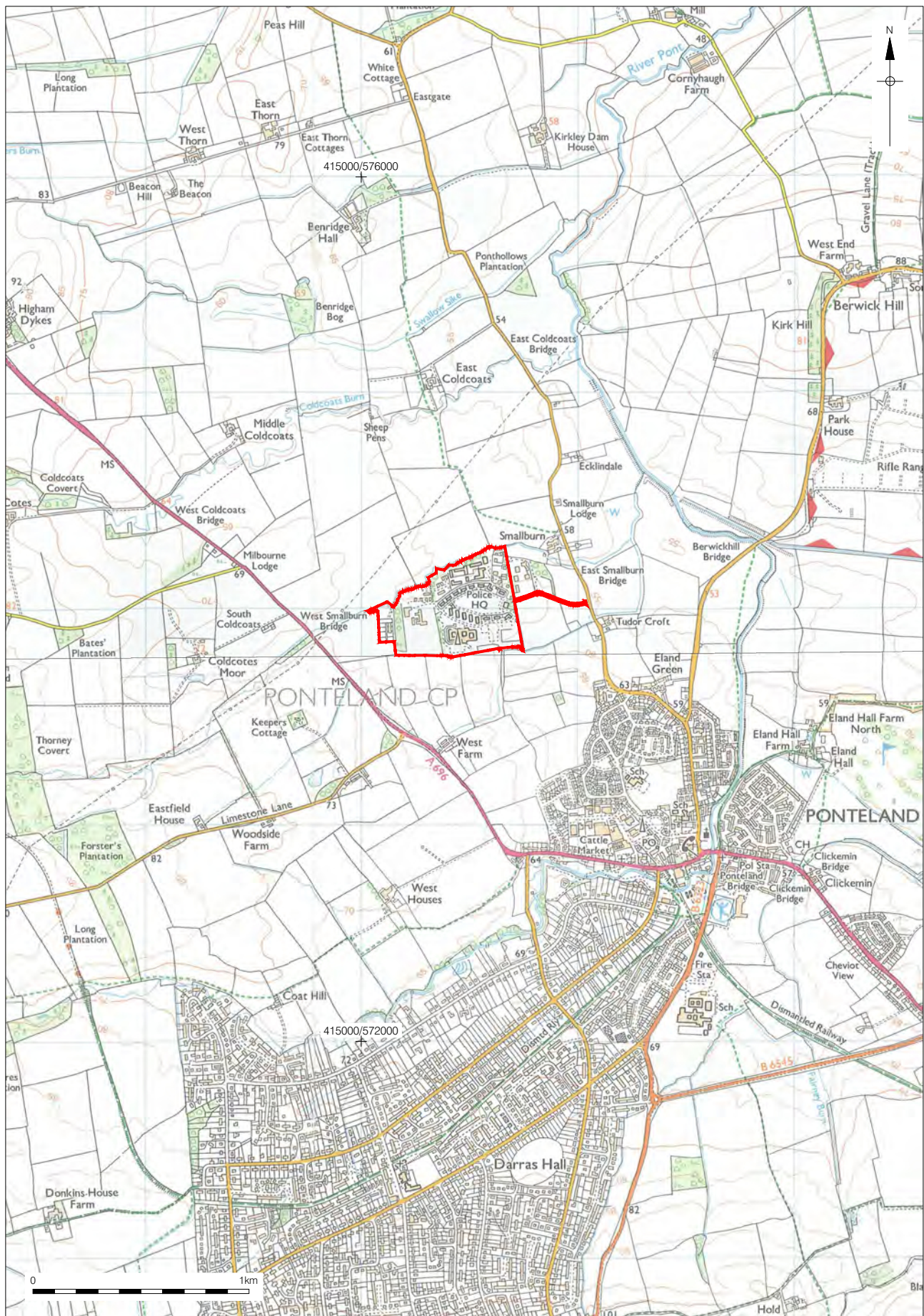
- 1.11 With regard to the impact of the re-development proposals on the setting of the designated heritage assets at the site, the assessment has established that the original essentially rural setting of the Cottage Homes complex, as designed, has already been significantly compromised by the subsequent development of the site as an education college in the 1960s, then as the Northumbria Police Headquarters since the early 1980s. Accordingly, any minor changes within the overall setting of the designated heritage assets are likely to be beneficial rather than adverse, due to the replacement of unsympathetic utilitarian modern 'teaching and office' blocks with residential housing. However, while the effect of the proposed re-development on the setting of the designated heritage assets could be considered as neutral/minor in overall terms, the effect on the setting of the group of buildings as a whole due to the proposed removal of some of its unlisted components should be taken into account. Since such removal could be considered as causing substantial change to the setting, due to the integrity of the design concept of the complex as a whole being lost, the overall effect of the re-development proposals on the setting of the designated heritage assets may, therefore, be judged as being moderate.
- 1.12 In terms of designated and non-designated heritage assets within a 5 km radius of the study site, the assessment has concluded that the proposed re-development would have no direct impact on any such assets and negligible or no indirect impact on these assets, in terms of affecting their setting, either due to the distances involved or to the fact that the study site is already largely developed.
- 1.13 In terms of the potential for buried archaeological remains at the study site, the assessment has concluded that there is low potential for early prehistoric remains, high potential for late prehistoric or Roman remains, low potential for Anglo-Saxon remains, and moderate potential for remains related to medieval and post-medieval usage of the site as agricultural land.
- 1.14 In terms of heritage assets of archaeological interest at the study site – specifically buried archaeological remains - only archaeological field evaluation can establish the actual magnitude of direct impact on any such assets, and thus the overall effect of the proposed scheme on the significance of the historic environment.
- 1.15 The study site lies within an area that was densely settled and farmed during the Late Iron Age and early Roman period and cropmarks from three possible enclosures of this date lie within the very near vicinity, in the fields adjacent to the southern boundary of the site, with many more within a 5km radius of the study site. Any archaeological remains of Late Iron Age or early Roman date at the site would likely be of medium significance with potential to contribute to regional research objectives.
- 1.16 The study site was probably used as farmland during the medieval period. Cartographic evidence demonstrates that, by the turn of the 19th century, it was in use as pasture, part of Smallburn Farm, located to the north-east of the study site. Any archaeological remains of medieval and post-medieval date relating to agricultural use of the land would be, at best, of low significance with potential to contribute to local research objectives.

- 1.17 Given the size of the site and the high potential for archaeological remains of some eras, it is likely that the Local Planning Authority will recommend archaeological field evaluation in order to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains and, if possible, to determine their date, character and extent. Such work would allow the formulation of an appropriate strategy to mitigate the impact of the development proposal on archaeological remains.
- 1.18 Geophysical survey is considered to be a suitable method for the initial identification of sub-surface archaeological features only in the relatively small proportion of previously undeveloped land at the site. In addition, there is some potential for interference with geophysical instrumentation due to the close proximity of buildings and infrastructure, such as the Communications Building and an electricity sub-station.
- 1.19 The Local Planning Authority may also require a programme of historic building recording of some or all of the buildings that formed the Cottage Homes complex. The level of building recording required would be determined by the Planning Authority when detailed proposals for the re-development are available, particularly with regard to refurbishment or removal of buildings that formed the Cottage Homes complex.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Researched and prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA), this historic environment desk-based assessment (DBA) was commissioned by EcoNorth Limited on behalf of Northumbria Police ahead of the proposed re-development of Northumbria Police Headquarters, North Road, Ponteland, Northumberland, NE20 0BL (Figure 1). A Brief for the DBA was issued by Assistant County Archaeologist of Northumberland County Council Conservation Team (NCCCT) (Northumberland County Council 2013).
- 2.1.2 The re-development scheme would see retention of the existing Communications Building, refurbishment of a number of listed buildings (all components of the early 20th-century Ponteland Cottage Homes complex built for orphans and destitute children) occupying the central part of the site, demolition of the majority of the remaining buildings, and construction of residential housing in various defined 'cells' of the site (Figure 18).
- 2.1.3 The proposed development site ('the study site') is situated to the north-west of the village of Ponteland, to the east of the A696 and to the west of North Road. It comprises an extensive plot of land accessed from North Road covering 23.81 ha, bounded to the north by the Small Burn, a tributary of the River Pont, to the west, south and south-east by agricultural fields and to the north-east by housing and a care home complex (Figure 2).
- 2.1.4 Current UK Government planning guidance set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012), see Section 4, indicates that when submitting planning applications for sites with a historic environment dimension to them, developers/applicants are required to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected and, where a proposed development site includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, there is a requirement to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment.
- 2.1.5 In line with current guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2012), the assessment comprised an examination of the historic environment of the study site. In order to place the study site in context, a 'wider study area', with a 5 km radius from the centre of the site was examined, as specified in the Brief. Central to the programme of study was an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information, undertaken in order to identify known and potential heritage assets at the study site and within the wider study area and to establish the interests and significance of those assets.
- 2.1.6 By addressing historic environment issues for the study site and its vicinity, the assessment will allow the formulation of a strategy for mitigating potential impacts on heritage assets by the proposed re-development scheme.
- 2.1.7 The **Online Access** to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS (OASIS) reference number for the project is: preconst1-168811.



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Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4

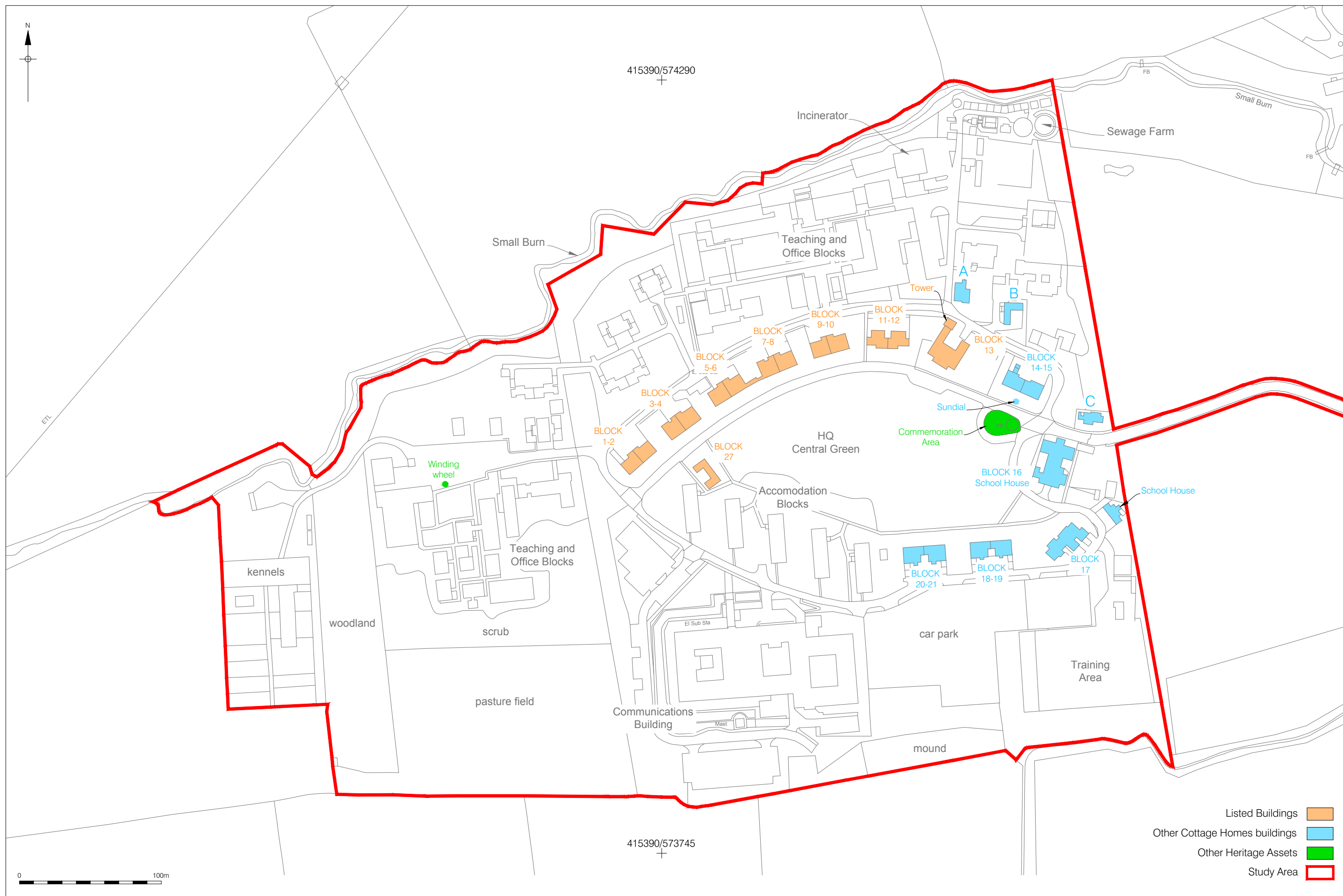


Figure 2
 Detailed Site Location
 1:2,500 at A3

2.2 Site Location and Description

- 2.2.1 The study site lies c. 0.5 km to the north-west of the village of Ponteland, Northumberland and comprises a large area of land currently occupied by the Northumbria Police Headquarters (Figure 1). The majority of the site is developed, much of it occupied by buildings and associated roads, paths and hardstanding for car parks, *etc.* The A696 road is located c. 0.3 km to the west, and North Road, which runs approximately northwards out of Ponteland, is located c. 0.3 km to the east with the River Pont c. 1 km to the east. The site is accessed by a road which leads westwards from North Road to enter the site along its eastern boundary.
- 2.2.2 The study site comprises a roughly triangular parcel of land covering c. 23.81 hectares, at central National Grid Reference NZ 15550 74000 (Figure 2). It measures a maximum of 677m east-west by 507m north-south, narrowing to c. 180m north-south at its western extent and is accessed from the east by a road running westwards from North Road. The tree-lined Small Burn, which is a tributary of the River Pont, forms the northern boundary of the study site. An unnamed tributary of the Pont also bounds a short length of the south-eastern site boundary. To the west, south and south-east, the site is bounded by fields and to the north-east by housing and a care home complex. The majority of the perimeter of the study site is tree-lined.
- 2.2.3 The central eastern part of the study site was originally developed in the early 20th century as 'The Ponteland Cottage Homes' to house orphans and destitute children. The vast majority of this Arts and Crafts style development survives, with eight components, all Grade II Listed Buildings, forming a crescent around the north side of a large roughly oval green, also part of the original development. The remaining components of the former Cottage Homes complex comprise a group of unlisted buildings at the east end and along the south-east side of the green (Figure 2).
- 2.2.4 The eight listed buildings at the site comprise twelve houses, in six semi-detached blocks, in the north crescent (Figure 2; Blocks 1-12), along with the former Superintendent's House to the east (Figure 12; Block 13) and a small outbuilding to the west (Figure 2; Block 27). The remaining unlisted buildings of the former Cottage Homes complex comprise another semi-detached house block (Figure 2; Block 14-15), two outbuildings to the north of Block 13 (Figure 2; Buildings A and B), the former farm manager's house on the north side of the current entrance to the site (Figure 2; Building C), two former school houses at the eastern end of the green (Figure 2; Block 16 School House and School House), a detached building extended from its original form (Figure 2; Block 17) and two other semi-detached house blocks (Figure 2; Blocks 18-19 and 20-21).
- 2.2.5 The remaining buildings at the site are of modern era date, all erected after the closure of the Cottage Homes in 1959. The majority of the buildings in the northern and western parts of the site were built during the period when the study site was utilised as Northumberland College of Education between 1965 and 1981. A group of identical north-south aligned accommodation blocks on the south-west side of the central green date from this period of site usage. Of more recent date is the large Communications Building in the central southern part of the site, this constructed after the site became the Northumbria Police Headquarters in 1981.

- 2.2.6 Figure 2 shows, in detail, the study site at the time of the project herein described and Appendix B comprises a series of photographs of the site and its environs, taken in December 2013. A detailed description of the study site is included as Section 5.7, supported by Plates 1-24 and descriptions of the listed and unlisted buildings are provided in Section 5.3, supported by Plates 25-51.

2.3 Proposed Development Summary

- 2.3.1 The study site is proposed for re-development as a mixed development (Figure 18 shows the indicative proposals in January 2014). In summary, the scheme would see retention of the existing Communications Building of the Police Headquarters, retention and refurbishment of the listed buildings in central part of the site, demolition of the majority of the remaining buildings, and construction of residential housing in various defined 'cells' of the site.

2.4 Scope of Study

- 2.4.1 In accordance with the aforementioned UK Government guidance provided in the NPPF with regard to determining planning applications, this historic environment assessment aims to identify and describe the significance of heritage assets affected by the proposed development, including any contribution made by their setting, at a level of detail proportionate to the importance of the assets and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. In accordance with the aforementioned IfA guidance, the assessment includes appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and the nature, extent and quality of their known and potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest.
- 2.4.2 The starting point for the programme of research of the historic environment of the study site was data held by the LPA in the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER), the most valuable source of baseline data for Northumberland's historic environment, particularly in terms of archaeological information. The assessment also involved a visual inspection of the study site and an examination of other available, relevant documentary and cartographic sources, the latter held at Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives. The collated results of this programme of study have been used to set out a baseline consideration of the heritage assets of the site, thereby allowing their significance to be established in order to elucidate the potential impact of the proposal on that significance.

3. AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The overarching aim of the assessment was to establish, as far as reasonably possible, from existing and available information from the wider study area, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment of the study site. The work will therefore demonstrate that appropriate measures have been taken to assess the likely impact of the proposed scheme on all components of the historic environment and thus provide guidance on ways to accommodate any historic environment issues identified.

3.1.2 The specific objectives of the assessment were:

- to identify all known heritage assets at the study site and within the wider study area;
- to establish the significance of known and predicted heritage assets at the study site and within the wider study area, considering their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests;
- to assess the potential for buried archaeological remains of all eras upon the study site and to predict the likely level of preservation of any such remains through a consideration of the likely extent of previous impacts;
- to assess the impact of the proposed development on the significance and settings of known and predicted heritage assets at the study site and within the wider study area;
- to propose appropriate mitigation strategies aimed at reducing the impacts of the proposed scheme on the historic environment.

3.1.3 As well as these specific objectives, the project was undertaken with reference to the research framework set out in *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (NERRF) (Petts and Gerrard 2006), which highlights the importance of research as a vital element of development-led archaeological work. By setting out key research priorities for all periods of the past, NERRF allows archaeological projects to be related to wider regional and national priorities for the study of archaeology and the historic environment.

3.2 Methodology

3.2.1 In line with the aforementioned current IfA guidance, the assessment comprised an examination of existing and available historic environment data for the wider study area. Central to this was an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information, undertaken in order to identify known and potential heritage assets and to establish the interests and significance of those assets.

- 3.2.2 PCA is an IfA 'Registered Organisation'. The assessment was conducted by PCA under the management of Robin Taylor-Wilson and the principal author was Jennifer Proctor, both members of the IfA at Member (MIfA) grade. Research was undertaken by Aidan Pratt and Jennifer Proctor. Illustrations were compiled by Mark Roughley. Existing survey drawings of the site were provided in electronic format by Northumbria Police, via the commissioning body, EcoNorth Limited.
- 3.2.3 The general approach and methodology was to consider heritage assets at the study site and within the aforementioned wider study area, an area of radius 5 km from the centre of the site, as stipulated in the Brief, to allow for greater contextual information to be gathered. In accordance with the Brief, heritage assets of post-medieval date within the wider 5km study area were not plotted (on Figure 4), but have been quantified and are briefly discussed in Section 5. Further details of heritage assets are set out in Section 4, but, in sum, heritage assets may be nationally or locally designated (by registration, listing or scheduling) or may appear in the national or local archaeological record or may have been identified during the assessment from scrutiny of historic records or the physical landscape (for example, during the undertaking of the site visit). Appendix A comprises a catalogue of all heritage assets dating from before the post-medieval period – as recorded on the HER - within the wider study area.
- 3.2.4 In sum, the assessment involved:
- identifying all relevant sources available for consultation;
 - examining and transcribing all relevant material available at those sources;
 - undertaking a site visit;
 - synthesising and analysing the collected data;
 - preparing the written report and associated figures.
- 3.2.5 The *main* sources consulted during the assessment were:
- The Northumberland HER, as maintained by the Conservation Team of Northumberland County Council (NCCCT). Historic environment data is managed and organised on a computer database, combined with Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping technology. Data on all known designated and non-designated heritage assets in the form of HER entries in the wider study area data was supplied by NCCCT.
 - Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives. This holds local history information, historic photographs and historic maps, including comprehensive historic Ordnance Survey mapping. Material was examined or acquired by a visit in person on 18 December 2013.
- 3.2.6 Further details of all sources consulted are contained in Section 7.

4. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POLICY BACKGROUND

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Key national, regional and local planning policies and guidelines relating to the treatment of the historic environment are outlined in this section.
- 4.1.2 In sum, in considering the re-development proposal, the LPA will be mindful of the planning and legislative framework set by UK Government policy, as well as by current Development Plan policy and by other material considerations. The requirements of the LPA regarding the historic environment are considered as these will be critical regarding possible subsequent work relating to known or potential heritage assets of the site.

4.2 Government Legislation and National Planning Policy

- 4.2.1 Legislation regarding archaeology, including Scheduled Monuments, is contained in the 1979 *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act*, amended by the *National Heritage Acts* of 1983 and 2002.
- 4.2.2 Legislation regarding buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest is contained in the 1990 *Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act*.
- 4.2.3 The aforementioned NPPF came into effect on 27 March 2012, replacing *Planning Policy Statement 5: 'Planning for the Historic Environment'* (PPS5) (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010a) to provide up-dated guidance for LPAs, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of the historic environment. Heritage assets - those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest - remain a key concept of the NPPF, retained from PPS5. Despite the deletion of PPS5, the *PPS5 Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010b) remains a valid and UK Government endorsed document.
- 4.2.4 Chapter 12 of the NPPF '*Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*' describes, in paragraph 126, how LPAs should '*...set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment*' and details, in paragraph 128, that '*In determining applications, LPAs should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum, the relevant HER should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, LPAs should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and where necessary [the results of] a field evaluation*'.

- 4.2.5 As mentioned above, the concept of **heritage assets** had been introduced by PPS5 as ‘A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Heritage assets are the valued components of the historic environment. They include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process (including local listing)’ and **significance** was defined in PPS5 as ‘...the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic’.
- 4.2.6 Thus for the purposes of national policy, all heritage assets designated under any legislation, whether that be World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Registered Historic Battlefields or Protected Wreck Sites, have now been merged into one category of **designated heritage assets**. English Heritage maintains ‘The National Heritage List for England’, a searchable database of all nationally designated heritage assets, is available online at the *English Heritage* website.
- 4.2.7 In sum, the NPPF provides a framework which:
- requires applicants to provide proportionate information on heritage assets affected by their proposals and an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the significance of those heritage assets;
 - takes into account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets;
 - protects the settings of heritage assets;
 - allows LPAs to require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact upon them, and to make this evidence publicly accessible.

4.3 Regional and Local Planning Policy

- 4.3.1 All Regional Spatial Strategies were proposed for revocation by the UK Government in 2010. Revocation of the 2008 *Regional Strategy for the North East of England* was confirmed when the *Localism Act* was passed in November 2011 and a statutory instrument was laid in Parliament by the Secretary of State in March 2013 to revoke the *Regional Strategy for the North East*.
- 4.3.2 The Local Planning Authority is Northumberland County Council, which is currently preparing its Local Plan, of which the key components will be the Development Plan Documents (DPDs), the Core Strategy DPD and Delivery DPD, as well as Local Development Framework (LDF) and Adopted Local Plan documents, with the latter including some of the planning policies developed by the previous county council and six districts, all of which are listed in the 2013 Northumberland Consolidated Planning Policy Framework (available on the *Northumberland County Council* website).

4.3.3 Therefore, current planning policies relating the historic environment are those 'saved' from the Local Plans of the various former District Councils and, until finalisation of the Local Plan those policies remain in place to guide and determine planning applications in Northumberland (excluding the Northumberland National Park).

4.3.4 Policies retained from the former Castle Morpeth District Local Plan (2003), which relate to the historic environment are:

Policy C38 - It will be the policy of the council to protect listed buildings and buildings of architectural merit or historic interest, together with their setting, against unsuitable development.

Policy C39 - The council will seek the preservation and enhancement of scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important archaeological sites and their settings. Development proposals which would be detrimental to those sites and their settings will not be permitted.

Policy C40 - The council will not permit development which would be detrimental to regionally or locally important archaeological sites or their settings unless the proposed development is of overriding regional importance and no alternative site is available.

Policy C41 - Where the impact of a development proposal on an archaeological site, or the relative importance of such a site is unclear, the council will require the developer to provide further information in the form of an archaeological assessment and, where appropriate, an archaeological evaluation. Applications for planning permission will not be determined until adequate assessment of the impact of proposals on the archaeological site and its setting has been carried out.

Policy C42 - Where the council decides to grant planning permission for development which will affect sites known to contain archaeological remains, and preservation in situ is not appropriate, an archaeological evaluation. Applications for planning permission will not be determined until adequate assessment of the impact of proposals on the archaeological site and its setting has been carried out.

4.3.4 NCCCT has responsibility for development control in relation to the historic environment in Northumberland. In this instance, NCCCT, on behalf of the LPA, will advise regarding the potential implications of the re-development proposal with regard to the historic environment.

5. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT BASELINE DATA

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section has, at its core, data acquired from Northumberland HER, which includes information on designated and non-designated heritage assets, including archaeological sites and historic buildings, and archaeological ‘events’ (*i.e.* archaeological fieldwork and historic building recording/survey). Each HER entry, whether that is for a site, building or event, is allocated a reference number, *e.g.* HER 1234. As previously mentioned, a wider study area of radius 5 km from the centre of the study site was examined, however, in accordance with the Brief issued for the DBA, entries of post-medieval date have not been plotted on the supporting figure (Figure 4).
- 5.1.2 In addition to the summary discussion of heritage assets in this section, all components of the historic environment resource pre-dating the post-medieval period are plotted, with sequential reference numbers arranged by archaeological period, on the supporting figure (Figure 4). Full details of the plotted HER entries can be found in Appendix A.
- 5.1.3 The assessment does not attempt to set out a comprehensive history of land use of the area in which the study site lies. The broad intention is only to predict and extrapolate likely archaeological conditions at the study site from finds and research in the vicinity. Analysis of archaeological discoveries made in the wider area of the study site is a crucial component of the process of assessment, since it is recognised that finds and sites entered onto the HER are at best a small and unrepresentative sample of the total buried archaeological resource.
- 5.1.4 The following sub-section describes the geology and topography of the study site in order to set the subsequent historic environment data in context.

5.2 Geological, Topographical and Landscape Context

- 5.2.1 The solid geology of the part of the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain in which the study site lies is the Stainmore Formation, this being mudstone, sandstone and limestone sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 313 to 326 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period (*British Geological Survey* website). Numerous coal seams are present across the region and the geology was formerly worked for coal, via deep and surface mines, although no extraction currently takes place in the immediate area, and the landscape of the region has been heavily modified by mining and industrial activity.
- 5.2.2 The superficial geology of the area consists of glacial debris, technically Devensian Till, which generally takes the form of ‘boulder clay’. The superficial geology has also been extensively exploited, for the production of bricks for industrial buildings and infrastructure as well as to construct houses for the population serving the coal mines and other industries. A band of alluvial material is also known to overlie the solid geology along the course of the Small Burn in the northern margin of the study site, with an area extending into the study site.

- 5.2.3 Within the context of the *Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment*, the study site lies on the western edge of the South East Northumberland Coastal Plan (Area 13) (Natural England 2013). The assessment sums up the area thus:

'A flat, low-lying strip along the coast of the North Sea, extending from north Tyneside in the south to Amble and the Coquet Estuary in the north. It is largely urbanised in the south and more rural to the north, with large fields, restored and active open cast coal mines and a coast of rocky headlands and wide, sandy bays. Rural areas support mixed farming, with fields divided by low, often intermittent hedgerows and few trees. The underlying geology has had a significant effect on the character of the area. Its accessible seams of coal which have been mined from the 13th century to the present day are of great economic importance to the area. Large built-up areas including former mining towns; large-scale industrial and commercial land uses; significant human features, including dual carriageways, railways, pylons, and chimneys; and residential areas of a range of ages'.

- 5.2.4 The countryside around the village of Ponteland is typical of the commonly flat, occasionally undulating landscape of the coastal plain. It is a countryside divided into large fields, usually in arable but some under pasture, with dispersed farms, thin hedges and only relatively little tree cover.
- 5.2.5 The Small Burn, an east-flowing tributary of the River Pont, forms the northern boundary of the study site, and the River Pont flows north-westwards, at its closest point c. 800m to the north-east of the site. A small length of an unnamed watercourse, which flows into the Small Burn, bounds the south-eastern side of the study site.
- 5.2.6 Prestwick Carr, now a large expanse of wet grassland, lies c. 2 km to the east of the study site. Because of its importance, this geological/topographical feature is discussed in some detail. Prestwick Carr was the site of a large shallow glacial lake which developed into marshland as water levels fell in the post-glacial period. Boreholes sunk in the centre of the Carr in the 1930s revealed from top to bottom c. 0.30m of gravel and soil, c. 3–4.9m of peat with grey silt or marl at the base (Harbottle 1995, 1). The results of this work were interpreted as demonstrating that the Carr originated as open water, a large lake fed by several small local streams, but mainly by the Pont. As silt, reeds and mosses grew a peaty marsh was formed and in drier times areas of vegetation and trees expanded across the surface of the marsh. Pollen samples show that pine predominated at first with some hazel followed by an increase in alder and hazel in later periods (Raistrick and Blackburn 1932). The National Coal Board subsequently drilled more boreholes through the Carr and revealed that the grey sandy clay and silt at the base of the Carr was c. 13.50m thick (Harbottle 1995, 1).
- 5.2.7 Prestwick Carr would have been a valuable resource to past communities offering a wide range of habitats with rich resources such as aquatic birds and animals, fish, peat and marshland grazing. Attempts to drain the Carr began in the medieval period when drains were dug through it and this activity continued intermittently over the next few centuries; accounts from the 18th century refer to such drainage work taking place (Harbottle 1995, 4). The drainage work was presumably intended to increase the availability of grazing land as well as protecting the enclosed farmland on the edges of the marshland (*ibid.*). This work was carried out on a small-scale basis by groups of tenants when required (Maddison 1830).

- 5.2.8 This early attempt at drainage was unsuccessful; the Pont was not prevented from flooding the area and the Carr remained as a body of water. Armstrong's map of 1769 depicts Prestwick Carr as a large body of water and marshland (see Figure 6). Fryer's map of 1820 also shows a large lake with a smaller body of water to the south encircled by marshland (see Figure 8). Greenwood's map of 1828 (see Figure 9) depicts much smaller bodies of water; the main lake has been reduced to a narrow stretch of water with small pools to the south, all surrounded by a large expanse of marshland.
- 5.2.9 Prestwick Carr was enclosed in 1853 (Tate 1942-1946) and the planning and execution of the drainage system completed by 1857 and the roads and allotments by the following year (Harbottle 1995, 7). The scheme involved the construction of a new main drain leading from the Carr, the diversion and enlargement of the River Pont from Coldcoats Burn upstream to a point beyond a weir on the Pont, newly constructed as part of the scheme and a new bridge to carry Berwick Hill Road (to the east of North Road) over the drain. Drains, culverts, banks and bridges were then constructed across the Carr itself. The watercourses ran in long straight lines across the Carr, often parallel to the roads, and the allotment of land was governed by this pattern of drains. After land had been sold by auction and had been given to the lord of Mitford Manor and churchwardens around the Carr, the remaining land was allotted to property owner's based on their holdings on the Tithe Map. These allotments were generally absorbed into the adjacent farms and the original shape of the Carr disappeared. Like earlier small-scale attempts, this ambitious scheme was ultimately unsuccessful as intermittent flooding still occurred and good agricultural land was not created. Despite a large-scale attempt to drain the land and reduce the risk of flooding in 1945-1946 by the Northumberland Rivers Catchment Board, intermittent flooding still continues to this day. The Carr continues to comprise a large area of wet grassland which is a haven for wading birds and other wildlife. The wet fields to the south of the Carr are now managed by the Northumberland Wildlife Trust.
- 5.2.10 The entire South East Northumberland Coastal Plain is low lying, with land rarely rising above 70m OD. There are some gentle summits and the land slopes eastwards to the coast. The western part of the study site slopes down from a level of c. 65.0m OD adjacent to the western boundary to 61.50m OD adjacent to the Small Burn in the central northern boundary of the site. The oval green, around which the complex of Cottage Homes were built, rises slightly from a level of c. 60.50m OD in the south-west to c. 61.50m OD in the north-east. Land along the eastern margins of the site lies at c. 58.70m OD, while land in its north-eastern corner adjacent to the Small Burn is at c. 57m OD, with the base of the valley of the burn in this area lying at c. 55.25m OD.

5.3 Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.3.1 The study site does not lie within a World Heritage Site, nor does it contain a Scheduled Monument, or lie within a Registered Battlefield or Registered Park and Garden, as defined, by English Heritage. There are also no examples of such sites within the wider study area.
- 5.3.2 No part of the study site lies within a Conservation Area and the nearest such designation is the 'Ponteland Conservation Area' which comprises the historic core of Ponteland lying c. 1 km to the south-east of the study site.

- 5.3.3 There are eight listed buildings - all Grade II - within the study site (Figure 2). These buildings – all located in the central eastern part of the site - were components of the Ponteland Cottage Homes complex erected at the beginning of the 20th century by the Newcastle Board of Guardians to house orphans and the children of very poor families away from the Union Workhouse on West Road, Newcastle (on the site of the present General Hospital). A 70-acre rural site was designed to accommodate 300 children in eighteen semi-detached houses forming nine ‘cottage blocks’ (Higginbotham 2014). The nine blocks were designed with slight variations so that very young and new children would be able to recognise their home more easily.
- 5.3.4 The architect of the Cottage Homes was John Leeson of Oliver, Leeson and Wood of Newcastle and the complex was built in the Arts and Crafts style which was popular in the early 20th century. The complex comprised a main crescent of semi-detached houses for children’s accommodation and a Superintendent’s House on the north side of a large open green, a smaller group of semi-detached houses on the south-eastern side of green, and, further east, other buildings for various purposes. The complex, which was extended in 1913, also included a school, infirmary, farm and workshops, including a blacksmith’s shop. The land around the buildings was farmed to produce food for the Cottage Homes. Figure 3 shows a detail of the Ordnance Survey third edition map of 1916 which depicts the ‘Ponteland Cottage Homes (Newcastle Union)’ complex at that date.
- 5.3.5 The eight Grade II Listed Buildings at the site comprise twelve houses, in six semi-detached blocks, in the north crescent (Figure 2; Blocks 1-12; Plates 25-37 show the buildings in detail), along with the former Superintendent’s House to the east, with ornate water tower at its rear (Figure 12; Block 13; Plates 38-41) and a small outbuilding to the west (Figure 2; Block 27 Plate 42). An account of life in the Cottage Homes in the 1940s and 1950s by a resident (extract reproduced below) indicates that during this period this outbuilding was used as a cobbler’s workshop.
- 5.3.6 The remainder of the buildings of the former Cottage Homes complex are unlisted and are described in more detail as non-designated heritage assets in Section 5.4, below. In brief, to the east of the Superintendent’s House is another semi-detached house block (Block 14-15; Plate 44-46). Two outbuildings stand to the north of Block 13 (Figure 2; Buildings A and B). Building A is a single-storey structure, currently Block 56 (Plate 43). The account by the former resident indicates that these were farm buildings during the 1940s and 1950s. To the north of the entrance into the complex is a small building (Figure 2; Building C), which was formerly occupied by the farm manager. At the entrance to the complex, at the eastern end of the green, is a large building with a cupola (Block 16; Plates 47 and 48), originally a school house. On the south-eastern side of the green are two other semi-detached house blocks originally used for accommodation (Block 18-19; Plate 50 and Block 20-21; Plate 51). The original function of the two-storey building to the east (Block 17; Plate 49) is not known. To the east, close to the site boundary, is another small building also evidently originally a school house.

5.3.7 A postcard of the Cottage Homes, using a photograph taken around the time when construction was nearing completion in 1905 (Figure 14), shows a view taken from the entrance looking westwards. The school house can be seen to the left and the Superintendent's House with water tower to the rear to the right. The north crescent of accommodation blocks can be seen in the rearground. Photograph of the gated entrance to the Cottage Homes complex and the north crescent were taken soon after its completion, therefore c. 1910 (Figures 15 and 16). A later photograph, dating from c. 1930, shows children playing in the front gardens of houses on the north crescent (Figure 17).

5.3.8 The English Heritage listing for each building is reproduced below.

Blocks 1-2 and 3-4; English Heritage Listed Building ID 238838, HER 21682

(Figure 2; Plates 25-28)

Cottage homes for children. 1903 by Leeson for the Newcastle Board of Guardians. Now Police Headquarters and college. Cavity walls in stretcher bond brick; partly pebble dashed and painted. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses in Domestic Revival style. Block 1-2: Consciously asymmetrical facade with one gable to left and 2 to right. 2 storeys, 6 bays. Half-glazed doors in 2nd and 5th bays. Ipswich windows in outer bays, those on 1st floor in half-dormers with semi-circular pediments. Half-timbered gables with bargeboards. Hipped roof with 3 boarded ridge stacks. Block 3-4: also asymmetric 6-bay facade with similar doors. 2-storey, 5-sided bay window under pedimented gable in 4th bay. Hipped roof with half-hipped transverse roofs over outer bays. 3 corniced stacks. A good example of buildings for the enlightened approach to child care in the early 20th century.

Blocks 5-6 and 7-8; English Heritage Listed Building ID 238839 HER 21683

(Figure 2; Plates 29-32)

Cavity walls in stretcher bond brick; partly pebble dashed and painted. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses in Domestic Revival style. Block 5-6. Consciously asymmetrical facade. 2 storeys, 6 bays. No. 5 has door with cornice and 2-light window above under gable; canted bay window to left. No. 6 has door with segmental head and canted bay window over; bay window to right. Hipped roof with 4 gables of varying sizes; and over right bay a large Flemish gable. 3 corniced stacks. Recent extension to right is not of special interest Block 7-8: almost symmetrical; only the doors break the symmetry. Door to No. 7 is in a 2-storey porch while door to No. 8 has a canted oriel over. Single-storey bay windows in outer bays. 2- and 3-light windows in moulded wood frames. Barge boarded cross gables over outer bays and similar smaller gables over centre bays. Hipped roof with 3 corniced stacks.

Blocks 9-10 and 11-12; English Heritage Listed Building ID 238840, HER 21684

(Figure 2; Plates 33-38)

Cavity walls in stretcher-bond brick, partly pebble dashed and painted. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses in Domestic Revival style. Consciously asymmetrical. Block 9-10: 2 storeys, 6 bays. Doorway to No. 9 has cornice over; No. 10 has semi-circular hood. No. 9 has a canted bay window; No. 10 a bay window. 2- and 3-light windows in moulded wood surrounds. Cross gables over 1st and 3rd bays; bay 4 has gabled half-dormer; bays 5 and 6 under one large cross gable. Hipped roof with 3 brick-corniced stacks. Block 11-12: 9 bays. Doorways with semi-circular hoods on brackets; No. 11 has a large bay window over; No. 12 has a round-headed window. Centre 2 bays have tripartite windows in moulded wood surrounds; semi-circular pediments over 1st floor windows. To left, 3 bays with 12-pane sashes and 1st floor dentilled string. To right canted bay window. Over centre bays 2 Flemish gables. Roof hipped on left with octagonal lateral shaft; gabled on right with end stack.

Block 13; English Heritage Listed Building ID 238841, HER 21685

(Figure 2; Plates 38-41)

Superintendent's House of cottage homes for children. 1903 by Leeson for the Newcastle Board of Guardians. Now Police Headquarters and college. Cavity wall in stretcher bond; pebble dashed and painted on 1st floor. Welsh slate roof. House with linking range of offices and water tower attached to rear. Domestic Revival style. House: 2 storeys plus attics, 3 bays with single-storey 1-bay side wings. Central 2-leaf, 6-panel door, and fanlight with radiating glazing bars under semicircular hood. Canted 5-sided bay windows on ground floor with 12- and 8-pane sashes. 12-pane sashes above. Dentil cornice. High hipped roof with 2 hipped dormers and tall corniced lateral stacks. Single-storey wings have 12-pane sashes; canted bay windows on returns. Single-storey 6-bay linking range to rear has 12-pane sashes. Tall, square water tower with cornice, large stone water spouts at corners and tall parapet with scalloped top.

Block 27; English Heritage Listed Building ID 238842, HER 21686

(Figure 2; Plates 22 and 42)

Workshops for cottage homes. 1903 for the Newcastle Board of Guardians. Now Police workshops. Cavity walls with stretcher bond brick. Welsh slate roof. 3 ranges forming U-plan. Single-storey, 5 x 3 bays. 2-light windows in moulded wood surrounds. 12-pane sash in each light. Hipped roof with 2 corniced stacks. 2 boarded doors, and boarded double doors to rear. Included for group value and historical interest as a survival of industrial training for boys in care.

- 5.3.9 An article printed at the time of construction of the Cottage Homes in *The Builder* (June 1901) described the complex:

'COTTAGE HOMES, PONTELAND, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE — Cottage homes are being erected at Ponteland by the Newcastle Board of Guardians for the accommodation of destitute children. About seventy acres of ground have been secured. Entering from the Kirkley-road by a new thoroughfare that is being constructed across the fields, the first building will be the superintendent's house, which will also contain the stores and offices. Four double blocks of cottages will be constructed and one half-block, the latter being intended at first as an isolation hospital in the event of any outbreak of disease amongst the children: but in the event of more accommodation being required later on it can be converted into a home and another building erected as a hospital. It is also part of the scheme to erect a workshop for the teaching of trades, such as plumber, joiner, shoemaker, &c., the instruction being given by qualified tradesmen who will be appointed under the title of foster fathers to each block. The intention is to appoint respectable married tradesmen to these positions. Then there are stables and out-offices to be used in connection with the working, of the land, part of which will be laid out as kitchen gardens, part as a plantation, and part as arable land. A plentiful supply of spring water has been obtained by boring. The buildings will be of red brick with slated roofs. The larger block of cottages will accommodate forty children, and the three smaller blocks thirty each. The architects are Messrs. Oliver, Leeson, & Wood, and the builder is Mr. Henderson, of Ponteland. Mr. Humphrey Atkinson has been appointed clerk of the works'.

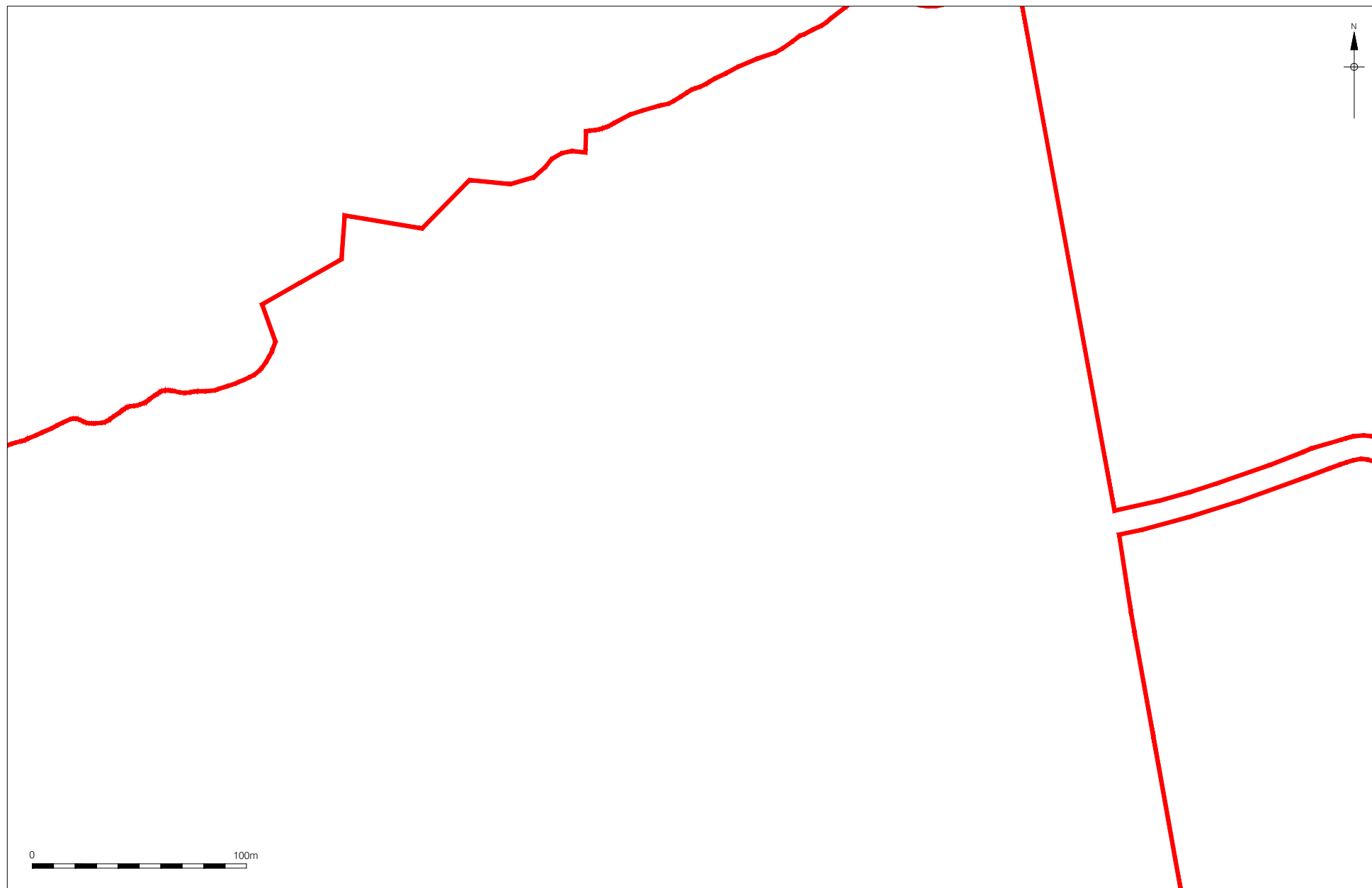
- 5.3.10 An account of life in the Ponteland Cottage Homes by Eric Coulson, a resident from 1946 to 1957, details the internal layout of the accommodation blocks and also describes the wider complex and life within (published on the *Children's Cottage Homes* website):

'All the houses were big semi-detached, and had big coal fed central heating boiler systems with big cast iron radiators. Each house had the same layout, Best room, large lounge, large kitchen with walk in pantry, bathroom, separate room with sinks, back hall walk in cupboard room for shoes, coats, some cleaning stuff and outside by the coal house a row of six toilets for us. Upstairs there were two dormitories (six beds in each), one double bedroom and one single. During this time at No. 10 I can vaguely remember going down to our swimming baths on a hot sunny day - a full sized baths down the field behind No 10, and the building was made from corrugated iron.

I think the playing field at the Homes were about six acres with one set of swings. The houses surrounded the field, i.e. 14 semis and the super's on the north side, with a road running all around them, and four semis and south house on the south side, with the road coming from the gate around the front of the school behind south house and south 1 to 4 to a dead end.

All the houses had front gardens and back yards, the cobbler's was on the west, and the school on the east, the carpenter's shop was between and back from the school and south house. The farm manager lived at the other side of the road from the school, on the north side, and the entrance gates were between them. The farm buildings were north and behind again from the super's house.

In the Homes we had a small farm. In season we could go and pick gooseberries, raspberries and so on, we grew our own vegetables, and went to the back of the superintendent's house for the rest of our groceries. It was like an old fashioned shop, everything in sacks, and it would be weighed out into brown paper bag'.



- 5.3.11 The Local Government Act of 1929 abolished the Board of Guardians and their responsibilities were transferred to Newcastle City Council who administered the Cottage Homes until their closure in 1959. The site was purchased by Northumberland County Council and in 1965 opened as the Northumberland College of Education. Following its closure in 1981, the site was purchased by the Police Authority and opened as the headquarters of Northumbria Police.

5.4 Non-designated Heritage Assets

- 5.4.1 The distribution of non-designated heritage assets pre-dating the post-medieval period, as discussed below, is plotted on the supporting figure (Figure 4).

Early Prehistoric

- 5.4.2 Evidence for Palaeolithic activity in the North-East is sparse and few artefacts of this date have been discovered (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 14). Occupation of the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain will have been transient since the end of the last glaciation, around 10,000 years ago. Scatters of Mesolithic lithics are more widely found in the region and there is significant evidence for more permanent occupation along the coastline, the site at Howick being of particular importance (Waddington 2007). The only Mesolithic evidence in the broad vicinity of the study site listed on the HER comprises a small scatter of flints discovered at Heddon Law (HER 10881), on the very south-west edge of the wider study area (Figure 4; Ref. 1).
- 5.4.3 Neolithic flint scatters are also found across the region, but evidence for more permanent occupation is sparse across the coastal plain (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 24). The antiquarian discovery of two polished whinstone Neolithic axes is recorded on the HER (HER 10993), although the precise location of the find is unknown and they are described as coming from 'Ponteland Carr' (possibly part of Prestwick Carr), one evidently having been discovered during drainage work. The location given on Figure 4 (Ref. 2) must therefore be considered only indicative of the general area in which the axes were found.
- 5.4.4 Evidence of Bronze Age activity is much more widespread across the region, as represented by mortuary monuments in the form of cairns and barrows (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 24; 26). At Heddon Laws, c. 5km to the south-west of the study site, the remains of a Bronze Age round cairn (HER 10867) lies on a natural hillock (Figure 4; Ref. 3). The cairn, constructed from stone and earth, is 25m in diameter and was investigated by a limited excavation in 1925. This revealed part of a stone wall 0.80m high within the cairn and several flint artefacts were recovered. The mound was later adapted and historic documents refer to a beacon in 1549 as part of a signalling defence against raiding in the border warfare in the Middle Ages. There are antiquarian reports of Bronze Age cists at Eachwick Hall (HER 10973), possibly the site of a cemetery, located c. 5 km south-west of the study site (Figure 4; Ref. 4). The HER also records the discovery of a Bronze Age beaker from 'Ponteland Carr' (HER 10996). As with the Neolithic axes described above, the precise location of this find is unknown and the location given on Figure 4 (Ref. 5) is therefore indicative only. A c. 18m diameter ring ditch, which may represent a 'ploughed out' barrow, is recorded east of Fairney Burn, c. 1.80 km to the south-east of the study site (Figure 4; Ref. 6).

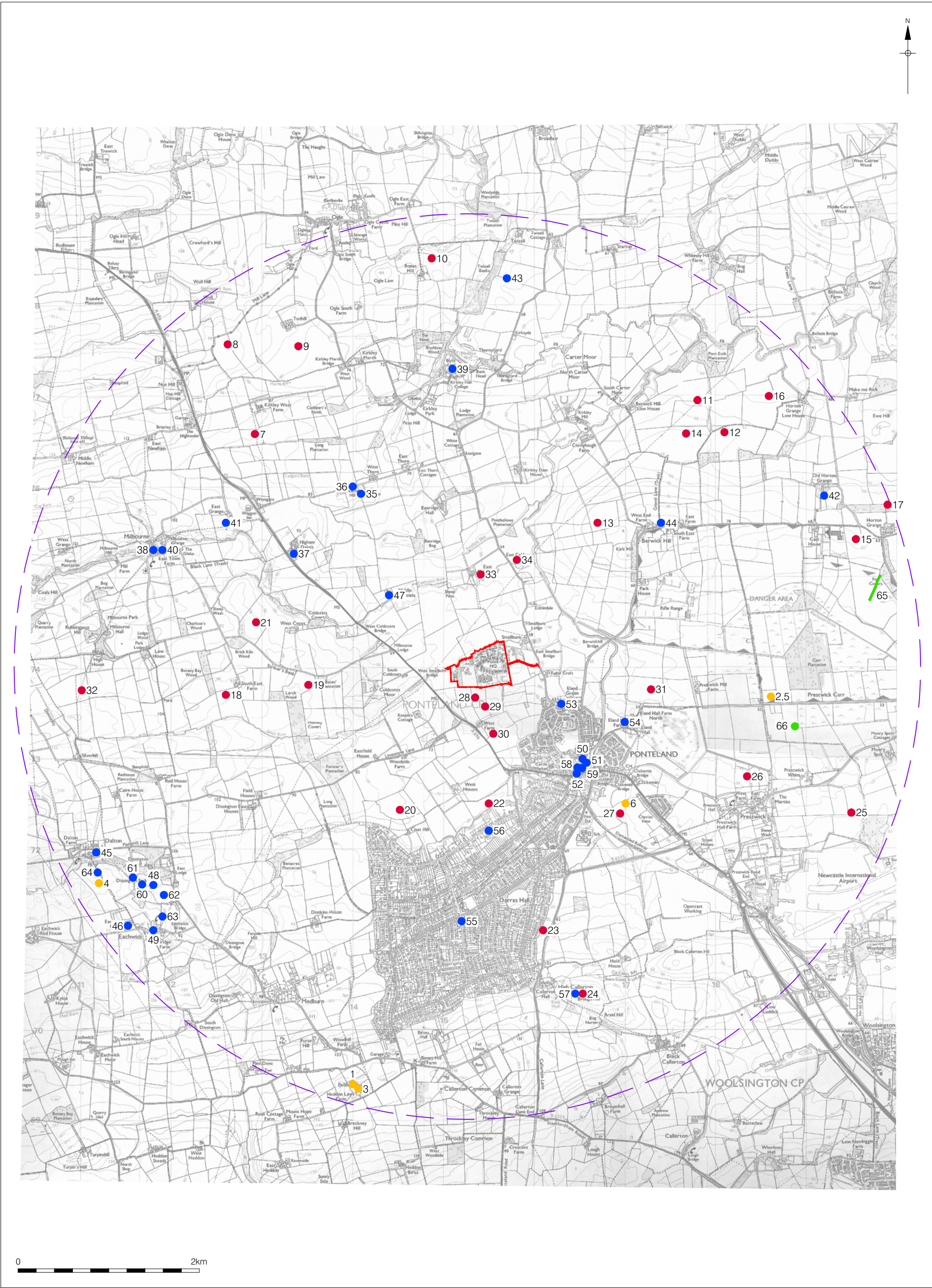


Figure 4
HER Locations
1:40,000 at A3

- 5.4.5 Four pit alignments of Late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date have been recorded during archaeological excavations in advance of opencast mining along the coastal plain in the broad vicinity of the study site; none of which were previously known through aerial photography (Hodgson *et al.* 2012, 107). One such alignment, discovered at Fox Covert, Horton Grange, c. 4 km north-east of the study site, is not listed in the HER (Figure 4; Ref. 65). The alignment extended for a distance of 375m NNE-SSW and comprised numerous closely-set sub-rectangular pits. Two other pit alignments have been discovered to the north-east of the study site in the Shotton area, to the west of Cramlington, and another during investigations at Blagdon Park (Delhi surface mine), in the area between the Fox Covert alignment and the Shotton alignment (*ibid.*, 107).
- 5.4.6 Pit alignments were established during various phases of prehistory, including during the Late Neolithic, but examples of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date are particularly prolific across the eastern side of the country and point to large-scale and planned division of the land at this time (Deegan and Foard 2007). In North Yorkshire, pit alignments are regarded as a system of boundaries defining the limits of farming units (Spratt 1993). The Fox Covert pit alignment would have been located perpendicular to the shore of Prestwick Carr, which during prehistory was not drained and would have been a valuable resource to communities providing a range of resources such as aquatic birds and animals, fish, peat and marshland grazing (Hodgson *et al.* 2012, 185). A possible parallel alignment has been identified by geophysical survey c. 1.30 km to the east of Fox Covert at Gardner's Houses Farm (Biggins *et al.* 1997). These pit alignments may have apportioned areas of Prestwick Carr between communities.
- 5.4.7 The discovery of the four previously unknown pit alignments described above in advance of opencast mining in this area is of considerable significance as it raises the possibility that many more such features may be located in the region (Hodgson *et al.* 2012, 185). Also of significance is the fact that these alignments were being constructed at a time when only fragmentary evidence for settlement is known; their existence indicates that there was sufficient competition for landscape resources and that farming communities with a high level of communal organisation must have been well established by this period (*ibid.*, 186). Scientific dating methods have demonstrated that the Fox Covert alignment and one of the Shotton alignments remained visible in the landscape into the Late Iron Age period.

Iron Age

- 5.4.8 The study site lies within a landscape which is known to have been densely occupied by agricultural settlements and extensively farmed during the Late Iron Age and early Roman period. Numerous rectilinear enclosures have been identified on aerial photographs across the region (Burgess 1984, 163; Petts and Gerrard 2006, 37). Several examples of small ditched settlements, thought to represent single household farmsteads, were excavated by George Jobey from the 1950s to 1980s. These investigations were generally conducted as 'rescue excavations' ahead of the destruction of the sites by development and with limited time and resources excavation focused on the ditch circuit and internal areas. More recent large-scale developer funded excavations in advance of housing schemes and opencast mining have revealed evidence for a wider range of settlement types and, in some cases, for extensive field systems associated with settlements (Proctor 2009, 101).

- 5.4.9 Excavations undertaken ahead of the Newcastle Great Park housing development revealed two ditched settlements at East and West Brunton, c. 8 km south-east of the study site (Hodgson *et al.* 2012). At East Brunton, a palisaded enclosure of Early Iron Age date gave way to a phase of open settlement from c. 400 BC. A substantial rectilinear ditched habitation enclosure dating from the Late Iron Age period was situated within the area of excavation with an adjacent enclosure partly exposed. External ditches indicated the presence of field boundaries associated with these enclosures. At West Brunton, an extensive unenclosed settlement of mid Iron Age date was also revealed and this too was superseded by a phase of enclosed settlement with two rectilinear enclosures which seem to have been situated within a much larger outer enclosure (Hodgson *et al.* 2012, 96).
- 5.4.10 Excavations in advance of opencast mining at a site (BP2) at Blagdon Park, situated c. 8 km north-east of the study site, revealed a substantial rectangular enclosure of Late Iron Age date defined by two concentric ditches with the remains of over 40 circular roundhouses, including some which may have pre-dated the enclosure, representing an initial phase of unenclosed settlement (Hodgson *et al.* 2012). An unenclosed settlement with roundhouses and fields was also excavated at another site (BP1) at Blagdon Park.
- 5.4.11 Large-scale excavation in 2000 at Pegswood Moor, Morpeth, ahead of opencast mining revealed a multi-phase settlement with areas of habitation set within extensive field and enclosure systems (Proctor 2009). Roundhouses were enclosed by ditches of much smaller proportions than the ditched enclosures previously identified in the region and it is noteworthy that this settlement and its extensive field systems were not visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs of the site. This was presumed to be due to a combination of the relatively insubstantial nature of most of the features coupled with the fact that the ditches contained little organic or occupation debris and were infilled with soils of very similar composition to the natural clay through which they were cut. This work was instrumental in highlighting the fact that it is possible for hitherto unknown substantial and extensive settlements to be present on the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain.
- 5.4.12 Numerous cropmark sites identified on aerial photographs are listed on the HER in the vicinity of the study site. Without excavation it is not possible to determine their date of origin, but the form of the cropmarks broadly indicates that they are likely to represent Iron Age settlements. As discussed above, the excavated examples of such sites along the coastal plain in the vicinity of the site are all of Late Iron Age date, with many having earlier origins as unenclosed settlements. This work has also revealed that occupation of these enclosed settlements ceased by the second century AD at the latest.
- 5.4.13 Three cropmark enclosure sites have been identified, as part of the Hadrian's Wall mapping programme, in the fields to the immediate south of the study site. The closest to the site (HER 23923; Figure 4; Ref. 28) comprises three sides of a curvilinear enclosure located near the higher end of an area of sloping ground and measures 56m long by 47m at its widest, south-west end. Located to the south-east in the same field is a rectilinear enclosure (HER 23924; Figure 4; Ref. 29). This enclosure, which measures 43m by 35m and occupies sloping ground, is not quite completely visible, being cut by a modern field boundary; one of its corners is broadly curved but the remainder are sharply angled.

- 5.4.14 To the south-west of West Farm, c. 0.6 km south of the study site, is another rectilinear cropmark enclosure (HER 23925; Figure 4; Ref. 30). This example lies on sloping ground and measures 58m by 55m. Two corners of the enclosure are more sharply angled than the other two. To the north-east of the enclosure is a probable boundary ditch running parallel with the side of the enclosure, at a distance of c. 30m.
- 5.4.15 A further 25 cropmark sites lie within a 5 km search radius of the study site (Figure 4; Ref. 6-27 and 31-32). Summary details are provided in Appendix A. The cropmarks identified comprise two square enclosures, 14 rectilinear enclosures, five rectilinear double-ditched enclosures, four circular or curvilinear enclosures and one polygonal enclosure, with more than one enclosure visible at some sites.

Roman (43 AD – 410 AD)

- 5.4.16 There are no HER entries from the Roman period on the study site or within the wider study area. The site lies c. 7 km to the north of Hadrian's Wall with the Wall fort of *Vindobala* (Rudchester) situated c. 7.5 km to the south-west. As discussed above, recent excavations have demonstrated that there was a widespread abandonment of the indigenous farmsteads along the coastal plain in the area to the north of Hadrian's Wall during the second century AD. Abandonment of the aforementioned sites at East and West Brunton and Blagdon Park occurred c. AD 120–140 (Hodgson *et al.* 2012, 214).
- 5.4.17 A hoard of Roman bronze vessels was discovered in 1890 during ploughing on Prestwick Carr in a field north of Prestwick Whins Farm, c. 2.5 km to the east of the study site (Figure 4; Ref. 66). This discovery is not listed on the HER. The hoard comprised a cauldron, four bowls, one basin and seven saucepans (Hodgkin 1892; Dodds 1926). Though battered and patched, the names of two makers and three owners survived on four of the vessels. Seven items were donated to the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries by the landowner, Charles Loraine Bell of Woosington. The cauldron disappeared before the publication of the group in the Northumberland County History (Dodds 1926) and five other pieces subsequently also vanished. It was not possible to precisely date all of the pieces, let alone the date of deposition, but some may have been manufactured in late 1st to early 2nd century AD. A few of the items were interpreted as being of indigenous rather than Roman manufacture (Dodds 1926, 45). The area would still have been a wetland when the hoard was deposited and the assemblage could represent a votive offering into this 'watery' place. The most intriguing questions about this hoard were: Who did it belong to? Was it one of the numerous indigenous settlements which occupied this area in the Late Iron Age and early Roman period? Or was it the Roman army who may have campaigned in the area?

Early Medieval/Anglo-Saxon (410 – 1066 AD)

- 5.4.18 There are no HER entries from the early medieval/Anglo-Saxon period on the study site or within the wider study area.

Medieval (1066 - c. 1540 AD)

- 5.4.19 There are 30 HER entries relating to the medieval period within the 5 km wider study area; the locations of these entries are shown on Figure 4 (Refs. 35–64) and summary details are provided in Appendix A. Sixteen of these are deserted medieval villages (DMVs) or shrunken medieval villages. The closest to the study site is Little Eland DMV (HER 10998) located c. 0.6 km to the south-east (Figure 4; Ref. 53). Little Eland was part of the manor of Ponteland. It was assessed under Ponteland in the 1296 Lay Subsidy and five free tenements, six bondage holdings and three cottages were recorded. Only two tenanted bondages were recorded in 1336/7, and the manor is known to have suffered devastation by the Scots. There is no evidence of any substantial settlement surviving beyond the Middle Ages. Much of the area has been covered by modern housing.
- 5.4.20 Coldcoats DMV (HER 10976) lies c. 1 km to the north-west of the study site (Figure 4; Ref. 47). This is first referred to in documents of c. 1268. The vill was not listed in the 1296 Subsidy, but North Coldcoats provided two taxpayers in 1312. Thereafter, the township seems always to have comprised two or three small settlements. East, West and North Coldcoats were recorded in a 1666-7 call roll for Mitford court baron. In 1841 the steadings were East, Middle and West Farms. It is possible that before the later 13th century the township had contained a single village settlement, but none survived by the time of the earliest documentary references. Earthworks possibly indicative of a deserted village have been recorded on aerial photographs on the east side of Middle Coldcoats Farm, but most of the surface irregularities are now thought to be the result of surface quarrying. Medieval ridge and furrow survives as earthworks surrounding the deserted settlement.
- 5.4.21 The form of the surviving field boundaries at and around the study site indicates that these are delineations of ancient origin and it is likely that this land was used as agricultural land in association with either or both of the DMVs described above.
- 5.4.22 The other medieval entries on the HER comprise three pele towers, an area of ridge and furrow earthworks, a beacon, church, chapel, Manor House, boundary wall, trackway, leat and weir. In addition, two excavations within the town of Ponteland revealed features of medieval date.

Post-medieval (AD 1540 – 1939)

- 5.4.23 The HER lists 244 entries of post-medieval date in the 5 km radius search area around the study site, although none are located within the boundaries of the study site. As set out in the Brief for the DBA, these entries have not been plotted on Figure 4 or detailed in Appendix A. Ninety-three of the entries are listed buildings and a further 24 buildings on the HER are not designated. The majority are farmhouses and associated farm buildings and there are also seven Halls, along with various associated features such as stable blocks, garden walls and gates, gatehouses, icehouses and summerhouses.

- 5.4.24 Within the 244 post-medieval entries on the HER, 127 comprise non-designated heritage assets identified on cartographic evidence. These comprise 30 wells, 23 fords, 11 bridges, seven ponds, six stepping stones, six mills and races, six tileworks, four quarries, two sandpits, and single examples of a brickfield and a colliery. None of these are located within the study site and the closest noted on early mapping are a ford across the Small Burn to the south of Smallburn Farm (HER 19471), c. 200m east of the study site, and Smallburn Bridge (HER 19470) c. 300m to the east.
- 5.4.25 Twelve standing buildings and other features of post-medieval date which lie upon the study site but are not listed on the HER are considered to be non-designated heritage assets. Ten of these are associated with the former Cottage Homes complex (see Figures 2 and 3). At the eastern end of the north crescent is a two-storey semi-detached house block (see Figure 2; Block 14-15; Plates 44-45). This was one of the blocks built to accommodate children. To the south is a sundial (Plate 46) commemorating Francis Ronald James Harris, the first Superintendent of the Cottage Homes who died in 1914.
- 5.4.26 Two outbuildings north of Blocks 13 and 14-15 also formed part of the former Cottage Homes complex (Figure 2; Buildings A and B). Building A (Block 56) is a single storey structure (Plate 43). An account of life at the Cottage Homes by a former resident records that during the 1940s and 50s these outbuildings were farm buildings (see Section 5.3 above). A building to the south-east of Block 14-15, at the entrance to the site (Figure 2; Building C) has been described by a former resident as the building occupied by the farm manager. To the south of the entrance to the site is the former school house (Figure 2; Block 16), a structure built in the Arts and Crafts style with half timbering and a cupola topped by a weather vane (Plates 47 and 48). To the south-east of this, close to the eastern site boundary, is a building which was also used as a school house (Figure 2). In the south-eastern corner of the former complex is a two-storey building of unknown function (Figure 2; Block 17). Modern extensions have been added to this structure, but the original building is retained within the footprint (Plate 49). To the west, located on the south-eastern side of the green, are two semi-detached house blocks also used as accommodation blocks in the Cottage Homes (Figure 2; Block 18-19 and Block 20-21; Plates 50 and 51). Pevsner (1992, 544) considers these buildings on the south side of the green to be architecturally superior to those on the north side. The final non-designated heritage asset associated with the Cottage Homes complex which is not listed on the HER is a swimming pool which was located adjacent to the Small Burn, depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1916 (Figure 3). This is shown as being extant on Ordnance Survey maps until the mid 1990s, but it is uncertain whether any trace of it survives above ground today.
- 5.4.27 The final two non-designated heritage assets at the study site which are not listed on the HER are not associated with the former Cottage Homes complex. A commemorative area for the Northumbria Police Headquarters is located on the north-eastern side of the central green, towards the site entrance (Figure 2; Plate 20). This is gravelled, part delineated by low brick walls, one of which has four plaques, one commemorating the opening of the headquarters by Her Majesty the Queen, and has three flagpoles. A colliery winding wheel is displayed in the western part of the study site (Figure 2; Plates 11 and 12). Reportedly, this originally came from Fishburn Pit in County Durham, although the plaque which recorded this detail is now lost (from *Fishburn News* June 2013).

5.5 Historic Maps, Plans and Other Documentary Material

5.5.1 Selected historic maps have been reproduced herein as Figures 5-13.

Pre-Ordnance Survey Mapping

5.5.2 Speed's 1610 map of Northumberland (Figure 5) shows the main settlements and rivers in the area; Ponteland is named but there is nothing shown in the vicinity of the study site. Armstrong's map of 1769 (Figure 6) shows the roads to the east and west of the site with the Small Burn to the north and Smallburn farmstead to the north-east. To the east of the study site, Prestwick Carr is shown as a large body of water and marsh land with a watercourse connecting to the River Pont.

5.5.3 A 'Plan of an Estate at Pont Island' dated c. 1800 provides an accurate and detailed survey of the fields at and around the study site (Figure 7). The course of the Small Burn appears very similar to its present course. The study site occupies parts of four separate fields. The far north-eastern corner is situated at the south-western corner of field no. 73, 'Garth Field', which is evidently associated with Smallburn Farm and is bisected by the Small Burn watercourse. The majority of the eastern margin of the study site lies on the western edge of field no. 72, 'Charcoal Field'. The majority of the study site lies within the entirety of field no. 71, 'West Field', with the westernmost portion situated within the eastern side of field no. 60, 'North East Crows Close'. The version of the map examined as part of the assessment has been annotated by hand, with the fields allocated to farmsteads; all the fields within the study site evidently belonged to Smallburn Farm.

5.5.4 Fryer's map of 1820 (Figure 8) shows the area in much less detail; Smallburn Farm and the watercourse are shown but there are no details of individual fields. As discussed in Section 5.2, this map shows Prestwick Carr, which is depicted as a large body of water with a smaller lake to the south, surrounded by marshland.

5.5.5 Greenwood's map of 1828 (Figure 9) does not show individual fields, although the narrow belt of woodland which survives in the western part of the site today is depicted. By this date, the main lake of Prestwick Carr had been reduced to a very narrow stretch of water with smaller pool to the south, all surrounded by a large expanse of marshland.

5.5.6 The Tithe award plan of the Township of Ponteland ('the Tithe map', Figure 10) dated 1842 shows only the main field boundaries for each farm in the area. The study site is shown as being part of 'No. 19', assigned to land and premises of Small Burn Farm on the accompanying apportionment. The owner of the farm is listed as George Dunn, executor of William Elliot, and the occupier is Thomas Gillespy. The southern boundary of the site is delimited by the boundary of the fields attached to Small Burn Farm and the northern boundary by the watercourse.

Ordnance Survey Mapping

5.5.7 The Ordnance Survey first edition map (six-inch to one-mile scale) of c. 1865 (Figure 11) shows that, at this date, the field boundaries shown on the estate plan of c. 1800 (Figure 6) remained largely in place.

- 5.5.8 The Ordnance Survey Second Edition map (25-inch to one-mile scale) of 1896 (Figure 12) shows no change within the boundaries of the study site since the production of the first edition. Smallburn Farm to the north-east had been enlarged by this date with several new buildings constructed around the original farm buildings.
- 5.5.9 The Ordnance Survey Third Edition map (25-inch to one-mile scale) of 1916 (Figure 13) is the first to show 'Ponteland Cottage Homes (Newcastle Union)'. In the centre of the study site is the main crescent of accommodation arranged around the north side of the open green. From west to east, the north crescent of buildings comprises six semi-detached house blocks, each with a south-facing front garden fronting onto the central access road and a rear yard with outbuildings, a larger detached building with water tower to the rear, a greenhouse and another semi-detached house block with front garden and rear yard with outbuildings. A small outbuilding is depicted at the west end of the green. To the west, the access road turns sharply around the end of the crescent, continuing along its north side, with a branch road running off it roughly northwards to what was by then probably a sewage treatment works (indicated by the annotation 'Filter Beds') located towards the north-eastern corner of the site. The access road continues eastwards before turning sharply around the end of the crescent to meet its central section, thereby forming a complete loop.
- 5.5.10 On the south side of the access road, near the entrance to the complex, the third edition map depicts a 'School', a large T-shaped building, while to the north of the entrance is a small unnamed building. To the south-east of the main school building is a slightly smaller 'School' building and to the west is an unnamed building with a rear yard with outbuildings. Two further semi-detached house blocks to the west complete the core elements of the complex. A winding access road serves the south-eastern part of the complex, *i.e.* the portion at the east end and on the south-east side of the green south-east side of the green.
- 5.5.11 The third edition map depicts two outbuildings on the north side of the crescent, with a 'Windpump' shown towards the sewage treatment works. A 'Swimming Bath' – presumably open air - is depicted in a narrow belt of woodland along the northern site boundary delineated by the Small Burn. The land to the south of that woodland is divided into three fairly evenly-sized fields. The north-eastern portion of the site is also depicted as an extensive block of woodland, extending southwards to the eastern entrance to the complex. The land to the south and west of the Cottage Homes complex is also divided into fields, these of varying size. Close to the western boundary of the study site is the long-lived north-south belt of woodland, with a 'Sheepfold' annotated at its south end, and beyond this is part of another field.
- 5.5.12 Following the closure of the Cottage Homes in 1959, the study site was occupied by Northumberland College of Education from 1965 until 1981. Ordnance Survey mapping from the 1970s (not reproduced herein) shows that by this date an extensive complex of buildings occupied the area to the north of the former Cottage Homes with other blocks of buildings to the west. A range of identical accommodation blocks was built on the south-west side of the green with a tennis court to the south of these. The southernmost and westernmost portions of the site remained largely clear of buildings into the 1980s. It was purchased for use as Northumbria Police Headquarters in 1981 and Ordnance Survey maps since then (not reproduced herein) show that it remained largely unaltered into the mid 1990s.

5.6 Previous Archaeological Work

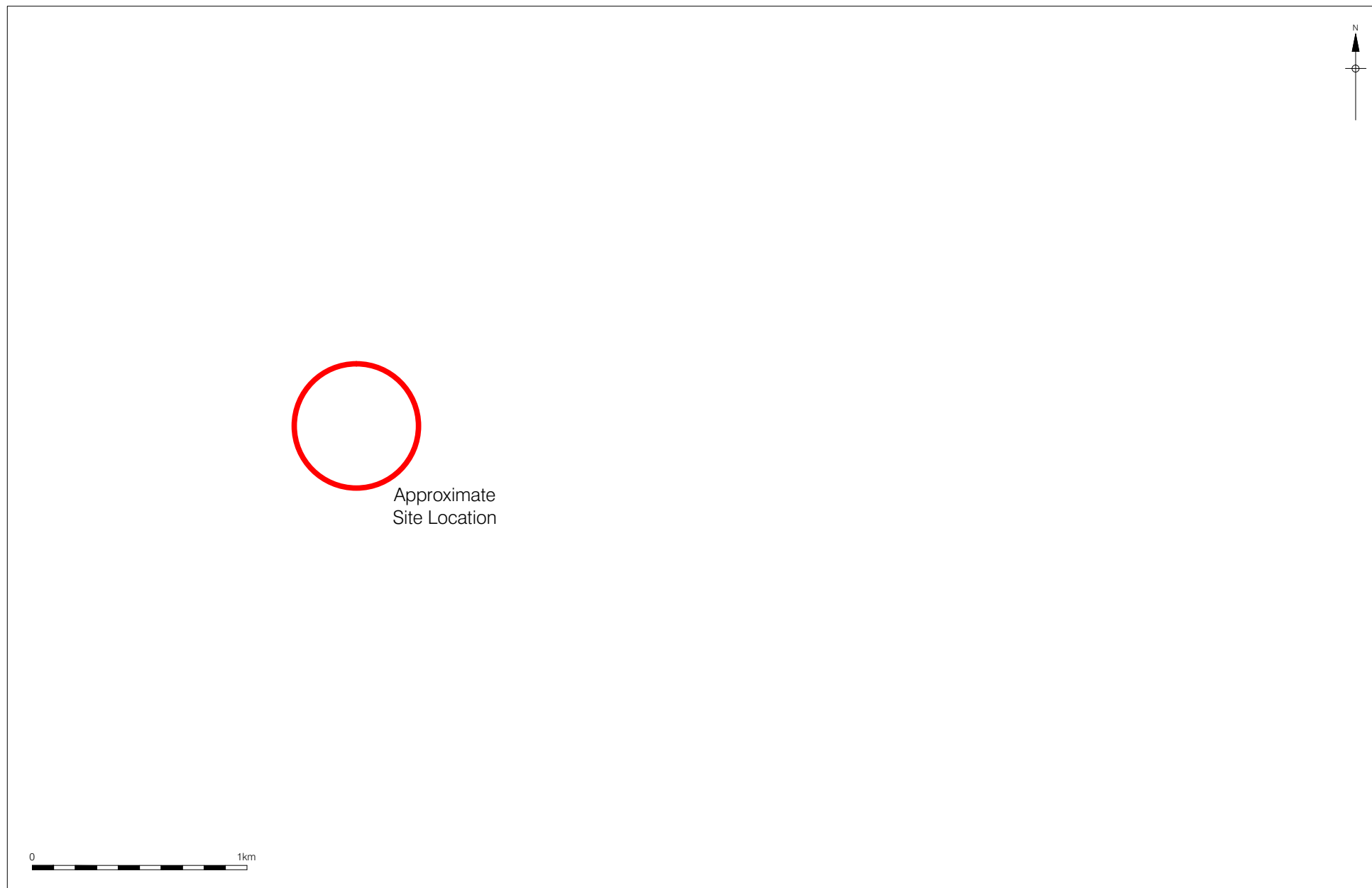
- 5.6.1 There is no record of any previous archaeological work having been undertaken at the study site. There are 43 HER entries for previous archaeological interventions (collectively 'HER Events') within the 5 km radius wider study area. The majority comprise recording work or DBAs associated with listed buildings or non-designated heritage assets, along with watching briefs which did not produce any significant archaeological findings. None of these interventions took place within the near vicinity of the study site. Therefore, these HER events are considered to be of no direct relevance to the archaeological potential of the study site and are not discussed further herein.

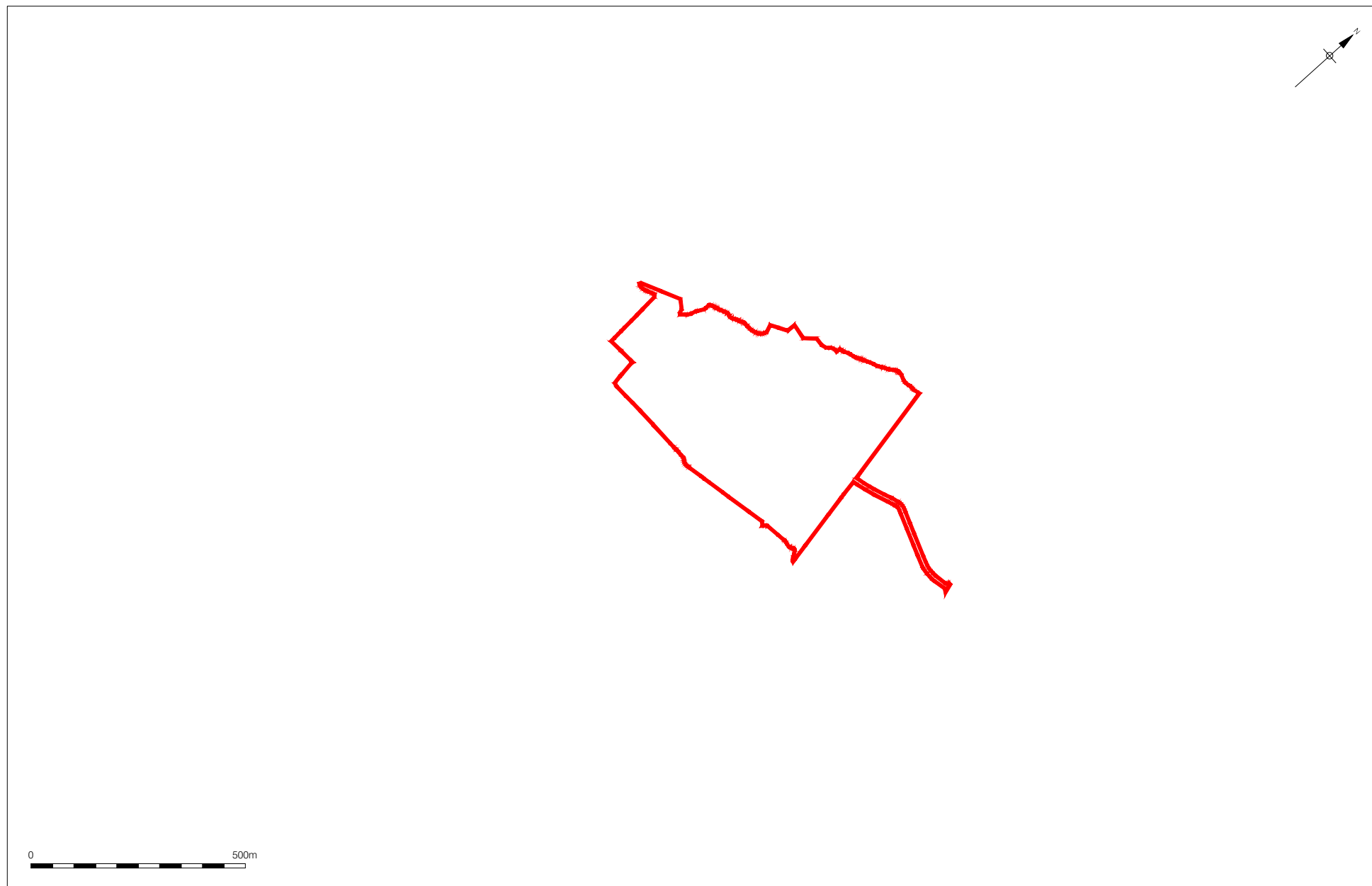
5.7 Site Visit

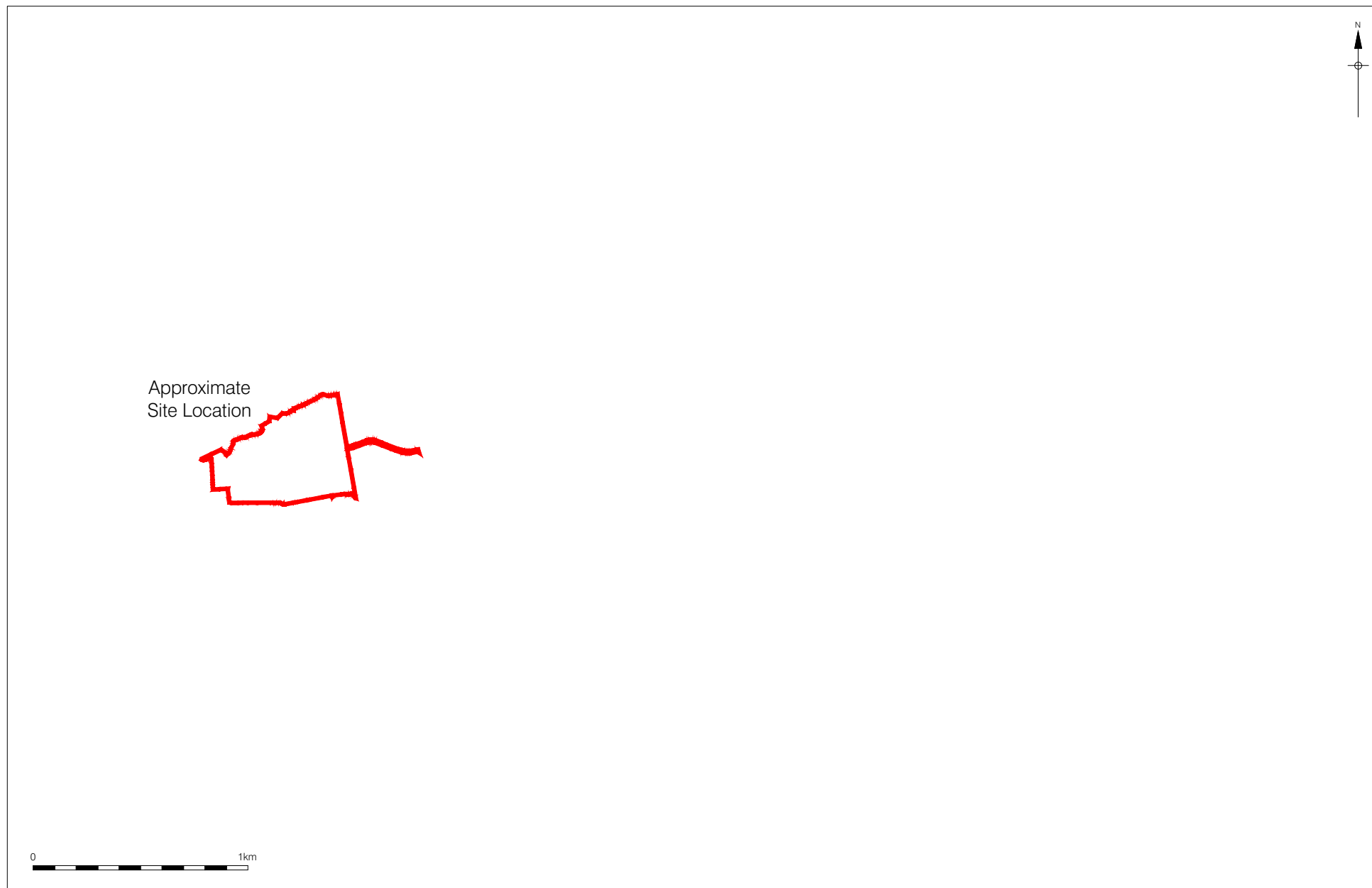
- 5.7.1 A site visit was undertaken in December 2013 by Robin Taylor-Wilson of PCA. The site was occupied by the Northumbria Police Headquarters, with the majority of its area having been previously developed. It is known that, of the existing buildings, some were built specifically for the Police Headquarters, while others were pre-existing, as described above.
- 5.7.2 The central southern part of the study site is occupied by the Communications Building and elements of associated infrastructure, including a telecommunications mast and electricity sub-station. The Communications Building is a substantial semi-subterranean structure of recent date (Plates 1, 4 and 6). To the east, adjacent to the site boundary, a large mound of earth possibly represents upcast material derived from the construction of the Communications Building. There are no standing buildings in the south-eastern corner of the study site, which is occupied by a tarmac car park and a similarly surfaced 'training area' (Plates 1-5).
- 5.7.3 The westernmost part (approximately one third) of the site contains areas of both undeveloped and developed land. The main developed area to the north is accessed by a road (Plate 7). The extreme westernmost portion of the site is occupied by a complex of kennels, with associated training and exercise compounds/areas (including a small field in the north-westernmost part of the site) for police dogs (Plate 8). East of the kennels complex is a belt of woodland which extends the full north-south extent of the site (Plate 9); historic maps show that this was established by 1828 at the latest. South-east of the woodland is a strip of scrubland, then an open pasture field extending to the southern site boundary (Plate 10). North of the scrubland, the main developed portion of the westernmost part of the site comprises a complex of low-rise teaching and office accommodation blocks (Plates 7 and 11). The aforementioned former colliery winding wheel is located in this area (Plates 11 and 12).
- 5.7.4 The block of land forming the north and north-eastern part of the study site, between the Small Burn and the former Cottage Homes complex, is developed as a complex of low-rise and two and three-storey structures, mostly teaching and office accommodation blocks, many of which were originally built as part of the Northumberland College complex, interspersed with areas of lawn and car parks (Plates 13-15). An incinerator lies towards the north-eastern corner of the site (Plates 15 and 16), while the corner area itself is occupied by a sewage treatment works with an open area of rough hardstanding to its south (Plate 17). South of this, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the study site, is an area of further low-rise buildings interspersed with areas of lawn and hardstanding (Plate 18).

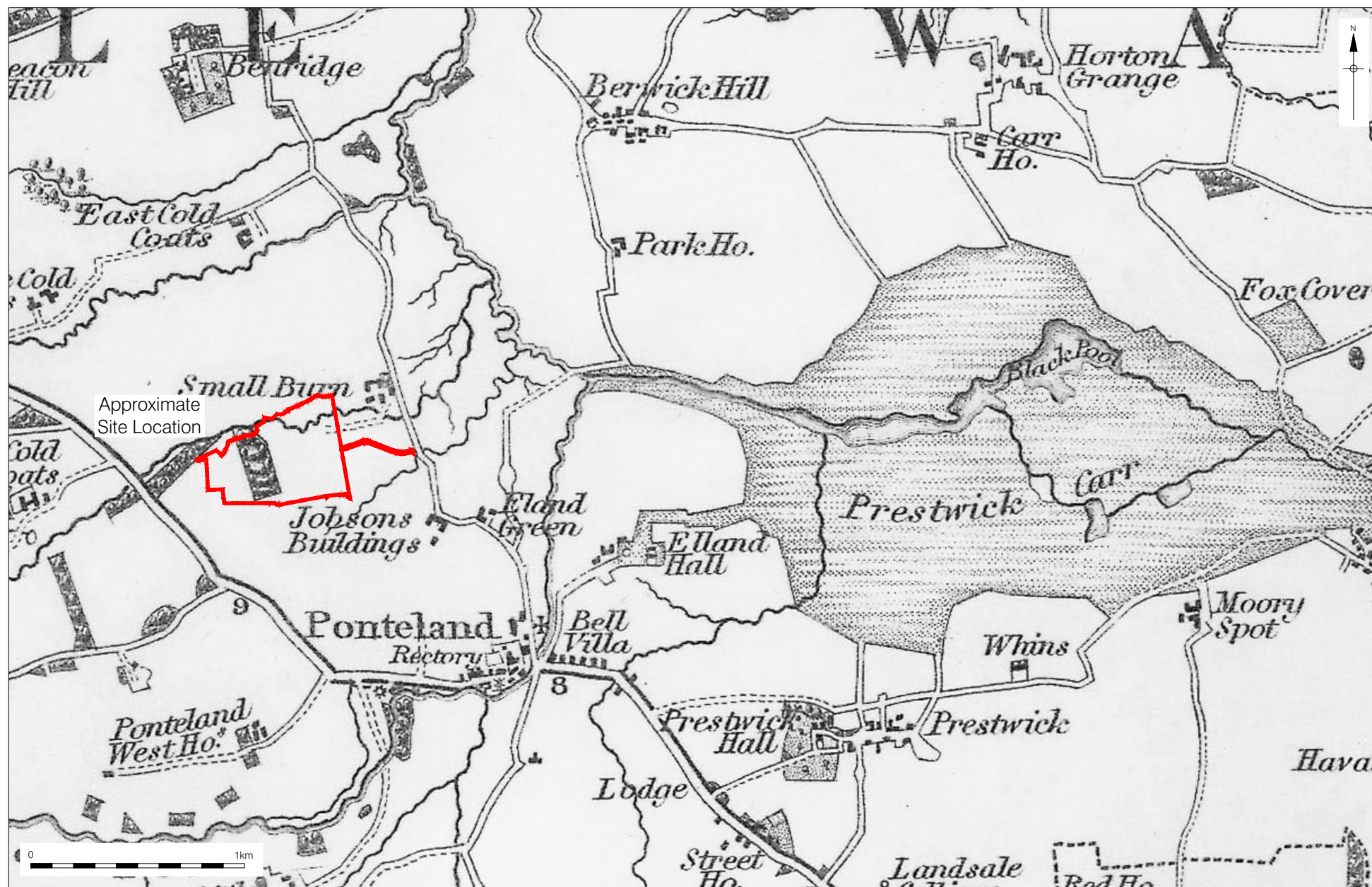
- 5.7.5 The central and central eastern parts of the site are occupied for the most part by the early 20th-century buildings of the Cottage Homes complex, as previously described. Photographs of each of main structures of the complex, taken during the site visit, are included in Appendix B (Plates 25-51). The buildings are arranged around a large central green (Plates 19, 21 and 23), at the eastern end of which, close to the site entrance, is a commemorative area for the Police Headquarters (Plates 20 and 24). The northern side of the green is lined by the north crescent of buildings of the former Cottage Homes complex (Plates 21 and 23). Along the south-west side of the central green is a group of five north-south aligned three-storey accommodation blocks built, probably in the 1970s, when the site was used as an education college (Plate 22). The remaining structural components of the former Cottage Homes complex are situated at the east end and on the south-east side of the central green, as previously described.
- 5.7.6 This study site is accessed by a road which leads westwards from North Road to enter the site roughly centrally along its eastern boundary. The majority of the perimeter of the site boundary is wooded, most heavily along the southern banks of the Small Burn, which delimits the northern boundary of the site.

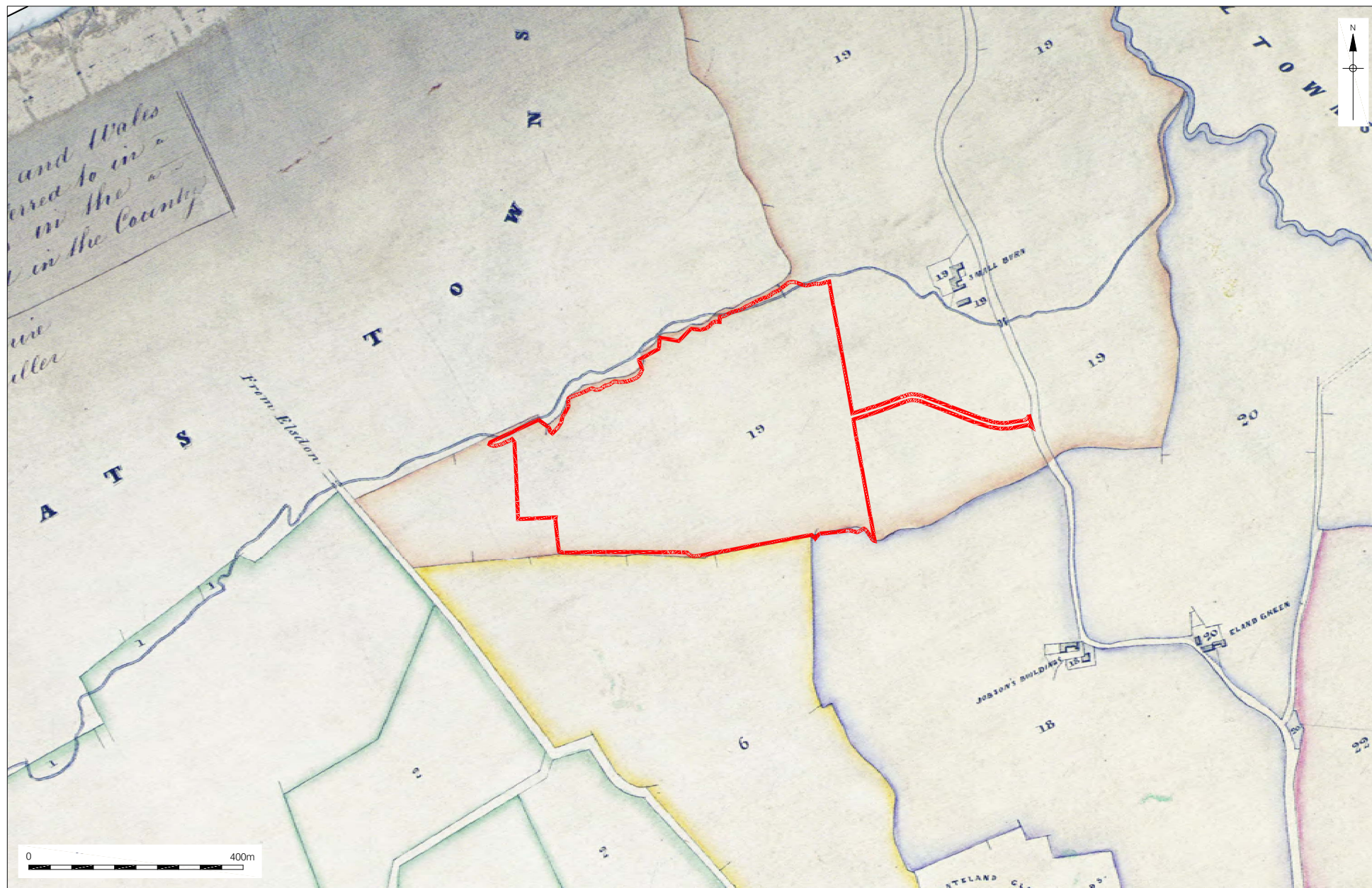


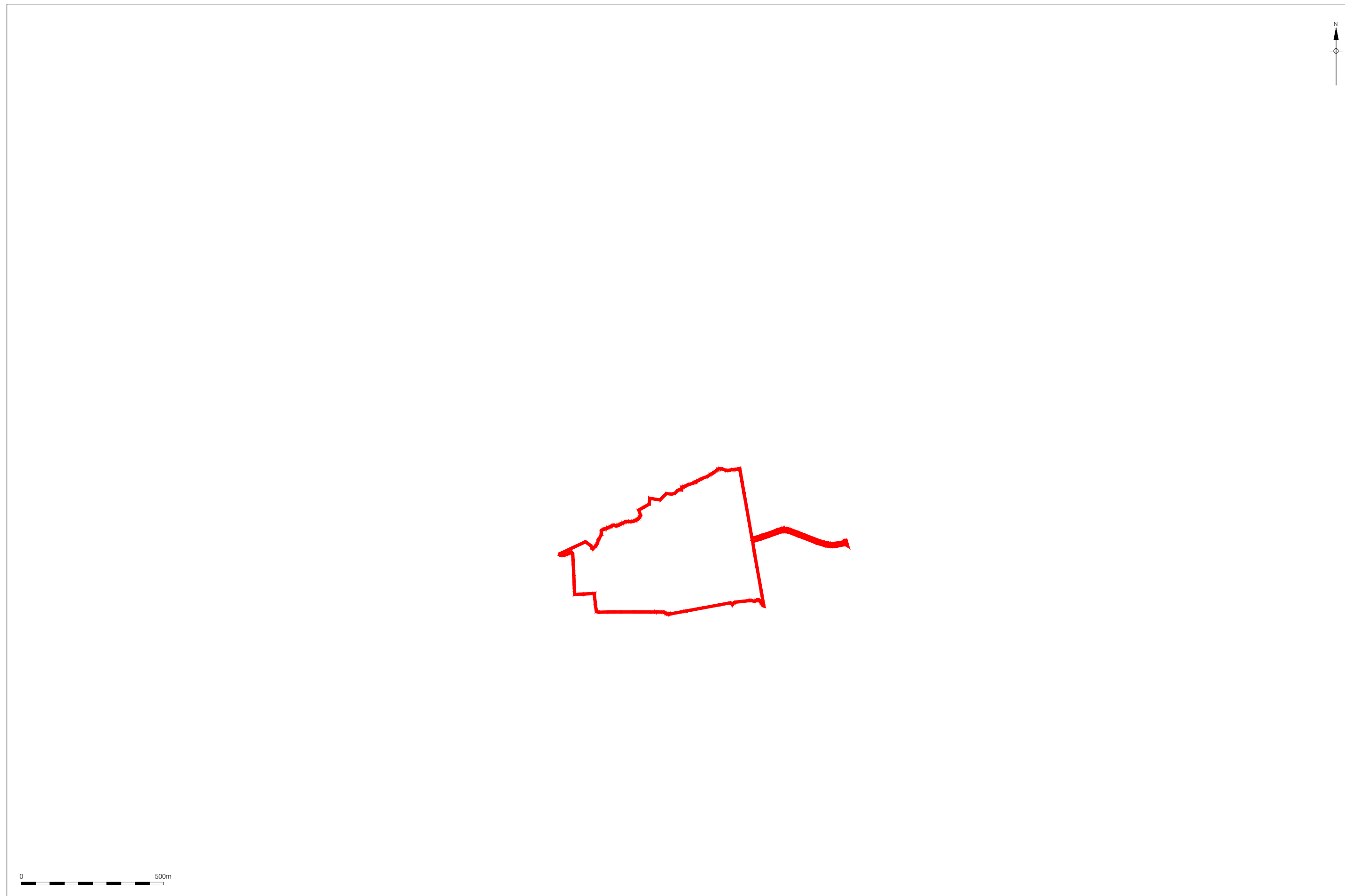


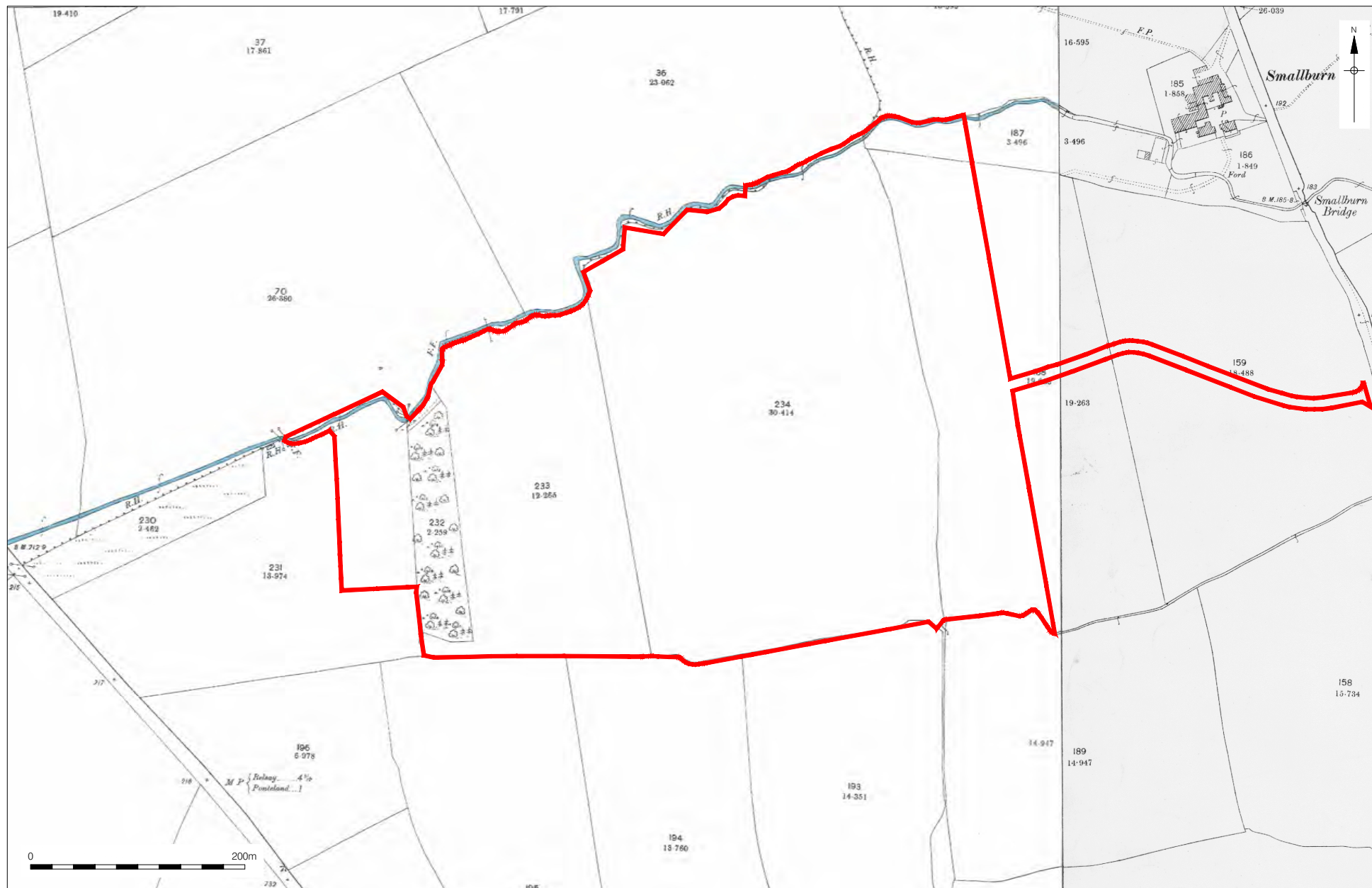












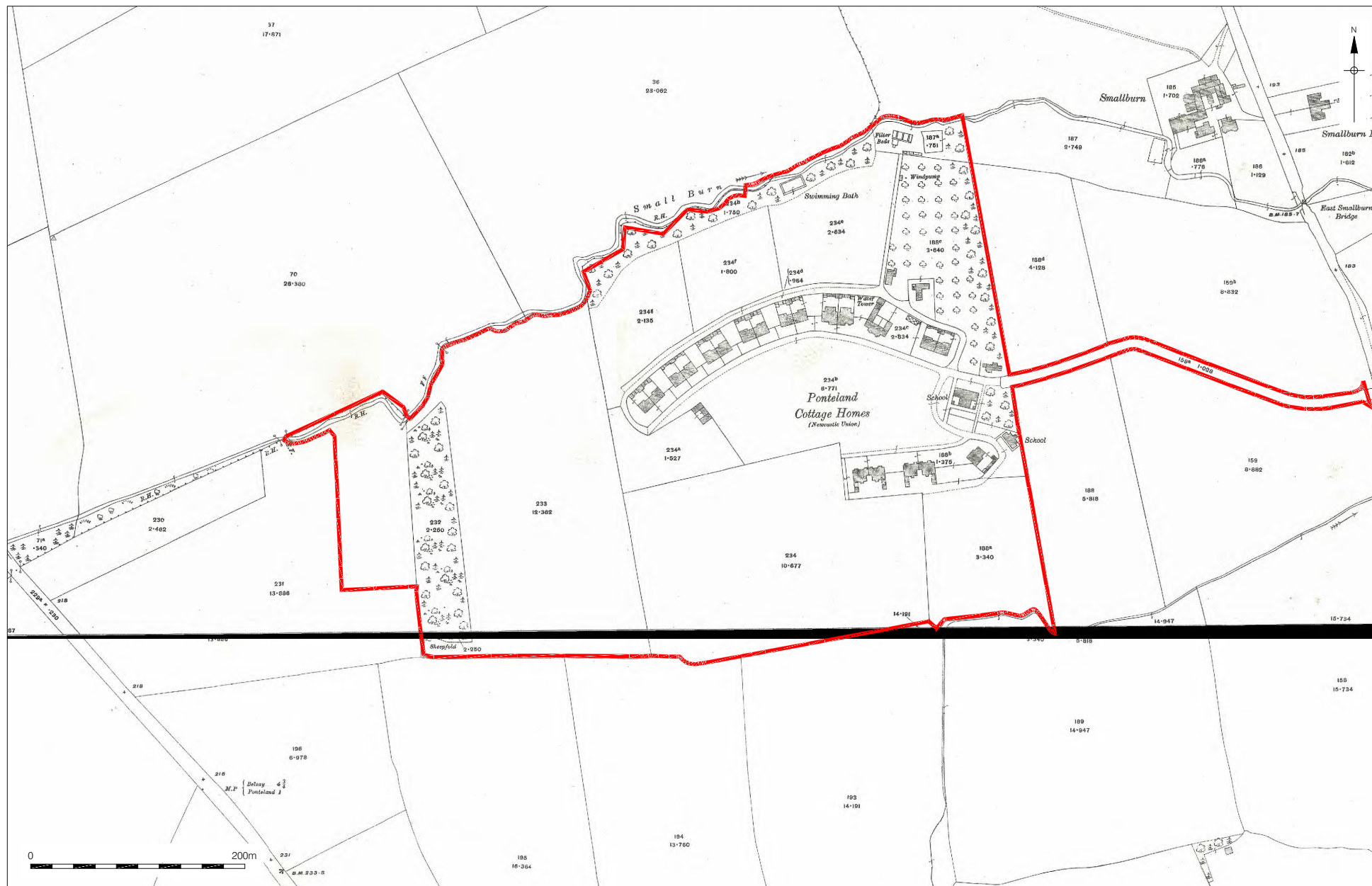




Figure 14. Postcard showing the Cottage Homes, c. 1905, looking west from the site of the eastern entrance



Figure 15. Photograph of the eastern entrance to the Cottage Homes, c. 1910, looking west from the entrance



Figure 16. Photograph of the north crescent of the Cottage Homes, c. 1910, looking north-east



Figure 17. Photograph of the north crescent of the Cottage Homes, c. 1930, looking east

6. ASSESSMENT OF HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POTENTIAL

6.1 Summary of the Known Historic Environment Resource

- 6.1.1 There are designated heritage assets within the boundaries of the study site; these comprise a total of eight separate listed buildings which were part of the former Ponteland Cottage Homes complex, grouped under five listings. These buildings have Grade II listed status and, as such, are considered to be of moderate importance (meaning that they contribute to historic/architectural/archaeological research objectives at a regional level).
- 6.1.2 As a group, the former Cottage Homes buildings at the study site represent a rare survival of a complete complex of buildings of this type. A large part of the value of the listed buildings at the site lies in the survival of the integrity of the complex as a whole. A Parliamentary report in 1903 listed 25 'cottage homes' sites then in operation across England and Wales (Higginbotham 2013). By 1914, the number of cottage or 'small' homes (developments comprising just one or two homes), was 115. Most were relatively small complexes with just a few, such as the Ponteland example, being much more expansive. The only other example of a cottage homes complex in the region, at Shotley Bridge, Gateshead, has been demolished.
- 6.1.3 The listed components of the former Cottage Homes complex at the study site are considered to be of moderate aesthetic value due to their architectural features; they are built in the Arts and Crafts style that was popular around the turn of the 20th century and are described in Pevsner (1992, 544). They are also considered to be of moderate communal value due to the social and symbolic values the buildings have for former residents and workers of the complex; social value is associated with places that people perceive as a source of identity (cf English Heritage 2008). This group of buildings fulfilled a significant role in the community for more than half a century. Numerous oral accounts of life in the Ponteland Cottage Homes, by former residents, house parents and other former employees are held in the Northumberland Archives at Woodhorn, underlining the importance of the social value of this group of buildings.
- 6.1.4 The DBA has identified eleven non-designated heritage assets which are not listed in the HER but which were part of the Cottage Homes complex at the site. These comprise ten extant features, nine standing buildings and a sun dial, along with a swimming pool, traces of which may survive as a buried feature. The unlisted buildings are considered to be of moderate importance due to the fact that they form part of the Cottage Homes complex and, like the listed buildings, are considered to have moderate aesthetic and communal value. In addition, Pevsner (1992, 544) considers that the unlisted buildings on the south-east side of the central green to be architecturally superior to those forming the north crescent.
- 6.1.5 Two further non-designated heritage assets which are not listed on the HER have been identified at the study site. A colliery winding wheel displayed in the western part of the study site, which originally came from Fishburn Pit, County Durham, is considered to be of low importance as it has no historical association with the study site; Fishburn Colliery was located in the Sedgfield area of County Durham. The commemoration area marking the opening of the Police Headquarters by Her Majesty the Queen in 1981 is considered to be a non-designated heritage asset of low importance, as it is of significance at local level only.

6.2 Summary Statement of Archaeological Potential

- 6.2.1 The assessment has determined the potential for heritage assets with archaeological interest at the study site – specifically buried archaeological remains – through consideration of archaeological sites and discoveries within the wider study area.
- 6.2.2 There is limited evidence of early prehistoric activity in the wider study area. In sum, therefore, the evidence base only very broadly suggests that the study site may have seen human occupation or other exploitation during early prehistory. Therefore, the potential for sub-surface archaeological remains of early prehistoric date at the study site is considered low, at best.
- 6.2.3 The site lies within an area that was densely settled and farmed during the Late Iron Age and early Roman period. Cropmarks, particularly representing enclosures, that may date from these eras are known within the near vicinity of the study site, specifically in a field to the south. Recent excavations on the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain have shown that settlements of this period are often associated with extensive fields systems, which do not show up as cropmarks, highlighting the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains of the Late Iron Age and early Roman period. It is very likely that any settlement – likely to have been a farmstead - situated in the field to the south of the study site would have utilised the Small Burn and the pastureland around it. Therefore, the potential for archaeological remains of the Late Iron Age and early Roman period at the study site is considered high. Any such remains would be non-designated heritage assets of medium significance, with potential to contribute to regional archaeological research objectives.
- 6.2.4 The potential for later Roman and early medieval/Anglo-Saxon archaeological remains at the study site is considered low.
- 6.2.5 Map regression has shown that the study site lay within agricultural land during the post-medieval era and, therefore, it was probably also used for such purposes throughout the preceding medieval period. Therefore, there is considered to be moderate to high potential for archaeological remains relating to medieval and post-medieval agricultural usage of the site. In broad terms though, this location is not considered to be particularly sensitive with regard to medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains, since evidence of ploughing, improved agricultural soils, drainage features and former land boundaries of these eras would be of low significance, with potential to contribute only to, at best, local research objectives.
- 6.2.6 The potential for sub-surface features of post-medieval associated with the Cottage Homes complex, specifically the swimming pool adjacent to the Small Burn, is considered moderate to high. Such remains would be non-designated heritage assets of medium significance due to their association with the group of listed buildings described in Section 6.1.

6.3 Summary of Past Impacts

- 6.3.1 In terms of surface area, the majority of the study site has been previously developed, with numerous buildings and associated infrastructure apparent. The impact on any buried archaeological deposits (if they existed) by previous development will have been variable, depending, in areas occupied by structures, on the building type, particularly the extent and nature of the foundations in each case. The extent of any associated landscaping and other groundwork in the areas of the buildings will also have been a factor with regard to the impact on any buried archaeological remains. Low-rise buildings in the northern and western parts of the site, including the kennels complex adjacent to the western site boundary, are likely to have had a minimal and localised impact on any buried archaeological remains present, so that such areas retain medium potential for the survival of any buried archaeological remains. In contrast, structures such as the three-storey accommodation blocks along the south-west side of the central green and larger buildings, such as the incinerator in the northern part of the site, are likely to have had a major impact on any buried archaeological remains, possibly having destroyed any such remains entirely, so that such areas have negligible or, at best, low or potential for the survival of any buried archaeological remains.
- 6.3.2 However, even within developed areas of the site, the buildings are interspersed with lawns, footpaths, roads, etc., which may have required relatively minimal ground disturbance when these areas were developed. The central green area and even extensive developed parts of the site without standing buildings, such as hardstanding, car parks, etc., can reasonably be placed into this category. Map regression has shown that prior to the development of the site in the early 20th century, these areas were simply agricultural fields having seen no previous development. The impact on any buried archaeological remains in these areas is, therefore, likely to have been minimal prior to modern development. These areas, therefore, retain a medium to high potential for the survival of any buried archaeological remains.
- 6.3.3 In addition, there are some open areas which have evidently seen no previous development and which may have been used only as arable fields or pastureland since the medieval period. Of particular note in the western part of the site is an area of scrubland with a pasture field to its south. West of this is the woodland belt running the full north-south width of the site, this has also never been developed and north of the kennels compound in the north-westernmost part of the site is a grass field which also likely falls into the category of land which has probably seen no previous development. These areas, therefore, retain a high potential for the survival of any buried archaeological remains.
- 6.3.4 The 1916 Ordnance Survey map shows that the land around the Cottage Homes complex was divided into fields at the time, some of which may have been used for growing crops for the Cottage Homes. However, by 1965 when the site became a college, these areas were certainly out of agricultural use, which means that the deep ploughing which has severely truncated many archaeological sites on the Coastal Plain in recent decades will not have occurred at the study site.



6.4 Summary of Potential Impacts

- 6.4.1 The indicative development proposals for the study site are depicted on Figure 18. In summary, the scheme will see removal (demolition) of the majority of the buildings which post-date the early 20th-century Ponteland Cottage Homes complex and the construction of several areas of new housing. The designated heritage assets – the listed buildings within the former Cottage Homes complex - are to be retained, presumably to be refurbished for use as residential housing, along with the central green to collectively form a core element of the re-developed site. The precise direct impact on the designated heritage assets cannot be assessed without detailed refurbishment proposals, but such work may have a negligible to moderate impact on the exteriors and interiors of these buildings, depending on its scope.
- 6.4.2 The Ponteland Cottage Homes complex was originally designed to occupy an essentially rural setting, comprising a group of buildings set within their own farmland, surrounded by agricultural fields. Since then, the setting of the complex, and therefore of the designated heritage assets within it, has certainly been compromised by the further development of the site as an education college in the 1960s and, subsequently, by the conversion of the site into the Police Headquarters. It is considered, therefore, that the sensitivity to change of the setting of the designated heritage assets has been reduced, as there are already a number of detracting elements within the setting and few, if any, contributory elements. Therefore, in overview, it is considered that, given its nature and indicative layout, the proposed scheme will have a negligible indirect impact on the assets, with any minor changes within their overall setting likely to be beneficial rather than adverse, due to the replacement of unsympathetic utilitarian modern ‘teaching and office’ blocks with residential housing. There is one notable exception to this consideration, detailed below.
- 6.4.3 The proposed development also evidently includes removal of some of the unlisted buildings which formed part of the Ponteland Cottage Homes complex. Considered non-designated heritage assets in their own right, demolition of these structural components of the overall complex would represent a major direct impact on the assets. Collectively, the listed and unlisted buildings at the site represent a unique survival in the region of a complete complex of cottage homes and a significant contribution to their value lies in the survival of the integrity of the group of buildings as a whole. Therefore, removal of the unlisted components of the complex could be considered to constitute a major indirect impact on the designated heritage assets, since it could be considered as causing a substantial change within their setting. Consequently, the overall impact on the setting of the designated heritage assets as a result of the removal of the unlisted components of the complex could be considered moderate, taking into account the reduced sensitivity to change of the setting, as described above.
- 6.4.4 In sum, therefore, it is concluded that in terms of direct impact, the overall effect of the development proposals on the designated heritage assets (of medium significance) of the site can only be determined when details of refurbishment proposals are available, although the effect would likely be within the range of neutral/minor (from negligible impact) through to moderate (from moderate impact). The overall effect on the non-designated heritage assets (of medium significance) would be moderate/major (from major impact), if they are removed.

- 6.4.5 In terms of indirect impact, it is concluded that the overall effect of the development proposals on the setting of the designated heritage assets could be considered as neutral/minor (from an overall negligible indirect impact). However, the effect on the setting of the group of buildings as a whole, due to the proposed removal of its unlisted components, should be taken into account and, in this respect, the overall effect of the development proposals on the setting may be judged as being moderate (from an overall moderate indirect impact).
- 6.4.6 This DBA has concluded that there is a high potential for buried archaeological remains of a moderate significance to be present at the study site. If this were the case, the proposed development, specifically new build in previously undeveloped areas or areas which have seen only minimal previous ground disturbance, would have a detrimental impact on the significance of the historic environment by impacting directly on potential archaeological remains of medium significance.
- 6.4.7 In terms of potential heritage assets of archaeological interest at the study site – specifically buried archaeological remains - only further evaluation can establish the actual magnitude of direct impact on such assets, and thus the actual overall effect of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment. The magnitude of direct impact on buried archaeological remains could be major, if any such assets were totally altered and much of their significance was lost. However, in order to confirm the magnitude of direct impact, the presence, character, date and extent of archaeological remains would first need to be established and then precise construction details for the proposed scheme would need to be considered.

6.5 Potential LPA Investigation and Mitigation Requirements

- 6.5.1 Given the high potential for sub-surface archaeological remains of significance at the study site, the LPA will potentially require archaeological investigation to test for the presence, extent and significance of buried archaeological remains. Field evaluation can comprise of one or more of the following procedures:
- surface artefact collection ('fieldwalking');
 - geophysical survey;
 - trial trenching.
- 6.5.2 Surface artefact collection is only suitable on fields that have been recently ploughed, harrowed or drilled and particularly after a period of weathering. This method is therefore also unsuitable for the study site.
- 6.5.3 In this instance, geophysical survey would only be a suitable method for the initial identification of sub-surface archaeological features in previously undeveloped parts of the site. The pasture field in the south-western part of the site and the small field in the kennel complex potentially represent the only suitable areas in this regard. Tree cover in the woodland belt and vegetation cover in the strip of scrubland north of the pasture field would render these areas unsuitable for survey.

- 6.5.4 In addition, the central green and other lawned parts of developed areas possibly saw landscaping during the development of the Cottage Homes and subsequently, which if this were the case, would likely provide poor geophysical survey results. It should also be taken into account that geophysical survey instrumentation can be affected when surveying areas adjacent to buildings and infrastructure, such as, in this case, the Communications Building and its electricity sub-station.
- 6.5.5 In sum, therefore, a trial trenching evaluation is considered the most suitable method for the identification of any sub-surface archaeological features at the study site.
- 6.5.6 It is also likely that the LPA will require external and internal recording of some or all of the buildings of the Cottage Homes complex. The level and scope of this work can only be determined when detailed refurbishment plans are known.

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Maps, Documents and Other Sources

Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives

Paper copies of the following historical maps were examined during the visit to Woodhorn and digital copies (supplied on CD) of relevant extracts were requested:

John Speed's map of Northumberland, 1610 (extract reproduced as Figure 5).

Lieutenant Andrew Armstrong's map of Northumberland, 1769 (extract reproduced as Figure 6).

Plan of an Estate at Pont Island, c. 1800 (SANT-BEQ-5-3-21-15 [ZAN BELL 35-13]) (extract reproduced as Figure 7).

John Fryer's map of Northumberland, 1820 (extract reproduced as Figure 8).

John Greenwood's map of Northumberland, 1828 (extract reproduced as Figure 9).

Plan of the Township of Ponteland 1842 ('the Tithe map') (extract reproduced as Figure 10) the accompanying apportionment tables ('*Apportionment of the Rent Charge in lieu of Tithes....*') were also examined for information relating to land use, ownership and occupancy.

The Ordnance Survey First Edition map (scale six-inch to one-mile), published c. 1865 (extract reproduced as Figure 11).

The Ordnance Survey Second Edition map (scale 25-inch to one-mile), published 1896 (extract reproduced as Figure 12).

The Ordnance Survey Third Edition map (scale 25-inch to one-mile), published 1916 (extract reproduced as Figures 3 and 13).

Historic photographs of the Cottage Homes complex were also examined (with a selection included as Figures 14-17).

Online Sources

The British Geological Survey website: www.bgs.ac.uk. Consulted for information regarding the geology of the study area.

The Children's Cottage Homes website:

http://www.childrencottagehomes.org.uk/ponteland_cottage_homes.html.

Consulted for information regarding the Ponteland Cottage Homes.

The Fishburn Parish Council website:

<http://parishes.durham.gov.uk/fishburn/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>. The parish council newsletter *Fishburn News June 2013* was consulted.

The MAGIC website: www.magic.gov.uk/website/magic/. MAGIC is a partnership project involving six government organisations including English Heritage and Natural England. The website is essentially an interactive map collecting information on key environmental schemes and designations.

The Natural England website: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications>. Consulted for information about 'National Character Areas'.

The Northumberland Communities website: www.communities.northumberland.gov.uk/.

This site contains a range of resource material that reflects Northumberland's heritage. Consulted for pre-Ordnance Survey mapping of Ponteland.

The Northumberland County Council website:

www.northumberland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1579. Consulted for information on current planning policies in the county.

The Workhouses website: www.workhouses.org.uk/

APPENDIX A
CATALOGUE OF HER ENTRIES

NPO13: Northumbria Police Headquarters, Ponteland, Northumberland - Catalogue of HER Entries

Map Ref.	Grid	NGR	HER No.	Name	Monument Types	Date Range	Description
1	NZ	140 694	10881	Heddon Laws Mesolithic flint site	Find (Flint scatter)	Prehistoric	Three blades/flakes and one graver.
2	NZ	16 72	10993	Ponteland Carr Neolithic axes	Find	Prehistoric	Two polished whinstone Neolithic axes. Possibly from Prestwick Carr (another name for Ponteland Carr).
3	NZ	1406 6935	10867	Heddon Laws Farm Bronze Age cairn	Round Cairn	Prehistoric	Large mound comprising the remains of a Bronze Age round cairn, 25m in diameter. Investigated by a limited excavation in 1925 revealing a possible stone wall 0.8m high. Historic documents refer to a beacon in 1549 as part of a signalling defence against raiding in the border warfare in the Middle Ages.
4	NZ	1120 7162	10973	Eachwick Hall Bronze Age cist	Cist	Prehistoric	Cist containing inhumation found near Eachwick Hall 1846. No visible earthworks. Several hand-mill stones, a knife and a flint axe (now lost) found near Eachwick Hall. Bronze dagger of Irish type found in 1884.
5	NZ	16 72	10996	Ponteland Carr Bronze Age beaker	Find	Prehistoric	Small cord-zoned bowl-shaped vessel found whilst draining at Ponteland. Possibly from Prestwick Carr (another name for Ponteland Carr).
6	NZ	1701 7250	23872	Possible ring ditch east of Fairney Burn	Round barrow	Prehistoric	Cropmarks of circular enclosure measuring c. 18m diameter visible on aerial photograph.
7	NZ	1292 7658	10941	Kirkley West Farm enclosure	Square Enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	An earthwork visible on aerial photographs, overlain by ridge and furrow. Possible funnelled entrance at south-east corner.
8	NZ	1262 7757	10943	Well House East enclosures	Enclosures	Iron Age/Roman	Three ditches, probably not contemporaneous. Visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
9	NZ	1340 7755	10944	Todhill enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
10	NZ	1487 7852	10945	Bonas Hill Farm enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
11	NZ	17803 76955	10956	Berwick Hill Low House rectilinear enclosures	Rectilinear enclosures	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosures visible as cropmarks east-north-east of Berwick Hill Low House. Series of rectilinear enclosures of various sizes.
12	NZ	181 766	10957	Horton Grange enclosure	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
13	NZ	167 756	10959	Ponteland enclosures	Rectilinear and circular enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	A rectilinear and a sub-circular enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, to west of Berwick Hill.
14	NZ	17677 76586	10960	Ponteland enclosure	Double-ditched enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure set within larger concentric enclosure. Visible as cropmarks south-east of Berwick Hill Low House.
15	NZ	1955 7542	10963	New Horton Grange enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure with entrance in east side visible as cropmarks on aerial photograph. Smaller enclosure to north.
16	NZ	1859 7700	10967	Low Horton House enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure west of Horton Grange Low House visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Eastern side unclear.
17	NZ	199 758	10968	Stannington enclosure	Sub-square enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Sub-square enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
18	NZ	126 737	10977	Southeast Farm West, Milbourne enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Cropmarks of single ditched rectilinear enclosure. Entrance on eastern side.
19	NZ	1351 7381	10983	Southeast Farm East, Coldcoats enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmark, south-west of Bates Plantation. Eastern entrance. Possible hut circle in centre.
20	NZ	1452 7243	10988	Ponteland enclosure	Enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Unenclosed circle visible on aerial photographs. South of Woodside Farm, c.400m north of River Pont.
21	NZ	12933 74501	10989	West Cotes enclosure	Polygonal enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Polygonal enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Situated on slight ridge.
22	NZ	155 725	10997	Ponteland enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear single ditched enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, north of the River Pont and south-east of West Houses.
23	NZ	161 711	11002	Ponteland enclosure	Enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Crop mark of farmstead (?) visible as cropmarks on aerial photograph on eastern edge of Darras Hall Estate.
24	NZ	165 704	11003	Brough Hill cropmark	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Possible rectilinear enclosure visible on aerial photograph. The north side appears to lie beneath medieval ridge and furrow.
25	NZ	195 724	11006	Prestwick Whins cropmark settlement	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Double-ditched rectangular enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Inner ditch has an entrance in eastern side. North-west corner of outer ditch is a spur, possibly an extension. Linear ditch visible to west, possibly relating to the enclosure.
26	NZ	1835 7280	11027	Enclosure west of Prestwick Whins	Enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Enclosure visible as cropmark on aerial photograph.
27	NZ	1695 7239	23873	Enclosure east of Fairney Burn	Circular enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Cropmarks of circular enclosure measuring 14m in diameter with semi-circular annexe on western side. Visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
28	NZ	1535 7367	23923	Ponteland enclosure	Curvilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Three-sided curvilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, near higher end of sloping ground to west of River Pont, south of the Police Headquarters building. Visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.
29	NZ	1546 7357	23924	Ponteland enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, at top of sloping ground to west of River Pont, south of the Police Headquarters building.
30	NZ	1555 7327	23925	Ponteland enclosure	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, on sloping ground to west of River Pont, south of the Police Headquarters building. Probable boundary ditch runs parallel to the north east.
31	NZ	1729 7376	23926	Enclosure north of Eland Hall Farm North	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Possible entrance to east. More incomplete rectilinear enclosures attached to both the north and south.
32	NZ	1101 7375	23934	Ponteland enclosure	Curvilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Curvilinear ditch visible as cropmark on aerial photographs, south-west of Milbourne Hall.
33	NZ	1541 7503	25933	Enclosure at East Coldcoats	Double-ditched rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear double-ditched enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, by the northern bank of Coldcoats Burn, a tributary west of the River Pont.
34	NZ	1581 7519	25934	Enclosure east of East Coldcoats Bridge	Rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age/Roman	Rectilinear enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, beside the northern bank of Coldcoats Burn, a tributary west of the River Pont.
35	NZ	1409 7592	10927	Ponteland beacon	Beacon	Medieval	A medieval beacon situated on top of an elongated mound orientated north east - south west. There is no trace of a surrounding ditch. The site was investigated c.1827 through excavation. It is assumed to be a place of burial reused as a defence beacon although no remains were found within the mound. The beacon is 15.24m in diameter standing 3.66m high.
36	NZ	14 76	10929	Kirkley Tower	Tower	Medieval	A list from 1415 records a tower at Kirkley belonging to Sir William Eure. There are however no traces of the tower at the Kirkley Hall site.
37	NZ	1335 7526	10930	Higham Dykes, monastic grange settlement	DMV/Chapel	Medieval	Township of Higham Dykes was owned by Newminster Abbey in 1288, possibly with a chapel. Ridge and furrow earthworks east of the site are distorted by fence dykes and tillage and there is nothing visible on aerial photographs. The site now comprises one farmstead.

NPO13: Northumbria Police Headquarters, Ponteland, Northumberland - Catalogue of HER Entries

38	NZ	118 753	10931	Medieval chapel at Milbourne	Chapel	Medieval	The chapel is first mentioned in 1202, 1304 and 1575 but not after. An early 19th-century source refers to a 'quantity of bones' and 'a number of burnt stones also' in the vicinity of Milburn stack yard and Milburn Old Trench. The location of either of these has not been ascertained.
39	NZ	151 773	10934	Kirkley deserted medieval village	DMV	Medieval	No remains are visible either on the ground or on aerial photographs. The emparking of Kirkley Hall probably destroyed any extant remains. Thirteen people were assessed in a 1312 Lay Subsidy and fewer in the 1336 Subsidy.
40	NZ	119 753	10936	South Milbourne, shrunken medieval village	Shrunken Village	Medieval	South Milbourne manor was a fee of the barony of Mitford. There is no record of the size of the medieval settlement. The 1296 Lay Subsidy lists six taxpayers. There are now only two farm houses, two houses and a number of cottages in the village. The main village earthworks lie west of East Town Farm with a group of earthworks to the south. There are multiple references to a medieval chapel from 1202 (NZ 17 NW 10).
41	NZ	126 756	10937	North Milbourne, monastic grange settlement	Grange and DMV	Medieval	The village of North Milbourne was held by the Dilston family after 1116. The manor was alienated to Hexham Priory in 1285 and recorded as a grange in the 1296 Lay Subsidy. By 1379 the estate was leased by one tenant. All later documents depict the township as one farmstead although it may have been a village prior to its conversion to a grange.
42	NZ	192 759	10948	Horton Grange, monastic grange settlement	Grange and DMV	Medieval	Evidence of depopulation at NZ 19307590 and traces of building standing at NZ 19107578 but these are likely to be associated with the Monastic Grange.
43	NZ	157 783	10950	Twizell, deserted medieval village	DMV	Medieval	Twizell was first recorded in 1242. Armstrong's 1769 map shows three buildings, by 1830 only the present one remained.
44	NZ	174 756	10954	Berwick Hill, shrunken medieval village	Shrunken Village	Medieval	Berwick Hill was part of the barony of Mitford. The manor was held by the family of St. Peter in the 13th century, making land grants to Newminster Abbey. No accurate information before Hearth Taxes of 1661-5, when there were four solvents and ten non-solvents. Six leasehold farms and two cottages, 1717. Armstrong records five buildings, 1769.
45	NZ	1117 7196	10974	Dalton, shrunken medieval village	Shrunken Village	Medieval	Remains of population shrinkage at eastern end of Dalton comprising banks and depressions forming enclosures and building steadings.
46	NZ	11527115	10975	Eachwick Hall	Manor House	Medieval	The prior and convent of Hexham held the Hall or Manor House and various lands at Eachwick in AD 1479. The present house dates from late 18th century and does not appear to incorporate the remains of any earlier building
47	NZ	144 748	10976	Coldcoats, deserted medieval village	DMV	Medieval	The manor of Coldcoats was granted by the lord of Mitford to Hugh de Eure c.1268. The vill was not listed in the 1296 Subsidy, but North Coldcoats provided two taxpayers in 1312. The township seems always to have comprised two or three small settlements thereafter. Possible indications of a deserted village have been recorded on the east side of Middle Coldcoats Farm
48	NZ	118 716	10979	North Dissington, deserted medieval village	DMV	Medieval	The township seems to have been a large settlement during the Middle Ages. In 1312 13 people were assessed in the Lay Subsidy. The village survived into the 16th century. North Dissington Hall surrounded by parkland, probably destroyed any remains of the village. Earthworks seen on aerial photographs, of rectangular buildings to west of ridge and furrow in the field north of the road. One possible square enclosure near buildings.
49	NZ	118 711	10981	Eachwick, shrunken medieval village	Shrunken Village	Medieval	In the 1296 Lay Subsidy Eachwick provided eleven taxpayers. Hexham Priory held a moiety of the manor which comprised seven bondages and eight cottages, indicating a whole of c.30 holdings. Armstrong's map of 1769 showed only a hall and three other buildings. Earthworks representing buildings, crofts and a sunken way north of Eachwick Bridge, west of the stream running through the Dissington Hall parkland.
50	NZ	16535 72993	10991	Blackbird Inn, Ponteland	Pele Tower	Medieval	The ruins of a pele tower stand in the garden of the Blackbird Inn at Ponteland. The earls of Athol lived in the tower in the 14th century. The Scots successfully raided it in 1388. It was rebuilt by Mark Errington at beginning of 17th century. The renovated remains of the tower are now incorporated in the public house situated at its southern extremity.
51	NZ	1658 7295	10992	St Mary's Church, Ponteland	Church	Medieval	Parish church. 12th-15th century. Restored 1810. Norman west tower and doorway, with 14th and 19th-century alterations. 10th-century grave-marker built into south wall of tower church, inside.
52	NZ	1647 7283	10994	Vicar's Pele, Ponteland	Pele Tower	Medieval	Roofless shell of a three-storeyed tower with modern appendages. Interpretation of the tower suggests a medieval house with a ground floor hall, an undefended building possibly dating from the 1280s.
53	NZ	163 736	10998	Little Eland, deserted medieval village (site of)	DMV	Medieval	First recorded in 1296 under Ponteland in the Lay Subsidy. No surviving evidence. Area now mostly covered by modern housing.
54	NZ	170 734	10999	Eland Hall (Great Eland), ?manorial demesne settlement	Manor/DMV	Medieval	County History identifies Great Eland with the hamlet Eland Hall. Unknown if a demesne farm or tenement buildings. Earthworks to west of Eland Hall Farm possibly indicate croft and toft in aerial photographs. Substantial ridge and furrow surrounds the area.
55	NZ	152 712	11000	Darras Hall (formerly Callerton Darreynes), deserted medieval village (site of)	DMV	Medieval	Six taxpayers in Lay Subsidy of 1296. Settlement depopulated by 17th century. Now covered by modern housing estate.
56	NZ	155 722	11001	Little Callerton, ?deserted medieval village (site of)	DMV	Medieval	The township may never have comprised a village. One farm remained by mid-17th century. Now covered by modern housing estate.
57	NZ	165 704	11007	Brough Hill ridge and furrow	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	Cropmarks visible on aerial photograph on Brough Hill. Medieval ridge and furrow.
58	NZ	16478 72898	14036	Medieval ditches, Peel House	Ditch	Medieval	Trial trench in 2003 revealed two intercutting gullies running east - west containing medieval pottery. Probably represent agricultural features, either drainage or field boundaries. Watching brief in 2008 supported this conclusion.
59	NZ	1653 7289	24049	Medieval features, Ponteland	Excavation	Medieval	2009 excavation in the Old Rectory, Ponteland revealed gullies, a ditch and burnt deposits. Appears to represent 14th-century domestic occupation within a boundary feature, occupation ceased by the 15th century.
60	NZ	11676 71606	26316	Mill leat, Dissington Park	Leat	Medieval	A mill leat is recorded to the south of Dissington Hall.
61	NZ	11575 71682	26317	Weir on Meg's Hole, Dissington Park	Weir	Medieval	A weir on the stream Meg's Hole. This and other hydrological features have been renewed in the 1830s.
62	NZ	11916 71490	26324	Earthwork remains of Dissington Village?	DMV	Medieval	Series of earthworks, possibly medieval remains of Dissington village.
63	NZ	11901 71252	26325	Old road to Eachwick	Trackway	Medieval	Possible medieval trackway to Eachwick.
64	NZ	11186 71738	26326	Wall on the western side of Dissington Park	Boundary Wall	Medieval	Boundary wall on western side of the park.
65	NZ	415375 574026	21682	Blocks 1-2 and 3-4 Northumbria Police HQ	Extant building	Modern	Grade 2 Listed Building. Originally Cottage Homes for children built in 1903 by Leeson for the Newcastle Board for Guardians. Now Police Headquarters. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses.

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66	NZ	415435 514074	21683	Blocks 5-6 and 7-8 Northumbria Police HQ	Extant building	Modern	Grade 2 Listed Building. Originally Cottage Homes for children built in 1903 by Leeson for the Newcastle Board for Guardians. Now Police Headquarters. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses.
67	NZ	415510 574105	21684	Blocks 9-10 and 11-12 Northumbria Police HQ	Extant building	Modern	Grade 2 Listed Building. Originally Cottage Homes for children built in 1903 by Leeson for the Newcastle Board for Guardians. Now Police Headquarters. Welsh slate roofs. Two pairs of semi-detached houses.
68	NZ	415588 574096	21685	Block 13 Northumbria Police HQ	Extant building	Modern	Grade 2 Listed Building. Superintendent's House of Cottage Homes for children. Built by Leeson for the Newcastle Board of Guardians. Now Police Headquarters. Welsh slate roof. House with linking range of offices and water tower attached to rear.
69	NZ	415426 574010	21686	Block 27 Northumbria Police HQ	Extant building	Modern	Grade 2 Listed Building. Workshops for Cottage Homes. Built by Leeson in 1903 for the Newcastle Board of Guardians. Now workshops of Police Headquarters. Welsh slate roof. Three ranges forming U-plan.

APPENDIX B
PLATES 1-51 (SITE PHOTOGRAPHS)

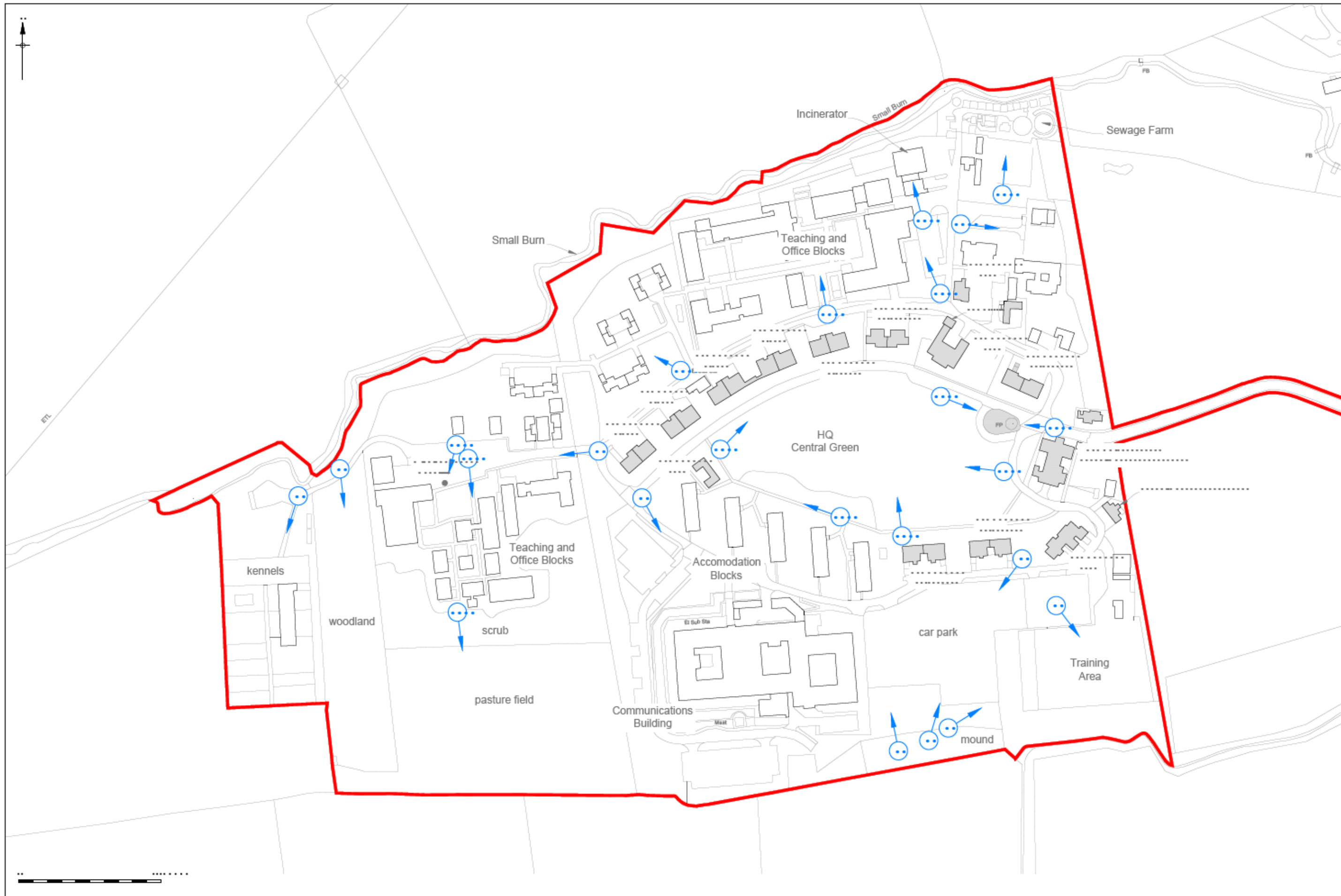




Plate 1. Communications Building (left) and car park, from mound at southern boundary, looking NNW



Plate 2. Car park (Blocks 18-19 and 20-21 to rear), from mound at southern boundary, looking NNE



Plate 3. Car park and south-eastern part of site, from mound at southern boundary, looking ENE



Plate 4. Car park and Communications Building (rearground, right), looking south-west



Plate 5. Training area in south-easternmost part of site, looking south-east



Plate 6. Communications Building, from its access road, looking south-east



Plate 7. Access road to blocks in western part of site, looking west



Plate 8. Access road to kennels compound in westernmost part of site, looking SSW



Plate 9. Woodland belt east of the kennels compound, looking south



Plate 10. Strip of scrubland and pasture field (rearground) in south-western part of site, looking south



Plate 11. Office block in western part of site (colliery winding wheel to right), looking south



Plate 12. Colliery winding wheel on display in western part of site, looking south-west



Plate 13. Low-rise blocks in north-western part of site, looking north-west



Plate 14. Assorted blocks in northern central part of site, looking north



Plate 15. Blocks in northern central part of site (incinerator block rearground, right), looking NNW



Plate 16. Incinerator block in northern central part of site, looking north



Plate 17. Hardstanding and sewage treatment works (rearground) in north-easternmost part of site, looking north



Plate 18. Access road in north-eastern part of site, looking east



Plate 19. View across central green (former Cottage Homes rearground, right), looking west



Plate 20. Northumbria Police Headquarters commemoration area, looking west



Plate 21. View across central green (former Cottage Homes rearground), looking north



Plate 22. Accommodation blocks on south side of central green (with Block 27 to right), looking west



Plate 23. View across northern part of central green (former Cottage Homes rearground), looking north-east



Plate 24. View towards site entrance (left), with Blocks 16 & 17 (centre and right, respectively), looking ESE



Plate 25. Block 1-2, front elevation, oblique view, looking NNW



Plate 26. Block 1-2, rear elevation, oblique view, looking SW



Plate 27. Block 3-4, front elevation, oblique view, looking NNE



Plate 28. Block 3-4, rear elevation, oblique view, looking south-west



Plate 29. Block 5-6, front elevation, oblique view, looking north



Plate 30. Block 5-6, rear elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 31. Block 7-8, front elevation, looking north



Plate 32. Block 7-8, rear elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 33. Block 9-10, front elevation, oblique view, looking north



Plate 34. Block 9-10, rear elevation, looking SSE



Plate 35. Block 9-10, side elevation, oblique view, looking south-west



Plate 36. Block 11-12, front elevation, oblique view, looking NNE



Plate 37. Block 11-12, rear elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 38. Block 13, looking ENE



Plate 39. Block 13, front elevation, looking north-east



Plate 40. Block 13, rear elevation, looking south-west



Plate 41. Block 13, water tower, looking west



Plate 42. Block 27, front elevation, oblique view, looking ESE



Plate 43. Block 56, front elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 44. Block 14-15, front elevation, oblique view, looking north-east



Plate 45. Block 14-15, rear elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 46. Block 14-15, sundial on front lawn, looking north-east



Plate 47. Block 16, north elevation, oblique view, looking south



Plate 48. Block 16, east elevation, oblique view, looking west



Plate 49. Block 17, front elevation, oblique view, looking south-east



Plate 50. Block 18-19, front elevation, oblique view, looking south-west



Plate 51. Block 20-21, front elevation, oblique view, looking south-east

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