



# Rear of 42 Horsemarket, Barnard Castle

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological  
Watching Brief

Phase 3 – grubbing of existing foundation trenches, piling and  
removal of contaminated land

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Archaeological Watching Brief  
Rear of 42 Horsemarket  
Barnard Castle

Written Scheme of Investigation

Prepared on behalf of:

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## Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief for Mr Richard Naseby (the Client), the Archaeology Team at Durham County Council Archaeology section (DCCAS) and Historic England (HE). The purpose of this document is to provide an outline of planned works, aims and objectives of the watching brief, and methodology to be employed. The expected impact on an area of the site which forms part of Scheduled Ancient Monument is also discussed.

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## Project summary

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# 1 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

## 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 DigVentures Ltd has been appointed by Mr Richard Naseby (hereafter “the Client”) to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken at Rear of 42 Horsemarket, Barnard Castle, DL12 8NA (hereafter “the Site”).
- 1.1.2 AMJ Construction is undertaking demolition of structures to the rear of 42 Horsemarket on behalf of the Client in advance of development at the site (Planning Ref DM/18/01049/FPA; Figure 1). A heritage statement has been written and submitted with the planning application (see Turnbull 2014), which provides detailed assessment of the historic background and archaeological potential at the site. The Site is considered to be of archaeological interest due to its proximity to the medieval castle (Scheduled Monument 23222) and an archaeological watching brief is required during any works in order for the development to comply with Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018).
- 1.1.3 In August 2018, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken at the Site by DigVentures during geotechnical borehole and test pitting survey (Figure 2). All work was undertaken according to a stage-specific WSI (Forster 2018). No archaeological deposits or remains were recorded (Forster and Wilkins 2018).
- 1.1.4 In June 2019, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken at the Site by DigVentures in order to monitor the demolition of building and grubbing out of foundations. A stage-specific WSI was submitted in advance of the work (Russ 2019a). No conclusive evidence was found regarding the nature of the Castle ditch, which may have continued into the area. A small quantity of late-19th and early-20th century ceramic and glass vessels were recorded immediately beneath the concrete floors of the structure. No work was undertaken in the scheduled area below ground level and foundations were retained in situ (Russ 2019b).
- 1.1.5 The next stage of works will involve grubbing out of foundations, insertion of piles and removal of contaminated land which will impinge by a small margin on the scheduled area of Barnard Castle (SM 23222; HA 1007505; Figure 3). Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) for the works has been provided by the Secretary of State (S00227054, 17 October 2019 and 1st November 2019). This WSI provides a description of the methods to be employed for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the development works at the site. The work will be undertaken under the guidance of Durham County Council’s Archaeology Section (DCCAS), and Historic England’s (HE) Inspector of Ancient Monuments Lee McFarlane who have advised on the requirement for an archaeological watching brief in accordance with a WSI.

## 1.2 Scope of document

- 1.2.1 This WSI sets out the strategy and methodology by which the archaeological contractor will implement the archaeological watching brief. In format and content, it conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined the Management of Archaeological Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England



2015a), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2014) and the North East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment (Petts and Gerrard 2006). Work will also be undertaken to the DCCAS *Standards for Archaeological Work in County Durham and Darlington* (April 2019).

- 1.2.2 This WSI is to be submitted for approval prior to the commencement of the archaeological programme to DCCAS, who provide archaeological planning advice to the Local Planning Authority, and to Historic England who will monitor works are undertaken in line with the conditions of Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC).

### 1.3 Site location, geology and background

- 1.3.1 The site lies at grid reference NZ049164 and is situated at the northern end of Horsemarket, on the western side of the road and opposite the junction of Galgate, Barnard Castle (Figure 1). The proposed development area extends from the rear of 42 Horsemarket (Figure 2) and has been in use as a builders' yard. The site boundaries have remained the same since the mid-19th century, bounded on the south side by a high brick wall and on the north side by a sandstone wall separating the site from the Methodist Church (Turnbull 2014, 2). 42 and 42a Horsemarket is a Grade II listed building (Historic England List Entry Number 1292272) and the premises are now subject to mixed business use. The 1:50,000 scale Geological Survey (Sheet 32) indicates that the solid geology at the site comprises sandstone and limestone.

- 1.3.2 To the west of the site the medieval castle (Barnard Castle - Historic England List Entry Number 1007505) is a ringwork developed into a shell keep. One of the largest castles in the of north of England, the boundary of the Scheduled Monument area lies adjacent to the site and in one area on the southern side of the development site, the proposed works encroach slightly into the scheduled area (see Figure 2 for the boundary).

## 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### 2.1 Watching Brief

- 2.1.1 The principal aim of the watching brief is to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the area of the groundworks. This will include:

- To verify the archaeological potential of the site.
- To identify the potential for remains not anticipated by previous research or record.

- 2.1.2 A comprehensive archaeological and historic background to the site is provided by Turnbull (2014). In summary, the site is located no more than six metres from the external north-east corner of the castle. The main archaeological question across the development site is to establish the extent to which the area impinges on the castle ditch or moat (ibid, 7). Current knowledge concerning the castle ditch is incomplete and it has been postulated that the feature would have been very wide (a breadth of 20 – 25 meters) and presumably commensurately deep (ibid, 9). The principle



archaeological question during works at the site will be to establish what the castle ditch does at this north-western corner of the castle. In Turnbull's opinion, '...it seems reasonable to suppose that the ditch continues to follow the wall at this corner of the castle, turning to the west for run towards the North Gate' (ibid, 10).

- 2.1.3 Although the size of the development is limited, should the castle ditch be located, there may be potential to address some of the research aims of the NERRF (Petts and Gerrard 2006). In relation to the castle itself, understanding the decline and afterlife of the castle would be a key objective, as would providing evidence for transitions between the medieval and post medieval periods (NERRF Key research theme MDiv, MDxi). Evidence for material from the earlier ditch deposits may provide evidence for industrial production and material culture contemporary with the medieval occupation of the site (NERRF Key research theme MDvii, MDviii. In addition, it is possible that investigations at this site could add detail to the development of the town (NERRF Key research theme MDiii).

### 3 METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Monitoring of development

- 3.1.1 A programme for the archaeological watching brief will be carried out, subject to prior and adequate notification being given by the Client, on the commencement of any groundwork that may have an impact on archaeological features and deposits. The works will involve the grubbing out of foundations, insertion of two piles and removal of contaminated land which may impinge on the scheduled area by a small margin (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The work is currently programmed for Autumn / Winter 2019. An archaeological presence will be maintained during the works. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the WSI provided by DigVentures and the requirements of the DCCAS and Historic England. The Client will afford reasonable access in order that all archaeological features and deposits revealed during excavations and groundwork can be investigated and recorded appropriately.
- 3.1.3 All recording will be undertaken using DigVentures pro forma recording system, supported by a digital photographic record that confirms with Historic England standards (Historic England 2015b). A sufficient sample of each feature type/deposit will be examined in order to establish the date, nature, extent and condition of the archaeological remains, encompassing the following percentage interventions:
- 50% of each intrusive feature (pits, postholes).
  - 50% of each linear feature exposed in an area, and all terminals.
  - 100% of intersections of all features.
  - 50% structural features (beamslots, ring ditches) - actual surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) just require exposure, cleaning & preservation for excavation in more appropriate circumstances.
  - 50-100% domestic/industrial working features (hearths, ovens).
- 3.1.4 Areas under archaeological observation will be surveyed using a Total Station or dGPS and tied in with the Ordnance Survey. Variations to the WSI and Method Statement will be agreed in advance with the Client, DCCAS and Historic England.



3.1.5 In the event that unexpectedly complex and widespread archaeological remains are revealed, the Client, DCCAS and Historic England will be informed in order that the provisions of this WSI may be reviewed.

### **3.2 Finds and environmental samples**

3.2.1 Finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2014), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

3.2.2 All artefacts will be retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances, sufficient artefacts will only be retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit.

3.2.3 All artefacts from the watching brief will, as a minimum, be washed, marked, counted, weighed and identified. Any stratified ironwork will be X-rayed and stored in a stable condition along with other fragile and delicate material. Suitable material, primarily the pottery and non-ferrous metalwork, will be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage. The results of this scan will be appended to the watching brief report.

3.2.4 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate sealed and dateable archaeological contexts (each sealed context will normally be sampled). Samples of between 40-60 litres will be taken or 100 % of smaller contexts. Samples will not be taken from the intersection of features. Bulk environmental soil samples will be processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive. A statement on the environmental potential of excavated deposits will be appended to the watching brief report.

### **3.3 Human Remains**

3.3.1 In the event of discovery of any human remains, it is proposed that they will be left in situ, covered and protected, until the Client, Coroner, Local Planning Authority Advisor and Historic England have been informed. Where development will unavoidably disturb them they will be fully recorded, excavated and removed from the site subject to compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, which will be obtained by DigVentures.

3.3.2 Should human remains be excavated during the watching brief, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains (McKinley and Roberts 1993), as well as those provided by Historic England and Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE) (Historic England 2018; APABE and Historic England 2017; APABE 2015; 2013). Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken by specialist staff at DigVentures. The final placing of human remains following analysis will be subject to the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Licence.



### 3.4 Treasure

- 3.4.1 In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by The Treasure Act and Treasure Designation Order (1996; 2002), their excavation and removal will be undertaken following notification of the Client, DCCAS, and Historic England. Advice on reporting and management of any Treasure finds will be sought from the Finds Liaison Officer for Durham, Darlington and Teesside.

## 4 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORTING

### 4.1 Watching brief report

- 4.1.1 Within four weeks of completion of all fieldwork, a report setting out the results will be produced and forwarded to the Client for approval. The watching brief report will be prepared in accordance with the guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014), except where superseded by statements below.

- 4.1.2 Emphasis will be given to placing the results into the context of the archaeology of the region, and their significance in the context of the priorities outlined in the North East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment (NERRF) (Petts and Gerrard 2006). The report will comply with the requirements of DCCAS and Historic England, and may include:

#### 4.1.3 A non-technical summary

- Plans and sections at an appropriate scale locating the site, the, known and projected archaeological deposits and the extent and nature of colluvial and/or alluvial deposits, including OD heights
- Tabulation of finds data by context and by material type
- A summary by category of the material types recovered during the watching brief
- A summary of the palaeo-environmental evidence
- A consideration of the archaeological evidence from within the Site set in its broader landscape and historic setting
- SMC reference number

#### 4.1.4 The preparation of the report may involve the following elements:

- The conservation of appropriate material, including the X-raying of ironwork
- The spot dating of all pottery from excavated contexts. Spot dating will be corroborated by scanning of other categories of material
- The preparation of a preliminary phased site matrix with supporting lists of contexts by type (ditch fill, pit fill etc.), by spot-dated phase (Early Bronze Age, Middle Iron Age, Roman etc.), by structural grouping (e.g. contexts by pit, by building etc.), supported by preliminary phase plans.
- A statement on each category of material, including reference to quantity, provenance, range and variety, condition and existence of other primary sources.
- The selection and prioritisation of bulk soil samples taken for environmental and artefactual data in the light of preliminary phasing. Sieving, processing and scanning of selected soil samples will be undertaken and an assessment



statement on charred food and plant remains, including references as for the categories of material

- A statement of potential for each material category and for the data collection as a whole will be prepared, including specific questions that can be answered and the potential value of the data to local, regional and national investigation priorities.

4.1.5 Where appropriate and subject to further agreement, further analysis may be undertaken and the results published in a journal appropriate to the significance of finds. An OASIS online record will be initiated at the start of work, and a copy of the OASIS form included with the final report within three months of leaving site. Where positive results are drawn for a project, a summary report will also be submitted to DCCAS and Historic England. On approval, the report will be submitted in hard copy and in digital copy to the DCC HER, with a copyright licence granted to Durham County Council to use the report for the purposes of the HER. A final copy of the report will be uploaded to OASIS within three months of approval by DCCAS.

## 5 ARCHIVE

### 5.1 Preparation and deposition

5.1.1 The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with DigVentures' Guidelines for Archive Preparation and DCCAS's Standards (DCCAS 2019), and in accordance with best practice guidance (English Heritage 1991; Historic England 2015a; 2015b; Walker 1990; Watkinson and Neal 2001). The material archive from the project, including the finds and subject to the wishes of the landowner will be deposited in the Sevenhills Repository at Spennymoor.

5.1.2 Guidelines for preparation and deposition have been fully reviewed to ensure that the curator's requirements can be fully met. Deposition of the Digital Archive will follow guidelines outlined by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

## 6 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING

### 6.1 Finds and environmental samples

6.1.1 The fieldwork will be directed and supervised by an experienced archaeologist from DigVentures core staff (see Appendix 1), who will be on site, having been given prior notification by the Client, as soon as groundworks are being undertaken that could have an impact on potential archaeological features. The overall responsibility for the conduct and management of the project will be held by one of DigVentures' Project Managers, who will visit the fieldwork as appropriate to monitor progress and to ensure that the scope of works is adhered to. The appointed Project Manager and experienced archaeologist will be involved in all phases of the evaluation through to its completion.

6.1.2 The analysis of the finds and environmental data will be undertaken by DigVentures' core staff or external specialists, using DigVentures' standard pro forma recording system. The work will be carried out under the supervision of the following departmental managers under the overall direction of the Project Manager. Information on DigVentures' external finds and environmental specialists can be



provided on request. All specialist reporting will be undertaken by experienced specialists, including;

- Animal bone – Hannah Russ
- Environmental – Rosalind McKenna
- Geoarchaeology – Joanna McKenzie
- Prehistory pottery – Emily Edwards
- Roman pottery – David Griffiths
- Human bone – Malin Holst
- Medieval / post medieval pottery – Andrew Sage
- Glass – Cecily Cropper
- Lithics – Josh Hogue
- Small finds and leather – Quita Mould

## 6.2 Quality and code of practice

6.2.1 DigVentures is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. All senior managers are MCIfA registered. The company endorses the Code of Practice and the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology of The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

6.2.2 All core staff employed by DigVentures are appropriately qualified CfA members, and employed in line with The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Codes of Practice. DigVentures operates a Project Management System. All projects are undertaken under the direction of the Project Manager who is responsible to a Section Head, who ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation. The Managing Director has ultimate responsibility for all of the company's work.

## 7 INSURANCE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

### 7.1 Policy and Risk Assessment

7.1.1 Health and safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practises will override archaeological considerations at all times. DigVentures Ltd shall undertake the works in accordance with the Health and Safety Plan. This document should take account of any design information pertaining to above ground hazards such as buildings and structures and below ground hazards such as services, utilities and infrastructure. Risk Assessments should also consider below ground contaminants such as unexploded ordnance.

7.1.2 DigVentures Ltd will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1996). Trench excavation and design shall conform to Health and Safety legislation, incorporating current best engineering practice where possible.

7.1.3 DigVentures holds public liability insurance (£10,000,000), employer's liability insurance (£10,000,000) and professional indemnity insurance (£5,000,000).



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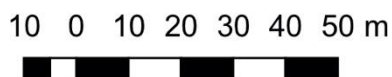
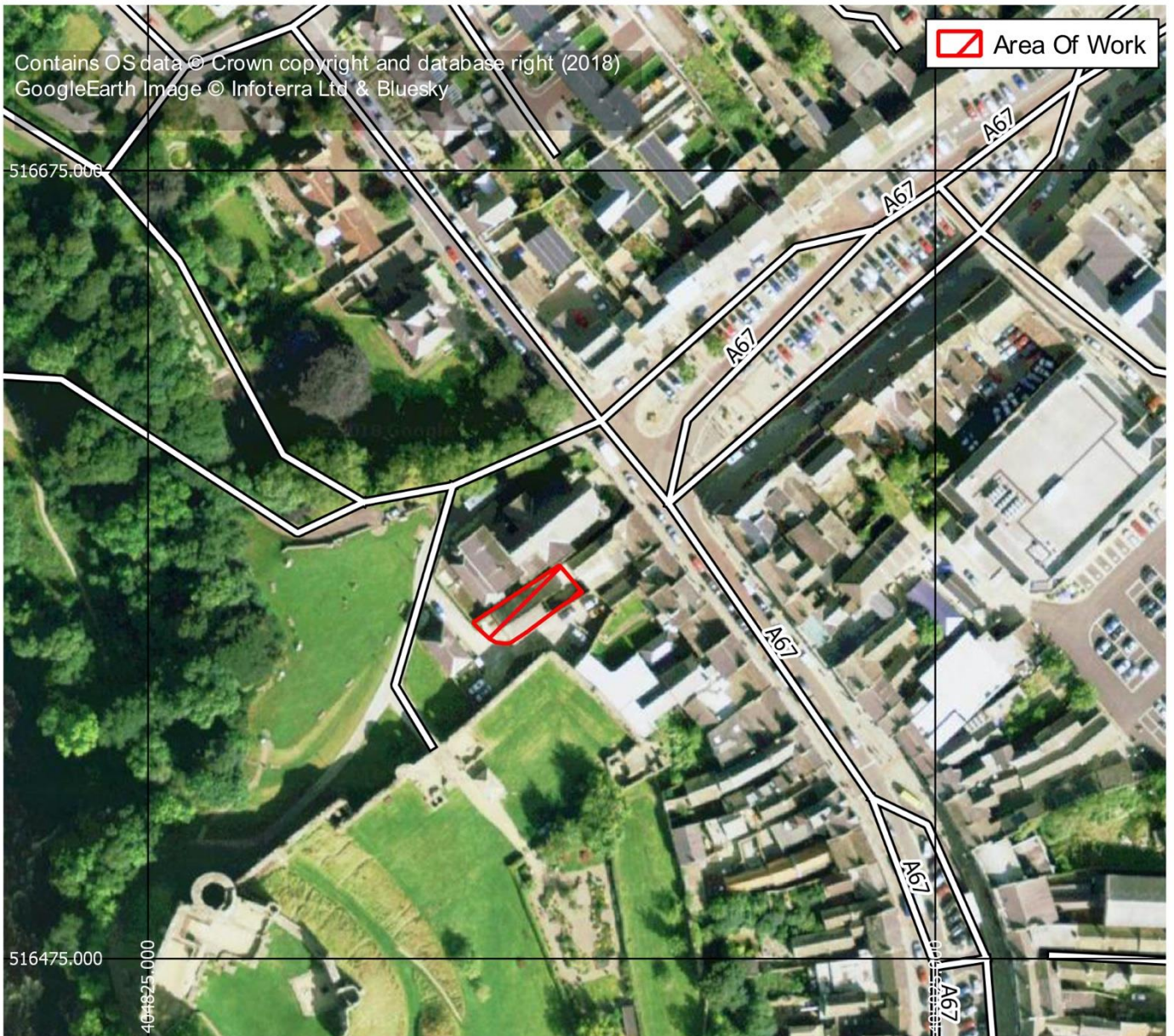
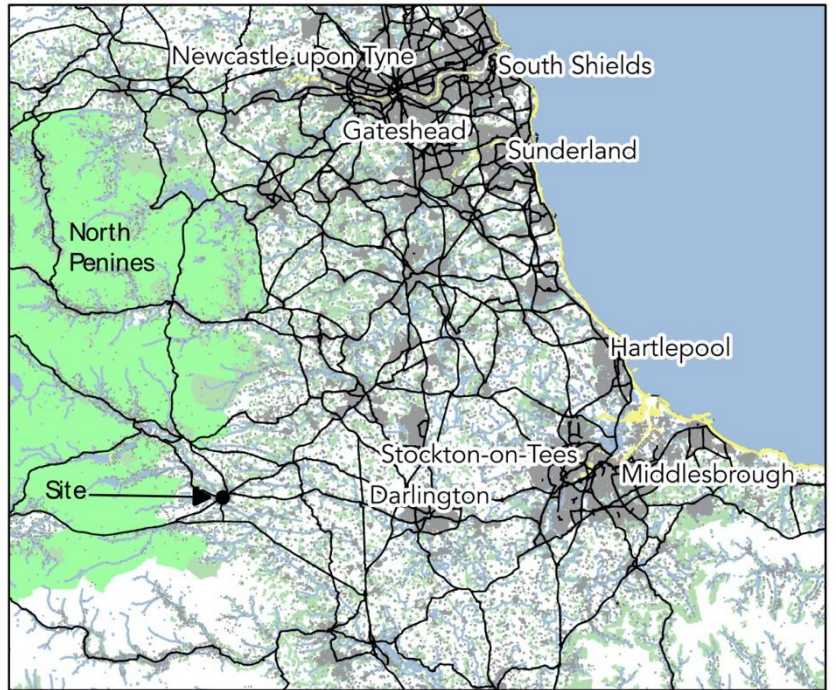


Figure 1 – 42 Horsemarket: Site Location



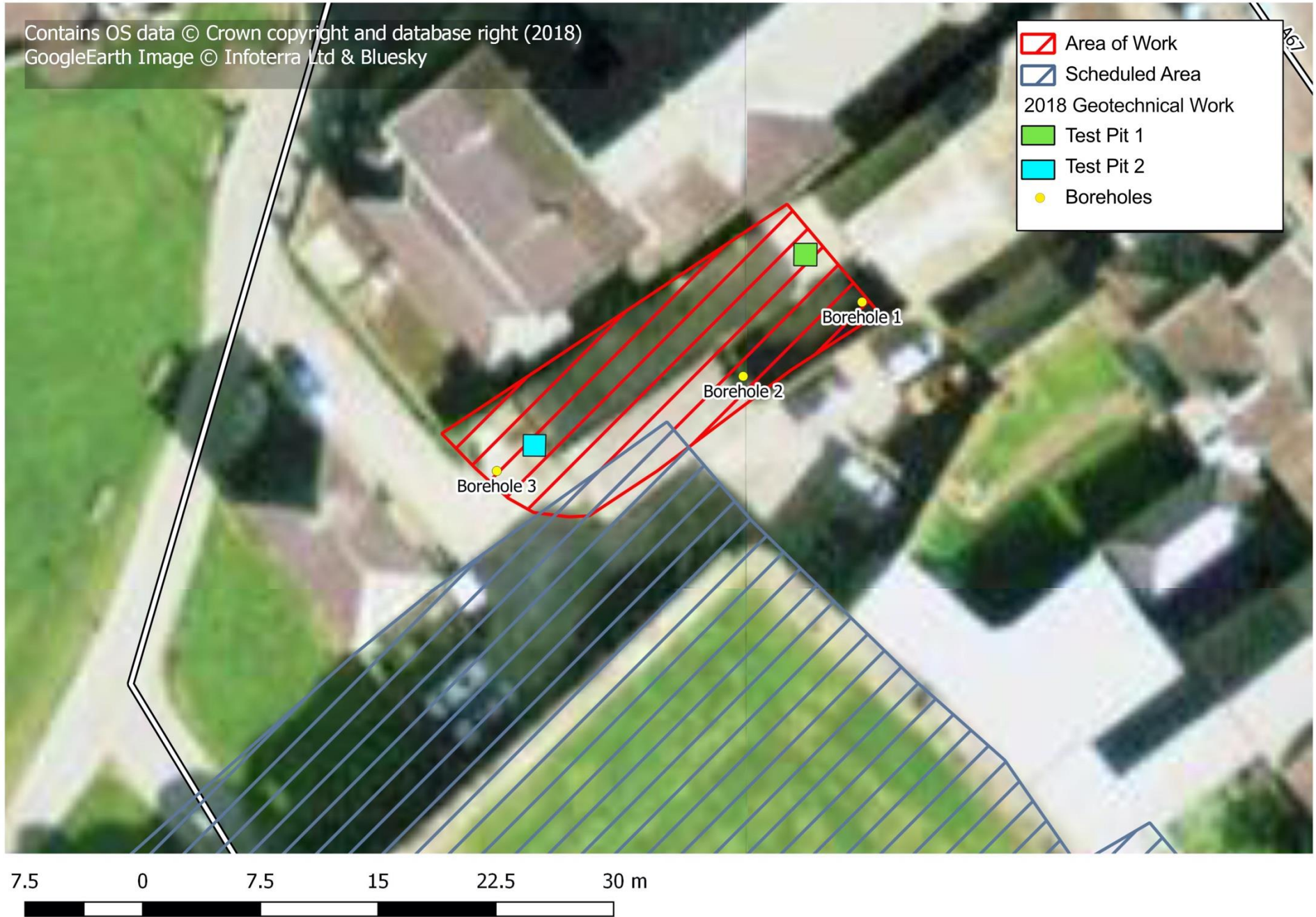


Figure 2 – 42 Horsemarket: Area of work showing previous works

Trinity Methodist Church

42 Horsemarket



**Key**

- Site outline
- Proposed foundations
- Contaminated area
- Pile locations
- Scheduled area
- Scheduled area - 1m buffer

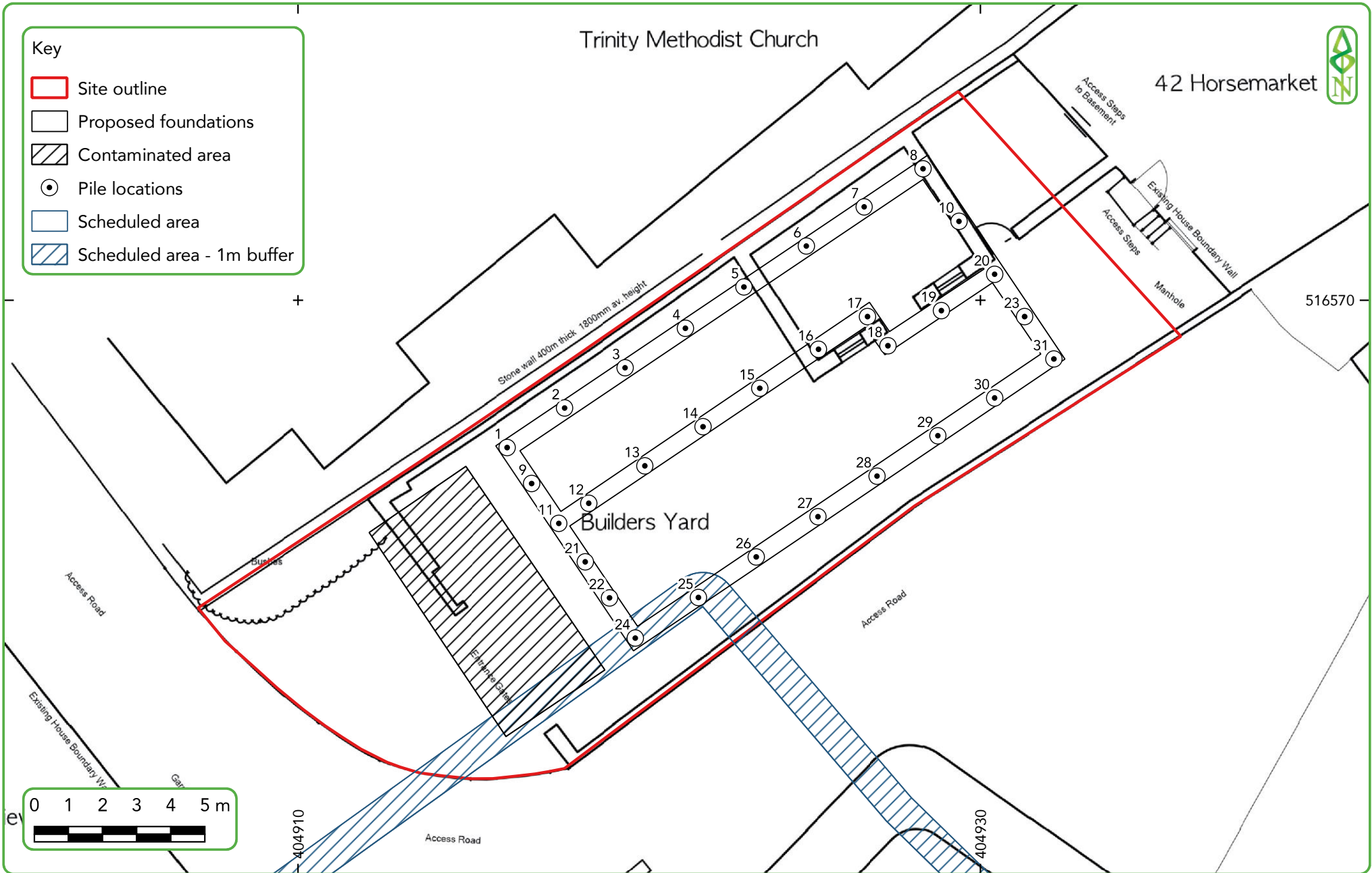


Figure 3 – 42 Horsemarket: Showing Scheduled area, location of foundations, piling plan and area of contaminated land for removal