



Archaeological
Research
Services Ltd

77 Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland

Archaeological Assessment



Excerpt from Speed's 1610 Map of Northumberland showing Berwick-upon-Tweed

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Client:

Arboretum Village Property Co
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Edinburgh
EH10 5BJ

Planning Application Number: 05/B/0271

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Executive Summary

Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by the Arboretum Village Property Co. to undertake an archaeological assessment of 77 Marygate, Berwick upon Tweed in April 2006. The work involved the consultation of archive sources to examine the extent to which a detailed predictive deposit model of the archaeology of the site could be established without the need for intrusive excavation.

The development scheme involves the erection of 11 residential flats following clearance of the site, which has the potential to reveal significant archaeological deposits that can provide information about the history and development of the settlement of Berwick and the life of its inhabitants.

Berwick has a history dating from at least the 11th century AD, and Marygate has existed as a primary routeway through medieval Berwick from at least the 12th century AD, and lies within the circuit of the earlier town walls. Significant medieval deposits, dating from the 12th to the 17th centuries AD are known from within 50m of the site.

Given the variety of deposits, and depths at which they have been discovered, within the vicinity of the development area, and a corresponding inability to effectively plot links between deposits on opposite sides of the site, it is suggested that an accurate and conclusive predictive deposit model of the development area cannot be established without intrusive excavation.

Given the intensive interrogation of the available information it is suggested that the development at 77 Margate is therefore most likely to impact upon garden deposits of 14th and 15th century date at its maximum depth. It is not thought likely that significant volumes of artefacts (ceramics, leatherwork, metalwork etc) or ecofacts (macrofossils and faunal remains) would be present within such deposits. However, given the extensive medieval deposits known from the immediate vicinity of the development area, there is a significant possibility that very important archaeological features, such as those found at site 3 on Marygate, may be present within the development area, and that the development may have a significant impact upon them.

This assessment can only be used as a guide to the potential deposits, and their exact nature, extent and significance can only be established through intrusive excavation.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

1.1.1 The following document details the results of an archaeological assessment at:

77 Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland

The development area is situated approximately 40m south-west of Marygate, between Golden Square to the north-west and West Street to the south-east, at a height of c. 20m OD (NT 99779 52930 centred).

1.1.2 The development is being undertaken by Arboretum Village Property Company, 5 Ettrick Road, Edinburgh EH10 5BJ. The Planning Application number is 05/B/0271. The NCCCT reference is B38/47; 4669.

1.1.2 Marygate has existed as a primary routeway through medieval Berwick from at least the 12th century AD, and lies within the circuit of the earlier town walls. Significant medieval deposits, dating from the 12th to the 17th centuries AD are known from within 50m of the site.

1.1.3 The development scheme involves the erection of 11 residential flats following clearance of the site, which has the potential to reveal significant archaeological deposits that can provide information about the history and development of the settlement of Berwick and the life of its inhabitants.

1.1.4 The scope of this report comprises an assessment of archive sources, with particular emphasis on previous archaeological mitigation undertaken in the vicinity of the site, with the aim of examining the extent to which a detailed predictive deposit model of the archaeology of the site can be established.

This work consists of the following elements:

- consultation of archive sources
- consultation of cartographic sources
- potential creation of a predictive deposit model
- reporting

2. METHODS

2.1 Site investigation

2.1.1 A site visit was made on 10th May 2006. This assessed the location of visible archaeological or historic structures or remains, the current ground condition, and any potential obstructions to future excavation on the site.



Fig. 1: Map showing location of 77 Marygate, Berwick

2.2 Consultation of archive sources

- 2.2.1 The specification supplied by the Assistant County Archaeologist stipulated that the completed report should contain a “period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area”.

To accomplish this, and after consultation with the County Archaeologist, historic maps, as well as published and unpublished documentary material, were consulted at the following local archives:

- Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office, Wallace Green, Berwick-upon-Tweed
- Northumberland County Council Sites and Monuments Record
- Geomorphological data held at the Geography Department, Newcastle University
- Publications held in the Cowen Library, University of Newcastle
- Publications held in the Robinson Library, University of Newcastle
- Archives held in the Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle

2.3 Investigation of historic mapping

2.3.1 The specification supplied by the Assistant County Archaeologist stipulated that the final report should include historic maps, showing the location of the proposed development. Historic maps were consulted at the archive services listed in section 2.2.1 (above). Suitable maps were traced, or where permitted, digitally photographed. Using the Ordnance Survey digital Landline mapping as a base, maps were scaled and rotated using AutoCAD software, beginning with the most recent and going backwards in time to the earliest. The following maps were included in the regression exercise:

- Ordnance Survey *Landline* mapping revised 2002
- Ordnance Survey 1852 *Town Plan of Berwick-upon-Tweed* 1:500
- John Wood 1822 *Plan of the town of Berwick from actual survey*
- Fuller 1799 *A plan of the town of Berwick*
- Armstrong 1769 *Map of Northumberland, Berwick plan*
- Speed 1610 Inset in *Map of Northumberland*
- Anon. 1570 *The true depiction of Her Majesty's town of Berwick*
- Anon. 1564 *Berwick*

2.3.2 The results of the documentary search are discussed below. The results of the consultation of the historic maps are given in section 4.2. Maps are shown in figures 3 to 8.

2.4 Creation of a predictive deposit model

2.4.1 The specification supplied by the Assistant County Archaeologist stipulated that 'the objective of the assessment would be to examine the extent to which a detailed predictive deposit model of the archaeology of the site could be established without the need for intrusive excavation'. Assessment and integration of data from the relevant sources was used to produce a textual description of the potential archaeological deposits that may be present at 77 Marygate. The textual description was based upon synthesis of the historic mapping, relevant published and unpublished sources, and specifically the records and archives from archaeological evaluations in the immediate vicinity of the site. Illustrative material (to be created by modelling known heights of archaeological deposits from surrounding sites in relation the modern ground surface and then extrapolating this information through 77 Marygate to present a visual depiction of the potential depths of archaeological features beneath the present ground surface) proved to be extremely difficult to produce with any certainty, given the disparate nature of the sources. Section 4.3 presents the results of the data integration and interrogation in detail.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Historical Background

3.1.1 *Prehistoric:* No mention of any significant prehistoric archaeology was made in the

consulted sources.

- 3.1.2 *Romano-British*: No mention of any significant Romano-British archaeology was made in the consulted sources.
- 3.1.3 *Early Medieval*: No mention of any significant Early Medieval archaeology was made in the consulted sources.
- 3.1.4 *11th and 12th centuries*: The origins of Berwick-upon-Tweed are slightly obscure. The first reliable reference is in John Fordun's *Chronicle of the Scottish Nation*, which records King Eadgar of Scotland giving 'the village of Berwick with all its appurtenances' to the monastery of Coldingham in 1097 (Skene 1872, 215). As the Scottish-English border became more firmly established along the River Tweed, Berwick rapidly grew in importance, as it provided excellent harbourage, as well as potential bridging point across the river. By the 12th century, in the reign of King David I of Scotland, it was a thriving town and probably particularly significant as a port, and gained the status of a Royal Burgh. During this period settlement is thought to have developed between Marygate and the waterfront, an area which the site at 77 Marygate lies within, and it is at this time that Marygate is first mentioned in the documentary sources (Ellison 1976). It is the area between Marygate and the Tweed shore that also formed the core of medieval Berwick through later centuries, with a trading nucleus being focussed on the Marygate area.
- 3.1.5 *13th century*: It is the 13th century that probably marked the peak of Berwick's importance and prosperity. Scottish kings often stopped there, and a number of religious houses, including foundations by the four major orders of Friars and a Cistercian nunnery, were made. As a port, Berwick was extremely significant, probably dealing with most of Scotland's import and export trade, as its customs duties were greater than those of Newcastle or Edinburgh (Cambridge *et al* 2001, 89). Trading goods included significant amounts of fish, wool and hides, with a strong Flemish presence in the town, and imports of wine and grain arrived from the continent. In 1296 when Edward I conquered the town it was claimed that several thousand (possibly as many as 15,000) townspeople were killed, giving an indication that Berwick was a considerable size by the end of the 13th century (Ellison 1976).
- 3.1.6 *14th and 15th centuries*: Following Edward I's conquest, the town passed backwards and forwards between the Scottish and the English, although initially this appeared to have little impact upon the economics of the town, and therefore the life of the inhabitants. By the early 14th century Berwick was exporting twice as much wool as its nearest competitor, Aberdeen. However the later part of the 14th century saw a dramatic decline, as frequent changes of ownership and plague (both human and animal), created an environment in which trade could not flourish. Increasingly frequent clashes over this strategic stronghold swiftly impoverished the town, as rebuilding damaged property and associated insecurity, swiftly drained resources and people from the town. After Edward IV took the town in 1482, it has remained in English hands, however this did not arrest its economic decline, as the English-Scottish border became formalised and much of the hinterland remained uninhabited (Ellison 1976).
- 3.1.7 *16th and 17th centuries*: This period saw Berwick becoming increasingly defended,

but on a smaller scale, as new defences, constructed in the middle of the 16th century excluded not only much of the north-western part of the medieval town, but also its principal church. By the time of Elizabeth II the population was little more than 1500 people, much of the town was unoccupied and the rest was in a poor state of repair, almost wholly dependent upon the garrison for economic viability. When the garrison was withdrawn in 1603 Berwick fell even further into decline. This has meant that no medieval architecture is left in the town today. In the late 17th century Berwick Bridge was built, using stone from the redundant castle to replace the former timber span (Ellison 1976).

- 3.1.8 *18th century onwards:* The rebuilding of the Bridge seems to have reinvigorated Berwick, and a good proportion of the town was rebuilt. Much of the historic core of Berwick is of 18th century in date, built upon the pre-existing medieval street plan. The development of Berwick gradually expanded north and west from the medieval core, removing what little remained of the period during the renovation (Ellison 1976).

3.2 Archaeological Background

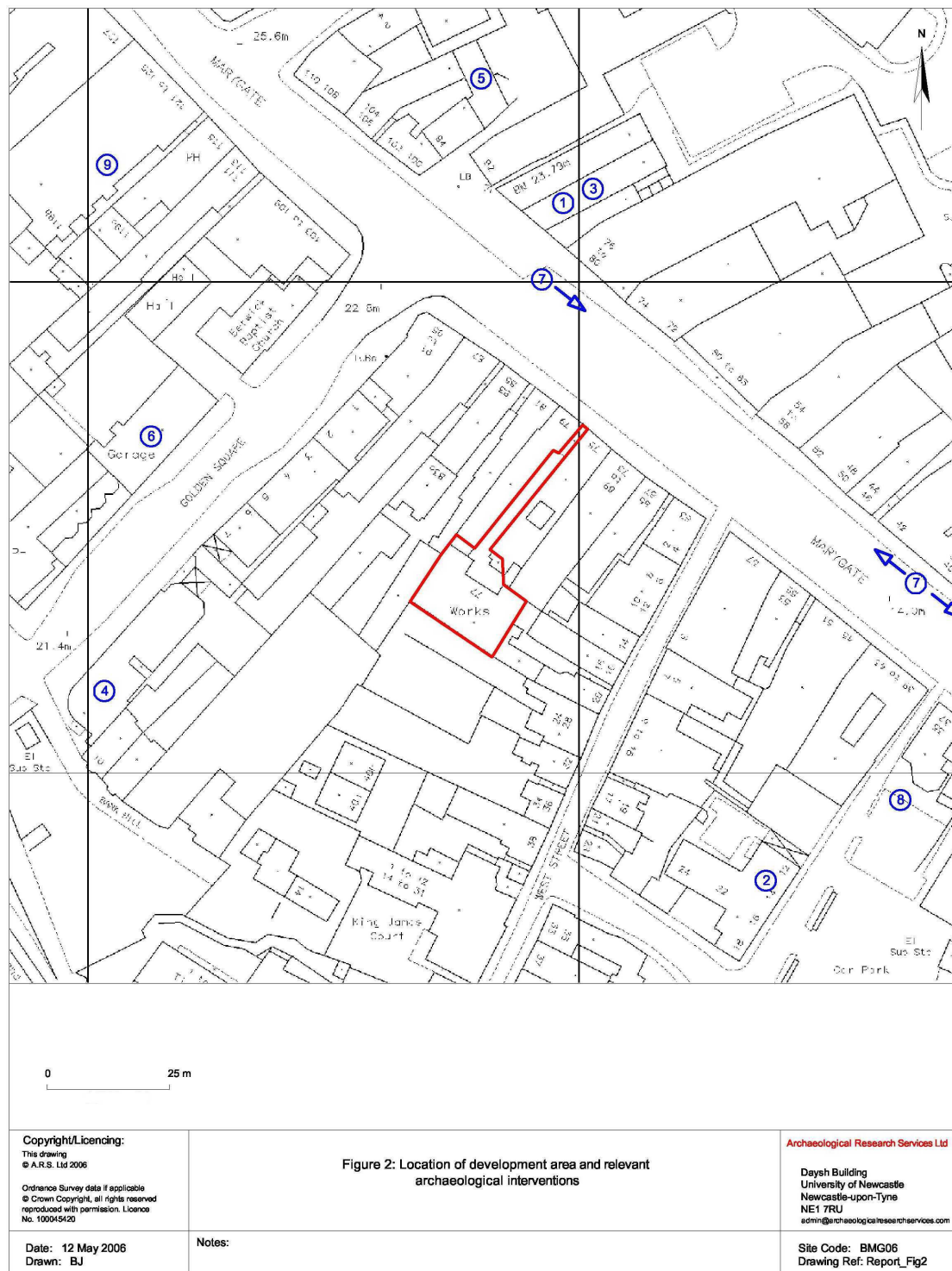
- 3.2.1 A number of archaeological interventions have been made in the proximity of 77 Marygate (fig. 2). Relevant interventions are:

- Site 1) 1996 – evaluation excavations by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) between Marygate and Chapel Street (SMR 13353) on the site of the former Bus Station
- Site 2) 1998 – evaluation excavation by the Archaeological Practice (TAP) at 12-14 Eastern Lane (SMR 14745)
- Site 3) 1999 – excavation by LUAU of part of area evaluated in 1996 within the area of the former Bus Station
- Site 4) 2000 – evaluation excavation by LUAU of land to the south side of Golden Square
- Site 5) 2000 – evaluation excavation by Archaeological Services University of Durham (ASUD) at 104-106 Marygate
- Site 6) 2004 – archaeological watching brief by Alan Williams Archaeology (AWA) of land to north side of Golden Square
- Site 7) 2005 – archaeological watching brief by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) during mains refurbishment along Marygate
- Site 8) 2005 – archaeological evaluation by PCA of land on the south side of Eastern Lane
- Site 9) 2005 – archaeological evaluation by the Bamburgh Research Project (BRP) at 119-125 Marygate

- 3.2.2 All of these interventions found significant archaeological remains, with dates ranging between the 12th and the 17th centuries AD, depending upon the exact location and impact depth.

- 3.2.3 No Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Listed Buildings have any impact on the site.

- 3.2.3 The centre of Berwick is a Conservation Area, and the development lies within the boundary for this area.



3.2.4 No aerial photographs consulted at either NCC SMR or the collection held at the Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle, had any relevance to the site.

4. RESULTS

4.1 General site description

- 4.1.1 The site was visited on 10th May 2006. No visible archaeological or historical structures or remains were observed.
- 4.1.2 77 Marygate lies at the end of a narrow, concrete floored passage that runs south-west for about 30m from the Marygate street frontage, before opening into a small concrete floored courtyard measuring approximately 10m by 7m. This courtyard is fronted by a two-storey light industrial factory, that has been extensively converted and measures approximately 20m by 12m. The total area of the development footprint measures around 250 sq. m, and lies within the area of the present building. This building is to be demolished prior to the development taking place. The maximum impact of the development will be 0.6m.
- 4.1.3 The solid geological foundation of the investigation area consists of Tournaisian and Viséan Carboniferous Limestone Series (BGS 1979). The drift geology of the area was not mapped on the resources available for consultation. However a watching brief in Marygate in 2005 found what was thought to be the drift geology horizon, which consists of boulder clay (PCA 2005).

4.2 Consultation and regression of historic maps

- 4.2.1 A map dated 1564 (fig. 3) in Ellison (1976), and credited there to John Speed, appears to be the earliest available cartographic source relating in detail to the town of Berwick. However as Speed was not born until 1552, such an accreditation is impossible, and the actual provenance of this map is unclear, although it is clearly from 1564. This map, whilst of insufficient accuracy to be effectively manipulated to correspond to the later maps of the town, clearly shows Marygate and West Street as being fronted by properties, with open land behind. The suggestion of trees in the engraving may mean that this areas was given over to gardens, although the possibility that small-scale industry took place in this area should not be discounted.
- 4.2.2 A map of 1570, *The true depiction of Her Majesty's town of Berwick* (consulted in Berwick Record Office but not copied due to its fragility), shows the frontages of Marygate and West Street as being built upon, with open land to the backlots.
- 4.2.2 Speed's map of 1610, is identical to that of 1564, and is presumably a direct copy, a common practice amongst early cartographers. It shows (fig. 4) Marygate and West Street fronted by properties, whilst the site of 77 Marygate appears undeveloped, and there is a suggestion of trees or shrubs in the illustration, perhaps denoting the presence of gardens in the area.

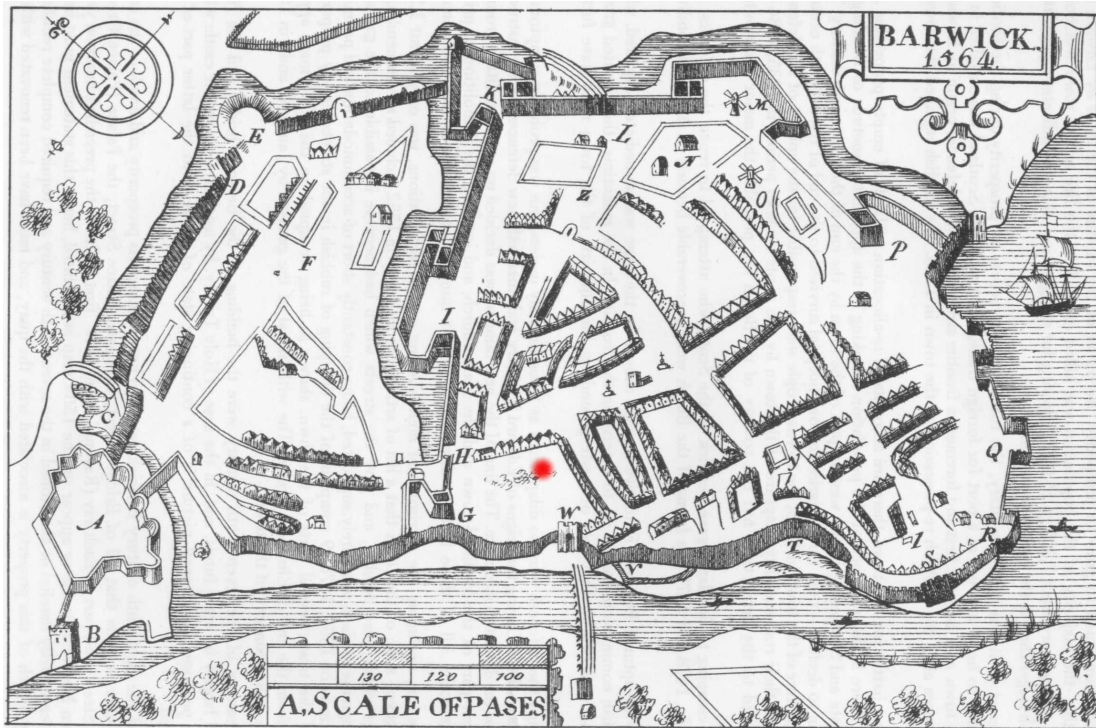


Figure 3 Barwick 1564 Cartographer unknown. Reproduced from Ellison (1976). The red circle denotes the approximate location of the development area.



Figure 4 Speed 1610 Inset in *Map of Northumberland*. This map has obviously been copied directly from that dated 1564

- 4.2.3 Armstrong's map of 1769 (fig. 5) is the first that could be reasonably manipulated to conform to the later town layout. It shows the development of frontages to Marygate and West Street ('Wester Lane'), with an enclosed series of plots behind them. These may well be gardens associated with the dwellings, although they do not conform in layout to a 'standard' burgage plot. Such areas were often used as extra space for outbuildings, workshops and stables as well.
- 4.2.4 Fuller's map of 1799, (fig. 6) printed across two pages in his *History of Berwick upon Tweed*, shows frontages to Marygate and West Street ('Wester Lane'), although nothing in the area behind the frontages where the present site is situated. In addition the areas shown in this map as being built up are considerably smaller than those on Armstrong's earlier map. It is suggested that this map is not particularly accurate or useful in determining activity within this part of Berwick away from the main thoroughfares.
- 4.2.5 Wood's map of 1822 (fig. 7) is the first to show buildings on the site of 77 Marygate, although the fitting of this map proved awkward. At the time of mapping the site appears to have been within a block of buildings built within a layout that does appear to conform to a burgage plot layout.
- 4.2.6 The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1852 (fig. 8) shows the site layout as it stands in today, with two wings connected by a range between and opening onto a small courtyard. It also appears that the alleyway connecting the building to the Marygate frontage dates from this period, although inconsistencies in the earlier maps makes such a definitive conclusion uncertain.
- 4.2.7 The historic mapping suggests that the development site was not built on until the early nineteenth century, existing prior to this in the backlots of the houses that occupied the frontages of Marygate and West Street. Such areas were often used for gardens, small-scale industry, rubbish deposition and other activities associated with a medieval port town. The historic mapping suggests there is a very strong likelihood that medieval deposits, possibly associated with gardens, middens or small-scale industries known to occur within medieval backlots, are situated within the development site.

4.3 Synthesis and interrogation of relevant archive resources

- 4.3.1 Archaeological interventions have occurred almost all around the development area, with two evaluations on Eastern Lane, a watching brief, two evaluations and an excavation on Marygate and a watching brief and an evaluation in Golden Square (fig. 2). All these interventions discovered evidence of medieval activity.
- 4.3.2 Evaluative excavation (fig. 2; site 2) by The Archaeological Practice at 12 – 14 Eastern Lane (NT 99834 52882) between 1997 and 1998 (SMR 14745) revealed evidence for a series of pits, but little structural evidence, that dated between the 13th and the 15th centuries. The largest pit measured 3.5m long and 1.64m deep. One heavily truncated wall, that postdates the 13th century, but predates the 15th century was uncovered. In addition a 13th century well, augured to at least 4m deep, survived. This contained extremely well preserved leather items, including a shoe sole. The report text is difficult to disentangle, with insufficient labelling of section and plan drawings that are reproduced at obscure scales. Consequently

providing detailed information on areas excavated and depths of

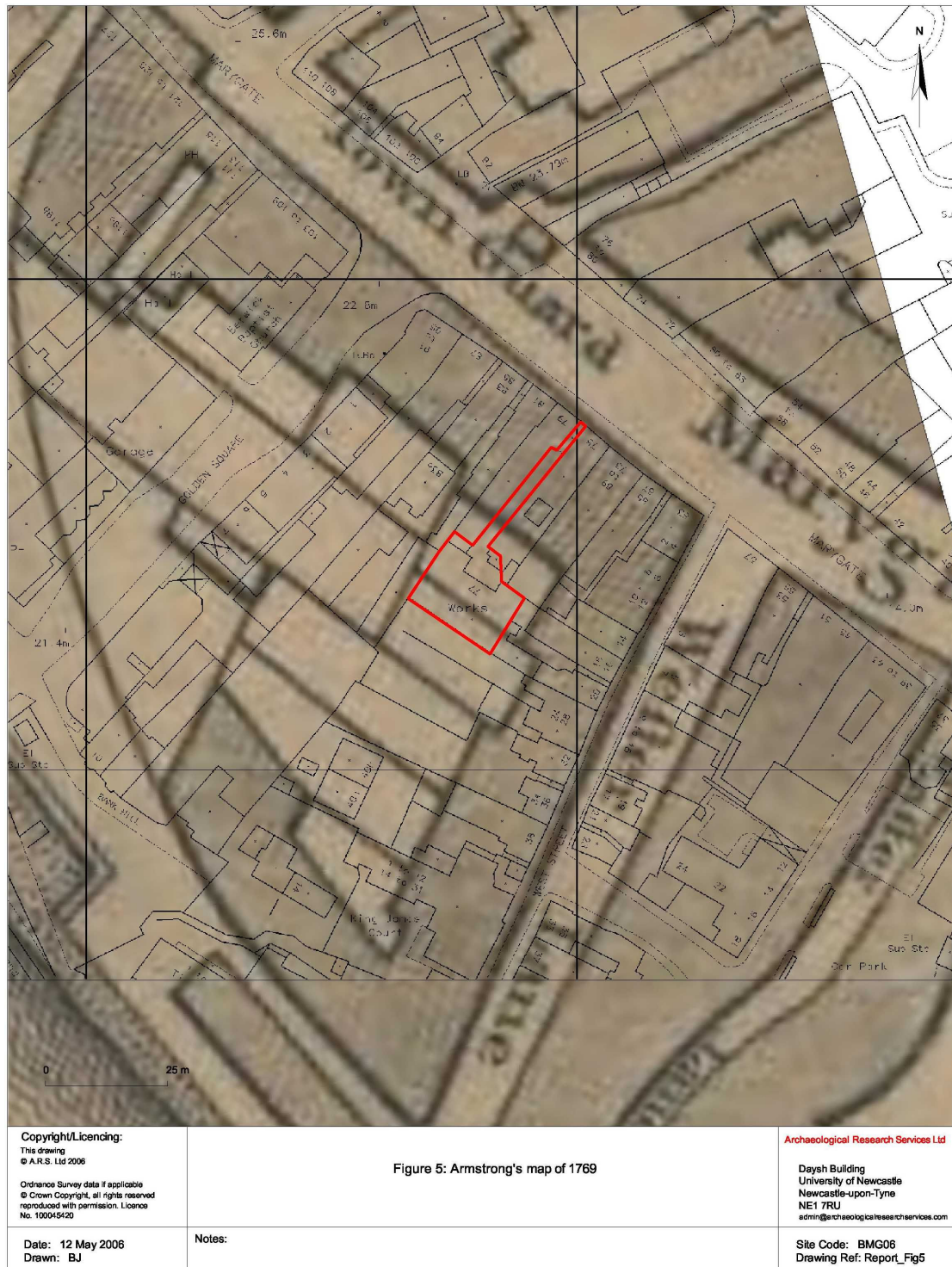
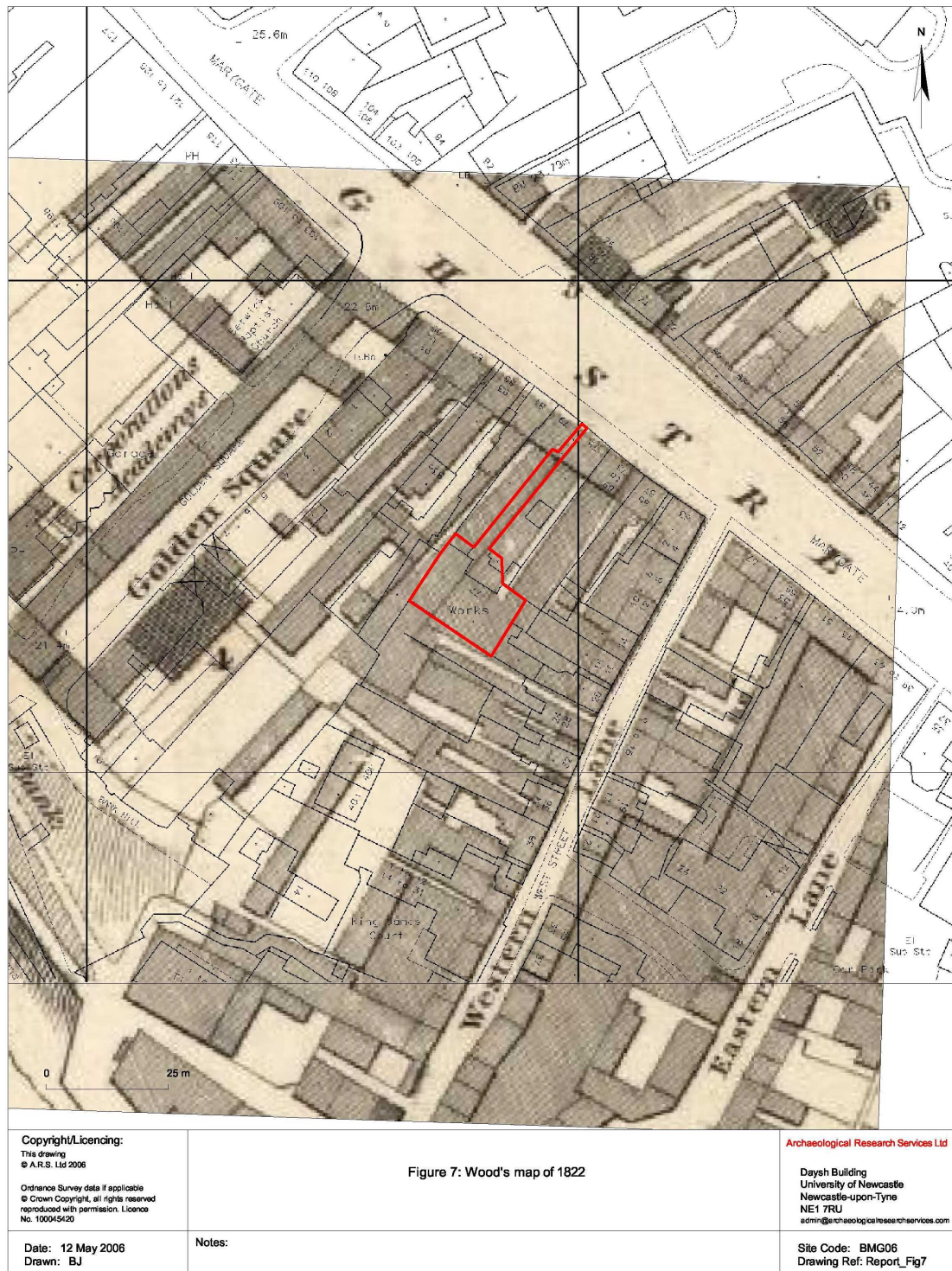
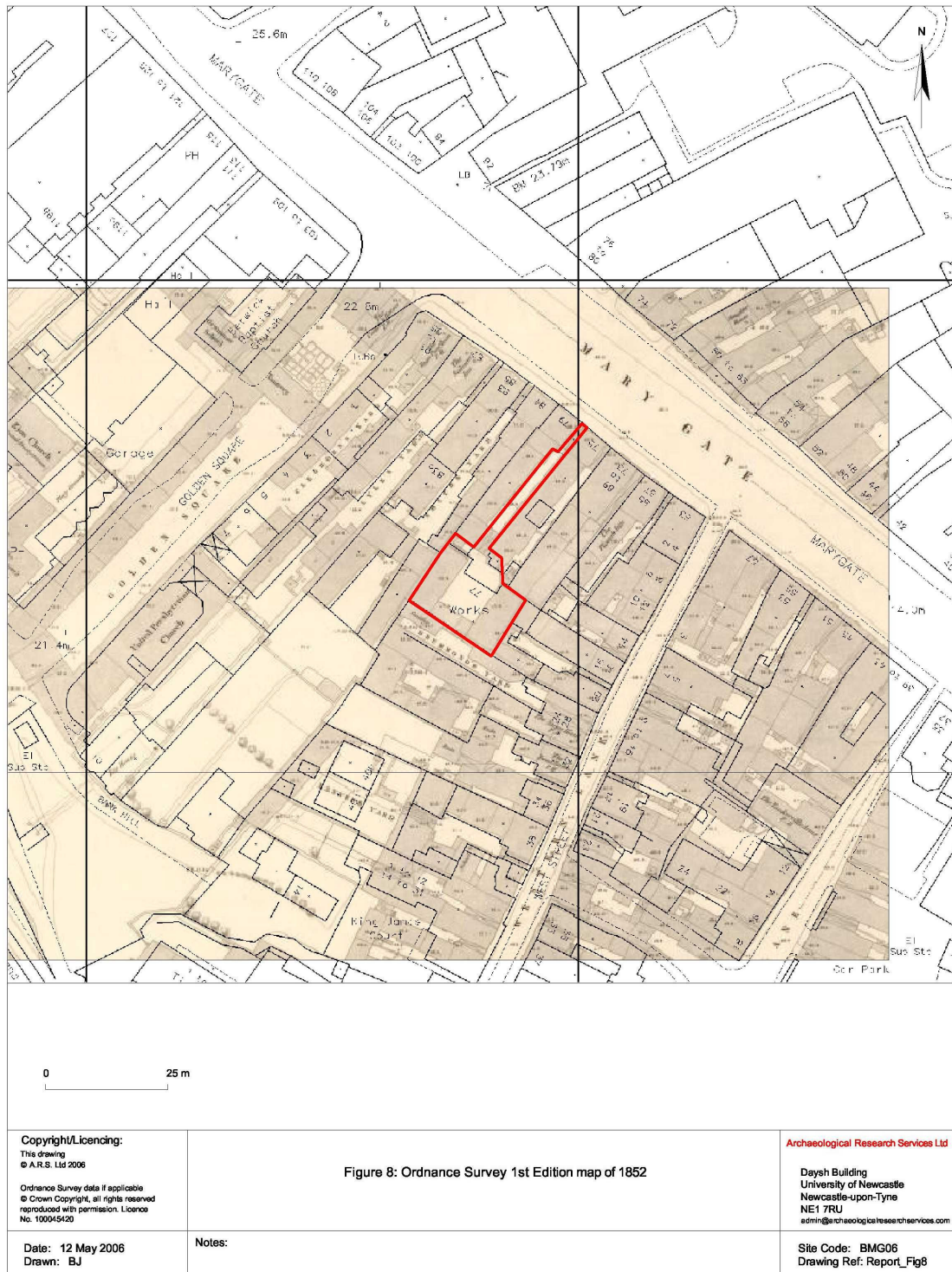




Figure 6: Fuller's map of 1799





deposits is somewhat conjectural. A consultation of the primary archive, visited at the Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle, revealed no more useful information. It is suggested that medieval deposits dating to the 15th century were found 0.43m below the ground surface and 13th century deposits were found 0.73m below the ground surface, data that agrees with the excavations undertaken on the opposite side of Eastern lane by PCA. Good macrofossil preservation was also noted on-site, and 520 ceramic sherds were recovered. It is unclear whether any further work was undertaken on these artefacts and ecofacts (The Archaeological Practice 1998).

- 4.3.3 Evaluative excavation (fig. 2; site 8) by PCA to the south side of Eastern Lane (NT 9986 5286), adjacent to the Maltings Theatre in 2005 (SMR 14746) revealed structural remains of probable medieval date. The intervention measured approximately 24 square metres in area and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1m. There are discrepancies between the depths recorded in the text of this report, and those shown on the section drawings. The following is suggested as the most likely scenario. It appears that the ground surface was between 18.3 and 18.4m aOD. Two truncated stone walls, both thought to be 13th century in date, were discovered. According to the text these were 0.44 and 0.63m below the ground surface. However this would not allow for the depth of levelling deposition recorded above them, and so a depth of 0.8m below ground surface (as shown on the section drawing) is thought to be more accurate. One wall was situated in a definite construction cut at least 0.12m deep, and it is therefore suggested that the earliest medieval deposits impacted upon at this site are situated between 0.6m and at least 1m below the present ground surface. These walls were overlain by a series of demolition and levelling deposits which contained 14th and 15th century pottery sherds, and averaged 0.36m deep (between 0.3 and 0.64m below the surface). A post-medieval layer, 0.19m thick, was overlain by a modern hardcore and tarmac surface 0.15m thick. Small assemblages of ceramics (59), metal artefacts (8), macrofossils and faunal items were recovered. Assessment of the potential of these finds suggested that no further work was necessary (PCA 2005b).
- 4.3.4 Evaluative excavation (fig. 2; site 4) by LUAU to the south of Golden Square (NT 9971 5294) in late 1999 or early 2000 (no SMR number) revealed deposits of organic soils, truncated and cut by modern features. The intervention measured 13.5 square metres in area and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.5m (although the combined depths of deposits recorded on site only reach 2.15m when added together). Detail in the report is sparse, and the primary archive could not be accessed. A 0.9m depth of modern deposits, associated with a prior garage at the site, was underlain by a 0.5m thick deposit, that was cut into by two wall foundations that probably date to the post-medieval period. This was underlain by two organic rich layers, reaching a maximum depth of 0.75m that were thought to be medieval and could well represent old garden soils, developing in the backlots of medieval property. Five medieval pottery sherds and seven animal bone fragments were recovered. No mention of any environmental sampling was made (LUAU 2000).
- 4.3.5 A watching brief (fig. 2; site 6) by AWA to the north of Golden Square (NT 9971 5296) in 2004 also revealed evidence interpreted as garden soils, although the dating of the deposit remains conjectural as no artefactual evidence was recovered. These deposits, 0.84m below the ground surface of 22.5m aOD, were

overlain by modern and 19th century deposits (AWA 2004).

- 4.3.6 A watching brief (fig. 2; site 7) 125m long was undertaken by PCA to Marygate (NT 9983 5296 centred) in 2005 which revealed evidence for dumps and middens associated with the medieval market. These accumulation deposits vary in depth below the present ground surface between 0.2m and 0.5m, and also vary in thickness between 0.5m and 0.75m. A ditch containing a small faunal assemblage (129 pieces) associated with butchery waste was discovered towards the centre of the watching brief area. In addition a small ceramic assemblage (81 pieces) all of 14th century date was recovered. Assessment of the potential of these finds suggested that no further work was necessary (PCA 2005a).
- 4.3.7 Evaluative test-pit excavation (fig. 2; site 9) was undertaken by the BRP at 119-125 Marygate (NT 9970 5303) in 2005 (no SMR number) which revealed medieval deposits. The three test pits measured a total of three square metres and were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m. Each contained a modern surface overlying a deposit of made ground measuring 0.52m thick. Two test pits each contained a midden deposit and stone wall (situated towards the front of the property), whilst the other contained a pit, a posthole and a structural gully. This test pit also produced a considerable quantity of macrofossils that it was recommended should be submitted for full analysis (BRP 2005).
- 4.3.8 Evaluation excavation (fig. 2; site 5) was undertaken by ASUD at 104-106 Marygate (NT 998 529) in 2000 (SMR 13374) which revealed medieval deposits. One trench measuring 15 sq. m. and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.3m below ground surface. A modern concrete floor overlay demolition rubble to a depth of 0.3m. Immediately beneath this were three features (two pits and one linear) attributed to the medieval period which contained animal bone, shells and some timber fragments, as well as one medieval pottery sherd (ASUD 2000).
- 4.3.9 Excavation (fig. 2; sites 1 and 3) was undertaken by LUAU on Marygate at the site of the former bus station (NT 9981 5303). This began in 1996 (fig. 2; site 1) with evaluation (SMR 13353) of the area which established the presence of significant medieval deposits, presumed to be a timber building on the Marygate frontage, described as 'directly below the level of cobbles', although there is no mention of what the cobbles are, nor any depths, and no section drawing in the report (LUAU 1996). It was not possible to access the primary archive in this instance, and not thought necessary either, as more extensive excavation took place at this site, for which a full publication report was made. The excavation by LUAU that followed the evaluation (fig. 2; site 3) took place in late 1999. Features dating from the late 12th century to the 17th century were discovered based upon pottery and leather finds. The earliest structures, situated on the Marygate frontage, appear to have been abandoned by the 14th century, with new constructions being made on the backlots. Features associated with rubbish dumping and fish-processing were also discovered, and the macrofossils demonstrate garden practices were also occurring at the site. This is the most complex and extensive excavation to have taken place within the immediate vicinity of the development site. Excavation was concentrated in the area of most serious impact of the development, where full excavation to the natural geological horizon was undertaken. Elsewhere on site investigation was stopped 0.05m below the maximum impact depth of the development, and additionally a significant part of the site was preserved *in-situ*. The site is extremely complex,

and a full interpretation has not been made for the purposes of this assessment, as there is no corresponding 'high-resolution' with which to compare it in the development area. As such the data has been conflated somewhat to correspond with data from the other archaeological interventions in the area. In summary the site contained five phases of activity, ranging from the 12th century to the 17th century. Archaeological deposits were varied and complex, including pits, postholes, ditches, stone settings and walls, timber beams, and a stone-lined well. These were situated immediately below the modern ground surface, which was around 0.25m thick. The maximum depth of excavation appears to have been around 1.8m. Additionally a large artefactual assemblage containing 573 pottery fragments, glasswork, 44 leather fragments from at least 10 different objects, 41 pieces of worked wood including a turned bowl, and a fragment of rope and an ecofactual assemblage containing 321 bone fragments from cattle, caprines, pigs, horses, domestic fowl and fish and an abundant waterlogged macrofossil assemblage containing burnt grains (oat, barley, rye and wheat), flax seeds, heather and ling, as well as fig, cherry, plum, bilberry, elderberry, and blackberry seeds was recovered (Heawood *et al* 2004).

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1.1 Given the variety of deposits, and depths at which they have been discovered, within the vicinity of the development area, and a corresponding inability to effectively plot links between deposits on opposite sides of the site, it is suggested that an accurate and conclusive predictive deposit model of the development area cannot be established without intrusive excavation.

5.1.2 The assessment is however able to make significant predictions about the potential depths and the type of archaeology that may be encountered on the site. These are as follows:

- the present concrete floor to the yard, and building to the rear have probably been built over medieval deposits, rather than removing them.
- the depth of the modern deposits is likely to be up to 0.3m from the ground surface, but may be deeper.
- archaeological deposits relating to medieval Berwick from the 14th and 15th centuries (an possibly later periods) are likely to be situated immediately beneath the present concrete ground surface and within the footprint of the proposed development.
- the depth of the 14th and 15th century deposits is likely to be between 0.3m and 0.5m thick (between 0.6m and 0.8m below the present ground surface).
- earlier archaeological deposits, relating to 13th century Berwick, when it was at its economic peak, are likely to be situated below the 14th and 15th century deposits.
- the maximum depth of the 13th century deposits is not clear, but likely to begin at between 0.6m and 0.8m below the ground surface and extend to more than 1.2m below the present ground surface.
- The drift geology is probably situated around 2.5m below the present ground surface, suggesting a significant depth of early medieval archaeological deposits may be present on the site.
- archaeological deposits are most likely to be associated with activities in backlots of properties fronting onto Marygate and West Street. These deposits could comprise:
 - garden soils
 - midden deposits
 - outbuildings
 - small-scale industrial activities and associated structures
 - rebuilding of houses set back from the frontage (as at site 3)
 - potentially very significant archaeological features such as wells which could contain considerable quantities of waterlogged artefacts and ecofacts.

5.1.2 Given the intensive interrogation of the available information it is suggested that the development at 77 Margate is therefore most likely to impact upon garden deposits of 14th and 15th century date at its maximum depth. It is not thought likely that significant volumes of artefacts (ceramics, leatherwork, metalwork *etc*) or ecofacts (macrofossils and faunal remains) would be present within such deposits. However, given the extensive medieval deposits known from the immediate vicinity of the development area, there is a significant possibility that

very important archaeological features, such as those found at site 3 on Marygate, may be present within the development area, and that the development may have a significant impact upon them.

- 5.1.3 This assessment can only be used as a guide to the potential deposits, and there exact nature, extent and significance can only be established through intrusive excavation.

6. REFERENCES

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Cartographic Sources

Ordnance Survey *Landline* mapping revised 2002

Ordnance Survey 1852 *Town Plan of Berwick-upon-Tweed* 1:500

John Wood 1822 *Plan of the town of Berwick from actual survey*

Fuller 1799 *A plan of the town of Berwick*

Armstrong 1769 *Map of Northumberland, Berwick plan*

Speed 1610 Inset in *Map of Northumberland*

Anon 1570 *The true depiction of Her Majesty's town of Berwick*

Anon 1564 *Barnick*

British Geological Survey 1979 *Geological Survey Ten Mile Map: North Sheet (Solid)*

<http://www.nls.uk/digitallibrary/map/townplans/berwick.html>

7. APPENDIX I: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

- 1.1.1 The following document details the written scheme of investigation (WSI) for an archaeological assessment at:

77 Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland

The development area is situated approximately 40m south-west of Marygate, between Golden Square to the north-west and West Street to the south-east, at a height of c. 20m OD (NT 99779 52930 centred).

- 1.1.2 The development is being undertaken by Arboretum Village Property Company, 5 Ettrick Road, Edinburgh EH10 5BJ. The Planning Application number is 05/B/0271. The NCCCT reference is B38/47; 4669.
- 1.1.2 Marygate has existed as a primary routeway through medieval Berwick from at least the 12th century AD, and lies within the circuit of the earlier town walls. Significant medieval deposits, dating from the 12th to the 17th centuries AD, have been discovered, or are known about, within 50m of the site.
- 1.1.3 The development scheme involves the erection of 11 residential flats following clearance of the site, which has the potential to reveal significant archaeological deposits that can provide information about the history and development of the settlement of Berwick and the life of its inhabitants.
- 1.1.4 The scope of work comprises an assessment of available sources, with particular emphasis on previous archaeological mitigation undertaken in the vicinity of the site, with the aim of examining the extent to which a detailed predictive deposit model of the archaeology of the site can be established.

This work will consist of the following elements:

- a site visit
- consultation of archive sources
- consultation of cartographic sources
- creation of a prospective predictive deposit model
- reporting

2. METHODS

2.1 Site visit

- 2.1.1 This will assess:

- The location of visible archaeological or historic structures or remains

- The current ground conditions
- Any existing impacts or potential obstructions to the future excavation of the site

2.2 Archive sources including Northumberland County Council Sites and Monuments Record

- 2.2.1 The specification supplied by the Assistant County Archaeologist stipulated that the completed report should contain a “period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area”.

To accomplish this, and after consultation with the County Archaeologist, historic maps, published and unpublished documentary material will be consulted at the following local archives:

- Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office, Wallace Green, Berwick-upon-Tweed
- Northumberland County Council Sites and Monuments Record
- Geomorphological data held at the Geography Department, Newcastle University
- Publications held in the Cowen Library, University of Newcastle
- Publications held in the Robinson Library, University of Newcastle
- Records held in the Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle

2.3 Cartographic sources

- 2.3.1 The specification supplied by the Assistant County Archaeologist stipulated that the final report should include historic maps, showing the location of the proposed development. Historic maps will be consulted at the archive services listed in section 2.2.1 (above). Suitable maps will be traced, or where permitted, digitally photographed. Using the Ordnance Survey digital Landline mapping as a base, maps will be scaled and rotated using AutoCAD software, beginning with the most recent and going backwards in time to the earliest. At least the following maps will be included in the regression exercise:

- Ordnance Survey *Landline* mapping revised 2002
- Ordnance Survey 1852 *Town Plan of Berwick-upon-Tweed* 1:500
- John Wood 1822 *Plan of the town of Berwick from actual survey*
- Fuller 1799 *A plan of the town of Berwick*
- Armstrong 1769 *Map of Northumberland, Berwick plan*
- John Speed 1610 Inset in *Map of Northumberland*
- Anon. 1570 *The true depiction of Her Majesty's town of Berwick*
- Anon. 1564 *Berwick*

2.4 Reporting

2.4.1 The report will include:

- Planning application number, Northumberland County Council Conservation Team reference, OASIS reference number and an 8 figure grid reference
- A description of the geology on the site
- The nature and extent of the proposed development and client information
- Period based discussion of the known and potential archaeological sites within the proposed development area
- Discussion of the physical impact of the proposed development on known and potential archaeological sites
- Impact on the visual setting of Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic battlefields and unscheduled archaeological sites of national or regional importance
- Appendices listing:
 - Details of archaeological investigations (including excavation, evaluation and monitoring) undertaken within the agreed study area.
 - All aerial photographs within the detailed study area and immediate environs, quoting the reference number, date and cross-referenced to the gazetteer where appropriate
 - A copy of this specification
- A location plan of the site at an appropriate scale of at least 1:10 000
- A location plan of the extent of the proposed development area at a recognizable planning scale, and located with reference to the national grid, to allow the results to be accurately plotted on the Sites and Monuments Record
- Copies of historic maps showing the location of the proposed development

2.4.2 Copies of the report will be deposited with the client, NCCCT, Berwick Museum and Berwick Record Office.

2.5 Archive

2.5.1 No site archive will be generated for this assessment other than digital data, which will be supplied with the report to the NCCCT within 6 months of completion of the work and report.

2.6 OASIS

2.6.1 An online OASIS form will be completed for this project