



YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



**Desk-Based Assessment**  
**22-26 BLOSSOM STREET, YORK**

By Emma Boast MA

YAT Assessment Report 2019/97 June 2019





# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



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### **Abbreviations**

AOD – above Ordnance Datum
BGL – below ground level
YAT – York Archaeological Trust
WSI – Written Scheme of Investigation
HE – Historic England
CYC – City of York Council
CYLP – City of York Local Plan

## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This desk-based assessment (DBA) shows there is the potential for the presence of archaeological deposits from the Roman to modern periods at 22-26 Blossom Street, York. Archaeological investigations undertaken within the immediate area by L.P Wenham in 1953-55, at 16-20 Blossom Street, Prudential House and 28-40 Blossom Street identified extensive Roman remains including the Blossom Street Roman Cemetery, Roman Roads 9 and 10, as well as the remains of Roman building structures. These were all encountered between 13.57 – 14.50m AOD. At least 0.50m of disturbed dark soil covers the Roman remains in this area, suggesting post-Roman clearing and dumping. During the medieval period the site was within an area of agricultural land. Due to 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century garden landscaping of the Blossom Street area, Roman archaeology may be encountered at a relatively shallow depth within the garden area of the site.

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

York Archaeological Trust (YAT) was commissioned by O'Neill Associates to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the likely archaeological deposit sequence on the site of 22-26 Blossom Street, York, YO24 1AJ (Figures 1 and 2). This was carried out during June 2019.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

There have been several archaeological interventions within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site. This is due to the site being within the York Area of Archaeological Importance and the site lying off Blossom Street, the south-western thoroughfare into the walled city of York. An assessment of all archaeological and heritage assets within a radius of 100m from the site was undertaken, as well as a consideration of the site within the wider historical and archaeological landscape of York.

The bulk of the data was collated using the YAT site gazetteer, the York Historic Environment Record (HER), the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments (RCHMY 1, 1962; RCHMY 3, 1972).

## 3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

The proposed development is located 0.1km to the south-west of the historic city gateway Micklegate Bar and 0.3km south of City of York Train Station. The main site area is a square shaped garden to the rear of 22-26 Blossom Street, surrounded by mixed commercial and leisure properties.. The site lies between the Premier Inn York City Centre South building to the South, the Premier Inn York City Centre North Building to the north and north-east, with the extant building of 22-26 Blossom Street occupying the frontage of the site to the south-east. The site covers an area of 235m<sup>2</sup> centred at NGR SE 59653 51408.

The geology of the site comprises of underlying bedrock of Sherwood Sandstone Group - Sandstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 237 to 272 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods, when the local environment was dominated by rivers. Above this are superficial deposits of glacial moraine, consisting of clay, sand and gravel which were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions <https://www.bgs.ac.uk> - accessed 21/06/19.

The site of 22-26 Blossom Street lies directly on the York Moraine and is relatively flat, with the terrain gradually sloping further west and north. The site has not been built on in recent times, whilst around the site location recent development and a change in land-use has occurred. The closest bench-mark lies at 19 Blossom Street, which is directly opposite the current site address. The bench mark is present in the form of a metal flush bracket and represents 17.40m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum).

The site is presently occupied by an open grass walled-garden area at the rear of 22-26 Blossom Street.

## **4 PLANNING AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

### **4.1 National policy**

In February 2019 the Government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) in an effort to make the overall planning system less complex and more accessible. There has been clarification regarding ‘Heritage Assets’: in which a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

The relevant paragraphs of NPPF are Chapter 16 parts 184–202.

The framework states in part 196 that:

*“Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.”* (NPPF 2019:56).

In part 199 that:

*“Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible<sup>64</sup>. However, the ability to record evidence of or past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.”* (NPPF 2019:56)

### **4.2 Regional and local policy**

A new City of York Local Plan (CYLP) was approved by The City of York Council (CYC) and submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for independent inspection (<https://www.york.gov.uk/LocalPlan>) (CYC Publication

Draft 2018). Although not fully adopted the document is to be used as a basis for development control decisions.

Archaeology is dealt with in Section 8 D6 of the CYLP Placemaking, Heritage, Design and Culture pages 144–164.

*“Development proposals that affect archaeological features and deposits will be supported where:*

- i. they are accompanied by an evidence based heritage statement that describes the significance of the archaeological deposits affected and that includes a desk based assessment and, where necessary, reports on intrusive and non-intrusive surveys of the application site and its setting; including characterisation of waterlogged organic deposits, if present;*
- ii. they will not result in harm to the significances of the site or its setting;*
- iii. they are designed to enhance or better reveal the significances of an archaeological site or will help secure a sustainable future for an archaeological site at risk; and*
- iv. harm to archaeological deposits is unavoidable, detailed mitigation measures have been agreed with City of York Council that include, where appropriate, provision for deposit monitoring, investigation, recording, analysis, publication, archive deposition and community involvement.”* (CYC 2018:155).

#### **4.3 Conservation Areas**

The Local Plan (CYC 2018) covers the designation of conservation areas in Policy D4. The City of York currently has 35 designated conservation areas.

*“Development proposals within or affecting the setting of a conservation area will be supported where they:*

- i. are designed to preserve or enhance the special character and appearance of the conservation area and would enhance or better reveal its significance;*
- ii. respect important views; and*
- iii. are accompanied by an appropriate evidence based assessment of the conservation area’s special qualities, proportionate to the size and impact of the development and sufficient to ensure that impacts of the proposals are clearly understood. Outline planning applications for development within or affecting the setting of conservation areas will only be supported if full*



*design details are included, sufficient to show the likely impact of the proposals upon the significance of the Conservation Area.*

*Changes of use will be supported when it has been demonstrated that the primary uses of the building can no longer be sustained, where the proposed new use would not significantly harm the special qualities and significance of the conservation area.*

*Harm to buildings, open spaces, trees, views or other elements which make a positive contribution to a Conservation Area will be permitted only where this is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal. Substantial harm or total loss to the significance of a Conservation Area will be permitted only where it can be demonstrated that the proposal would bring substantial public benefits” (CYC 2018:152).*

#### **4.4 Historic Characterisation Areas**

In addition to the conservation areas the York Central Historic Core Conservation Area appraisal (CYC 2011) is an in depth study of the conservation area carried out by Alan Baxter Associates and Historic England. This has been updated by the City of York Historic Environment Characterisation Project. There are 24 areas within York’s historic core and an additional 52 for the suburbs each with their own character statement document (MacRae 2014).

#### **4.5 Areas of Archaeological Importance**

York is one of five cities that has been designated an Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI) under part 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46>).

There are currently seven AAI designations within the City of York. Work within the AAI requires the following:

“You must complete and return an operations notice (free of charge) to our Design, Conservation and Sustainable Development team and the York Archaeological Trust (YAT) before any work can start in an AAI, including:

- disturbance of ground
- tipping on the ground
- flooding of the ground

York Archaeological Trust (YAT) will decide whether:

- they have any interest in your intended work

- archaeological intervention is required

The scale of any potential archaeological work will depend on the level and nature of the intended works.

#### **4.6 Areas of Archaeological Importance (AAI) and the law**

It's an offence to carry out work in an AAI without an operations notice or within six weeks of submitting the notice.

It's also an offence to use a metal detector within an AAI"

([https://www.york.gov.uk/info/20216/archaeology/1318/areas\\_of\\_archaeological\\_importance](https://www.york.gov.uk/info/20216/archaeology/1318/areas_of_archaeological_importance)).

## **5 DESIGNATIONS AND CONSTRAINTS**

### **5.1 Archaeology and heritage designation**

The proposed development site is located within Historic Characterisation Area 23 (CYC 2011; MacRae 2013). A desk-based assessment has recently been carried out for a site 150m to the north of the proposed development site at the York Station and Queen Street Bridge (Slater & Laban 2017), as well as 90m to the east at 11 The Crescent (Boast 2019); further helping to assess this part of the city's archaeological significance.

A focused radius of 100m for the study area has been used as part of the heritage and archaeological review around the site location. This is due to the high volume of significant archaeology within the immediate vicinity and taking into account recent archaeological investigations.

(Gazetteer of sites are listed in Appendix 1, Table 2, Figure 3)

### **5.2 Scheduled Monuments**

There are no scheduled monuments within the study area. The study area does fall within the Area Archaeological Importance for the City of York. The nearest Scheduled Monument is 145m to the north-east and is the City Walls and Micklegate Bar, which are part of a single scheduled monument (National Monument No 13280).

(HER assets are listed in Appendix 2, Table 3, and Figure 3).

### **5.3 Listed Buildings**

There are 13 Listed Buildings within the 100m study area around the proposed development site. The nearest Grade II listed building is directly onsite at 22-26 Blossom Street, this is

represented by two houses and a warehouse which date from c.1789 to the present (UID: 1259530). (See Appendix 1, Table 4 and Figure 4).

#### 5.4 Conservation Areas

The site lies within the main York Central Historic Core Conservation Area 1 and the Conservation Area for 23 Blossom Street and Nunnery Lane (CYC 2011). The Conservation Areas have been characterised by their historical and archaeological significance within the landscape (MacRae 2013, 23).

The site lies on the north-western side of Blossom Street and the characteristics of this study area are mainly associated with modern commercial and leisure developments that have occurred within this area over the last 15 years. There is a mixture of modern building types, with scattered heritage assets of local and national importance within the local vicinity (CYC 2011, 23).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 6.1 Historical Background

#### *Roman period*

The Roman city of York, Eboracum, owes its origins to the Ninth Legion which arrived in 71 AD and built a fortress on the north-east bank of the River Ouse. The expansion thereafter consisted of a landscape where the military and civilian settlements of the highest rank were situated side by side, which makes Eboracum unique in Britain (Ottaway 2011, 11). The proposed development site lies outside the main Roman civilian settlement or *colonia*, as well as being outside the main fortress walls, to the south-west of the proposed southern entrance way into the city (Figure 5).

The Roman road from Tadcaster (Calcaria) to York (Roman Road 10, MYO2033) ran from the south-west of York in a north-easterly direction towards the city centre; it crossed the back garden of 22-26 Blossom Street. The route of this road has previously been encountered in antiquity. In 1879 it was found underneath 1 The Crescent and composed of cobbles laid on a concrete-type bed (RCHME 1962, 1–4); it was also exposed in 1936 during the building of the Odeon Cinema (MYO1836). In 1953 the road was again discovered and sectioned 36m north-east of the Odeon Cinema, just behind what was then the 'Grill Café'; this site is directly adjacent to the proposed development site. Roman Road 10 was recorded as being 27m wide and consisted of clay and cobbles dug into the subsoil with two further layers of carefully laid cobbles above; a cremation in a pot of rusticated ware dating to c.80 AD was present

alongside, suggesting that the road dated from the earlier years of the Roman occupation of York (Wenham 1965: Milsted 2009).

Another Roman road from Aldborough (*Isurium Brigantium*) to York (Roman Road 9, MYO2175) joined up with road 10, located 5m to the north-west of the site location. The road junction where these two roads converged was again excavated in 1953-4; it was noted that Road 9 was 10.5m wide with a ditch on each side and made of clay and cobbles which sealed a ditch that had been in use until c.180 AD (Wenham 1965). Road 9 approached Road 10 at an acute angle, finally turning 45° to meet it and in the angle was a small cobbled area in which was carefully placed a stone base, probably for an altar (RCHME 1962, 1-4) (Plate 4).

Roman roads 9 and 10 have been uncovered sporadically throughout antiquity. Although their exact courses have not been encountered regularly along Blossom Street, The Mount and Tadcaster Road, the associated funerary landscape uncovered along the roadsides in recent years demonstrates that the proposed Road 10 trajectory appears to be accurate. There is evidence to suggest that Road 9 may have been worn and or destroyed at certain points along its length and only revealed intact at certain intervals, as is demonstrated at Severus Hills, Acomb and along Blossom Street (Addyman 2015, 9).

The Blossom Street Roman cemetery (MYO2203) covers an extensive area and the site lies directly within its north western section. This cemetery appears to have been in use from the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century and notably in antiquity very elaborate tombs were excavated in antiquity close to the presumed Colonia walls, near Micklegate Bar. Individuals of lower status were being buried further away from the main south-west routes of Blossom Street, The Mount and Tadcaster Road, whereas the elite tombs and monuments appear closest to the road and in view of the colonia; as is the Roman funerary custom (Casa-Hatton 1999: 68). There have also been burials encountered on Driffield Terrace, these being part of a unique cluster of inhumations which are interpreted as individuals who may represent Gladiators (Ottaway, 2005). The Blossom street cemetery falls within the centre of the study area and human remains and grave goods have been found around 22-26 Blossom Street. An individual cremation was uncovered directly adjacent to the site and 20m to the north-east the remains of a stone coffin were uncovered in 1915 (Figure 6). Roman remains are preserved to a relatively high standard in this area with many finds being unearthed, from cemetery contexts, to buildings excavated along the back of Blossom Street. Wenham noted the preservation potential as bone pins, horn cores, mortar structures, cobbled surfaces, pottery, coins and inscriptions were all present along Blossom Street (Wenham 1965, 524-590).

Excavations at 20-40 Blossom Street indicate the cremation cemetery encountered there had gone out of use relatively quickly, and there was no re-use of the site for inhumations into the later 3<sup>rd</sup> century, as is present elsewhere on Blossom Street. It has been suggested that in this area instead of the land being used for burial, the land reverted back to 'open ground' and therefore the later burials did not occur further north-west (Milsted 2010, 3).

#### *Anglian to Anglo Scandinavian Period*

There are no documentary sources regarding the proposed development site for this period. The study area is outside the main focus of *Eoforwic*, the Anglian settlement, though it has been suggested that activity did occur on the hinterland to the west and south-west of the township, along with sporadic settlement (Cramp 1968). The main focus of Anglian York was as a Royal seat to the Kings of Northumbria, with many wealthy religious houses and churches being developed during this early period; especially on the north side of the river Ouse. During the invasion of the '*Great Heathen Army*' in c.866 AD, the Hiberno-Norse Kings ruled and settled *Jorvik* increasing the craft, industry and settlement which was highly focused along the rivers (Graham-Campbell et al 2016). As the main foci of Anglo Scandinavian influence in northern England, the formation of the city of *Jorvik* enabled the Viking Kings to maintain their authority and solidify their legacy, bringing Scandinavian settlers and traders to this diverse northern town (Brink & Price 2011, 379). To the south-west of the city there have been sporadic finds uncovered, such as at York Railway Station, where in the 19<sup>th</sup> century a jet coiled serpent was discovered. This find paralleled closely that of one found in northern Norway and it is believed to have been crafted out of Whitby Jet (Mainman & Rogers 2000, 2591).

#### *Medieval Period*

After the Norman Conquest of c.1066 AD, William Duke of Normandy sought to focus on certain areas around York, to control the different wards of this northern seat of power. The previous Anglo Scandinavian settlement was subjected to the 'harrying of the north' in c.1069 AD, a campaign led by William I to subjugate and subdue the populous, which included the burning and destruction of any who opposed their new tenant lords. Most notably, the area in-between the River Ouse and Foss was cleared of settlement, burnt and then a castle raised to control the southern river approach to the city (Darby 2008, 295). The land around the city was given over to wealthy Norman families and religious benefactors to promote the spread of Christianity, and this was certainly the case in the Micklegate Ward. The newly appointed lords were also told to utilise any still standing Roman infrastructure in this area, which could aid in

the development of the new Norman city. This control and re-civilising of the perceived heathen occupants of *Jorvik* helped bring consolidation to the Norman claim (Jones 2013, 310). With this in mind a small insight may be gained by looking into the early records for Holy Trinity Church (St Nicholas') on Micklegate, which oversaw the Micklegate Ward and the land within the study area at this time (MYO1169). The original Holy Trinity Church was built in c.741 AD and there have been a series of burnt down and rebuilt churches on this site throughout the medieval period. The Church was recorded as belonging to Richard, son of Erfast in c.1086 AD and there is a comprehensive list of prior's and benefactors listed right up until the modern times (Tillot 1961).

It is important to put the proposed site within a larger area of significance due to the close proximity to the medieval city walls and south-western entrance into the City of York at Micklegate Bar (MYO2196). Formerly noted as '*Micklelith*' the current rectangular gatehouse has a passageway with arches at each end on the ground floor and three storeys above; the gatehouse has a circular battlemented parapet that overlooks Blossom Street and a low-pitched roof. The outer arch and much of the walling of the passage is made of gritstone and includes reused Roman blocks and sarcophagi. The earliest part of the Bar is 12<sup>th</sup> century but the upper storeys are 14<sup>th</sup> century additions; the alignment of the current entrance way is 40m south-east of Roman road 10 from Tadcaster into the city (RCHME 1972, 90-107). As the main entrance into the city from the early 12<sup>th</sup> century Micklegate Bar was not only used as a defensive gateway, but as a taxing point into the city for merchants. As the gatehouse which controlled the traffic into the city from the south-west, it was a significant processional route for Royal visits and nobility entering York. During the 12<sup>th</sup> century the Mayor of York held the keys to Micklegate Bar and during Royal visits the key of the city would be handed over to the visiting Monarch; a tradition which still carries on to the present. In 1240 AD a significant amount of land clearance near Micklegate Bar was recorded, inside the city walls and out, with houses being demolished in preparation for the strengthening of the cities southern defences (Palliser 2014,178).

From the 13<sup>th</sup> century onwards it was recorded there were markets and fayres outside of Micklegate Bar, especially on feast days such as St Luke's. Cattle markets were also held just outside Micklegate Bar, as the livestock were to be taxed going through the Bar into the city, therefore this gave merchants and butchers the opportunity to acquire livestock at a reduced rate if purchased in the pens just outside. Due to this ebb and flow of commerce, small burgage plots started to develop along Blossom Street at this time (RCHME 1972, 90-107).

### *Post-medieval period*

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the area around Micklegate Bar underwent many other major redevelopments for Royal visits, such as in preparation for the arrival of King Henry VII during the Wars of the Roses where York was heavily contested over (Pollard 2000) and latterly Henry VIII's visit to York (Palliser 1979). During the English Civil War and the Siege of York in c.1644 AD, the Blossom Street area (then known as London Road) was the one place that managed to avoid attack and bombardment due to a Sconce fortification built on the high ground at The Mount (Figure 10).

It wasn't until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century with the introduction of the Railway into York that the areas around Blossom Street started to become more heavily settled and development occurred to improve housing and infrastructure. The increase in population due to the Railway and growth in the middle class during the Victorian period meant that the area along Blossom Street and The Mount became populated with affluent villas with landscaped gardens (Crisp 2012). This is demonstrated by the building of 22-26 Blossom Street, which originally consisted of two houses with a carriageway through the middle and warehouses out the rear of the property into the garden area (UID: 1259530). As the Railway developments expanded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, worker's cottages were built nearby and some local buildings were converted into Social clubs, so the railway workers had the opportunity to socialise, learn and integrate fully within the local community (Masters 2010). This was the case with 22-26 Blossom Street, where the two houses were joined, providing a more social space. The warehouses were kept at the rear of the property, although by the late 20<sup>th</sup> century they had been demolished.

The road infrastructure along Blossom Street was also greatly changed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, as an electric tramway was constructed in c.1909 to meet increased demands for transporting goods and people into the city (Plate 1). There continued to be development in the surrounding streets as well with the construction of South Parade in c.1875 and Queen Street in c.1840 (CYC 2011).

### *Modern*

From the 1900s onwards the area around 22-26 Blossom Street continued to be dominated by Victorian, Georgian and medieval buildings along this main thoroughfare. A mixture of private dwellings, as well as newly introduced shops, aligned Blossom Street at this time. A motor garage at 14-16 Blossom Street, which serviced the earliest 1930s Ford and Austen motor-cars,

was built around 1908; it was also the first place in York to provide a petrol station (Plate 2). Directly to the south-west of the proposed study area is the Odeon Cinema built in 1936, it is a rare example of 1930s architecture in York which is why it is a Grade II listed building. Since the 1950s there have been many changes along Blossom Street where older buildings have been demolished and land-use changed, car-parks have been added to the north and west of the study area and since the early 2000s new buildings have been constructed all around 22-26 Blossom Street.

## 6.2 Summary of archaeological investigations

No archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the site boundary of the proposed development area, but there have been a number of excavations within the study area. A large proportion of these archaeological interventions exposed Roman deposits; however, significant material from the early medieval and medieval have also been encountered. The Roman remains include buildings and roads closest to entrance to the *Colonia* (near Micklegate Bar) before the large Roman cemeteries further south on Blossom Street. These interventions have been summarised below in respect to the archaeological potential of 22-26 Blossom Street.

In 1953 to 1954 L. P. Wenham excavated twenty-two trenches to the rear of 18- 26 Blossom Street and exposed significant archaeological stratigraphy (Wenham 1965; Map No. 1 & 7). During the course of the excavation the remains of a number of buildings were encountered, one timber from the 1<sup>st</sup> century, two from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, one from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century and one possibly dating from the 4<sup>th</sup> century. In Trench 14, located 5m south-west of the current site location, cobbled surfaces interpreted as Roman Roads 9 and 10 were exposed. A single cremation was recovered as well as a stone altar. The Roman deposits were disturbed by later features, primarily early medieval, medieval and post-medieval pits with a single piece of potential late or post-Roman pottery recovered.

In 1991 YAT excavated five trenches to the rear of 14- 20 Blossom Street and also encountered significant deep stratified Roman archaeology isolated in islands from the truncation of post-medieval cellars (Clarke 1992; Map No. 2). Evidence of a further building from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century was encountered as floors and foundations. A metalworking pit from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century was also exposed. Roman Road 10 was also encountered at 1.5BGL, sealed by 1m of later Roman deposits. The archaeological record from the medieval period was characterised by pits and agricultural deposits but did also include a cobbled surface. Boreholes conducted indicated a mixed homogenous deposit suggesting Roman layers had been churned up into later



archaeology. A later watching brief at Forsselius Garage 16-20 Blossom Street, conducted by YAT in 1993, also encountered trace elements of Roman structures and cobbled surfaces (YAT Annual Report 1993; Map No. 3).

Excavations occurred at 28-40 Blossom Street in 2000, conducted by MAP (Map 2000; Map No. 5), and 2009, conducted by YAT (Milsted 2009: Map No. 6). Across the two stages of works traces of structural elements were encountered, further evidence of buildings in the area, as well as boundary ditches and cobbled surfaces. The remains of a possible 4<sup>th</sup> century building were encountered as a purposefully deposited raised area with four posthole cuts. A series of medieval plough deposits were encountered during the works, sealing the earlier archaeology.

The approach road Roman Road 10 was also potentially encountered during investigations conducted by YAT at The Crescent in 1981 (YAT Annual Report 1981; Map No. 13). It was encountered at 2m BGL as a cobble surface interpreted as road metalling. More recent works at 1 The Crescent, evaluated in 2018 and 2019 with two 4m deep trenches, encountered a high level of modern and post-medieval disturbance and medieval horticultural soil (Jackson 2018, Map No. 10; Slater & Boast 2019, Map No. 11). Roman deposits were encountered at a greater depth than other excavations, at 4m BGL, potentially suggesting high truncation.

Excavations at 35-41 Blossom Street, further south along the road, are evidentiary of the roman funerary practices in the area, further from the *Colonia* boundaries (Oakley 1992; Map No. 8). A 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century cemetery and mausoleum complex was exposed and excavated.

### 6.3 Historic map analysis

Speed's 1610 map (Figure 9) showed very little to the south-west of the city of York. Within the study area the map showed open ground outside the city walls, with buildings lining either side of Blossom Street (then London Road). The early Holgate road was visible at the junction with Blossom Street but the area to the west and north of the study area was presented as open fields.

Jacob's 1685 map (Figure 10) showed the gradual development of the burgage plots previously mentioned along Blossom Street, with gardens behind and open agricultural spaces visible. A Civil War Sconce can be clearly seen as a four pointed ditch and bank enclosure bridging the road, guarding the high ground to the south west of York; to date however, there have been no archaeological excavations undertaken to confirm the location or condition of the Civil War Sconce. The 17<sup>th</sup> Century maps both suggested early buildings at the front of the site area.

Drake's 1736 map (Figure 11) showed the site area to be in the centre of agricultural fields to the south-west of Micklegate Bar, this time no buildings along Blossom Street were depicted.

Tucker's 1852 map (Figure 12) is the most relevant for the proposed site as it showed the entire site and wider landscape at this time. The site location was clearly visible with 22-26 Blossom Street fronting onto the main road, the two properties are divided by a carriageway for access the warehouse buildings in the now garden area. Within the south-western part of the garden plot there was a large building running along the south-western wall boundary.

The 1892 OS map (Figure 13) showed the further development of the local and wider area with the layout of the building onsite changing very little.

The 1941 OS map (Figure 14) still showed the original layout of the building onsite and suggests that the building in the back garden area was used for a relatively long period of time. In between this map and the current landscape, the buildings to the rear of 22-26 Blossom Street have been demolished in preparation for a garden area being created.

#### **6.4 Place name evidence**

The site lies directly in-between the historic City of York to the north-east, the York Railway Station to the north and The Crescent to the south, with Blossom Street to the south and east. Blossom Street is first mention in c.1241 AD as '*Ploxwangate*', meaning ploughswain or ploughman, referring to the areas rural nature (MacRae 2013). However, this is believed to have come from an Anglo Scandinavian descriptive origin of '*plógr-sveinn-gata*,' meaning Ploughswain Street in Old Norse (Tillot 1961, 332).

#### **6.5 Aerial photography**

The earliest aerial photograph was taken in 1936 and showed the area of 22-26 Blossom Street with the main building facing the street and warehouses behind (Figure 15).

In the slightly clearer 1962 aerial photo, the warehouse building in the garden area is still visible, suggesting that it was demolished post 1962. Along Blossom Street there were clear house plots with gardens behind, as well as commercial shops (Figure 16).

The aerial photo from 2002 showed the current site location and showed the green squared garden area behind the building of 22-26 Blossom Street. The landscape around the site location had changed quite dramatically by this point, as land to the west, where the Railway buildings once stood, had now been demolished and formed part of the NCP South Station Car Park. The land to the east, where on the previous 1942 mapping it showed a Church, on this photo it appeared to have been demolished and a car park now stood in its place. The green

area directly behind the site location would form the car park for the Prudential House development which occurred in the mid 2000s. The North and South Premier Inns are directly adjacent to the site location (Figure 17).

From the 2014 aerial photo (Figure 18) it can be seen that there has been more major redevelopment around the site in the last 15 years. The Prudential House, now Meridian House, has been built with associated car park and the once open areas around 22-26 Blossom Street are now enclosed.

## **7 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS**

### **7.1 Natural deposits**

The depth of natural deposits within the proposed development site are unknown but have been identified nearby. The excavations undertaken by Wenham (1965) at 18 Blossom Street highlighted a slope in the natural sandy clay to the north-west, which appeared to be dropping steeply off the York Moraine to the west and north of the site. The top of natural was present between 1.83 – 2.13m BGL in Wenham's investigations; it is important to take into consideration that this covered a range of natural encountered across all the trenches (Figure 7).

### **7.2 Prehistoric activity**

The evidence for prehistoric activity within York is scarce. Occasional flint scatters have been found during excavations within the city centre and residual flints have been recovered from later deposits.

### **7.3 Roman activity**

Trench 14 of Wenham's excavations at 18 Blossom Street (Plates 3-5, Figures 7-8) was the closest archaeological intervention to the current site location; 5m to the south-west (Wenham 1965) (Figure 8). At the eastern end of the trench, Roman Road 10 was uncovered along with a single cremation excavated on the eastern side of the road. There was a stone altar/memorial stone in the middle of the trench, whilst Roman Road 9 was uncovered further along Trench 14 to the west. The complete northern section of the trench was recorded cutting through both Roman Roads with associated deposits.

Excavations at 28-40 Blossom Street revealed Roman boundary ditches, traces of a building, possible yard surfaces and a potential road surface, suggesting that this area of Blossom Street and The Crescent was outside of the Roman cemetery; although there were pits containing

burnt pottery vessels interpreted as funerary offerings at 28-40 Blossom Street (MAP 2000, Milsted 2009).

In 1991 Roman road 10 was seen at a depth of 1.5m BGL during excavations at 14-20 Blossom Street (Plate 6). These were overlain by substantial Roman deposits at least 1m thick in places, with Roman levels identified at 1.85m BGL. Investigations on The Crescent in 1981 revealed a cobbled surface interpreted as road metalling at 2m BGL (Brinklow 1981, Ottaway 2011), which may suggest the alignment of Roman Road 10 south-westwards (MacRae, 2013).

Burial or cremation sites are commonly found along the sides of Roman roads (Casa-Hatton 1999), as has been demonstrated elsewhere in York along the northern, western and eastern approach roads (Ottaway 2011), most recently along Tadcaster Road, York (Savine 2017). Although the terrain around 22-26 Blossom Street has been heavily landscaped, there is still potential for Roman period archaeology to be uncovered.

#### **7.4 Early medieval activity**

Early medieval deposits have not yet been encountered within the proposed site area.

A Saxon coin hoard was reported as being found just in front of Micklegate Bar containing silver coins of Aethelred II; the exact provenance however is uncertain (MYO4247).

Wenham's investigation at 1 Blossom Street recovered one pottery sherd of potentially late Roman or early post-Roman date (Wenham 1965, 531).

At 28-40 Blossom Street excavations revealed 11<sup>th</sup> century levelling and dumping, which also included the disturbance and truncation of a possible 4<sup>th</sup> century building, and evidence for disturbance of Roman funerary remains including redeposited pottery, imbrex and tegula.

The lack of Anglian/Anglo-Scandinavian deposits in the area has been interpreted as either a result of a large clearance undertaken between the post-Roman and medieval period, or that little activity took place around Blossom Street until the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Milsted 2010).

#### **7.5 Medieval activity**

Medieval deposits have not yet been encountered within the proposed site area.

During the medieval period activity within the study area was mainly agricultural; excavations to the rear of 28-40 and 35-41 Blossom Street recorded a thick medieval plough soil sealing Roman remains at around 1.20 – 1.30m BGL. Pits, boundary ditches and the base of an oven or kiln dating to the medieval period were also recorded (Oakey 1992, Milsted 2009). There is evidence along Blossom Street that there was some settlement outside of the city walls; at 20

Blossom Street investigations uncovered a medieval cobbled surface, pits and deposits (Clarke 1991).

At 14-16 Blossom Street, boreholes revealed thick homogenous mixed Roman and Medieval silty clays, suggesting a churning up of previous underlying deposits and spreading of material (YAT 1991, 9).

#### **7.6 Post-medieval activity**

No post-medieval deposits have previously been identified within the proposed development site. However, on aerial photography and historic maps, 19<sup>th</sup> Century wall structures around the existing garden area of 22-26 Blossom Street are visible.

Throughout all the excavations within the immediate area, many recorded quite severe 19<sup>th</sup> century brick-built drains and well features intruding into the earlier archaeology. Due to the closeness of the site location to the frontages of Blossom Street, it is also possible that earlier archaeology may have been heavily disturbed by post-medieval development.

## **8 POTENTIAL DEPOSIT SEQUENCE**

### **8.1 Natural**

From investigations undertaken by Wenham along Blossom Street, it is apparent that the natural drops off from the York Moraine quite steeply to the north-west of the site. It is estimated that natural may occur at or below 2.13m BGL; however, it may continue to slope deeper to the north and north-west of the site (Wenham 1965). Archaeological investigations to the north of the site also suggest a variation in natural between 8.95 – 12.77m AOD (YAT 1991).

### **8.2 Prehistoric**

There are no known prehistoric sites located within the study area. However, the position of 22-26 Blossom Street just off the glacial moraine would suggest the possibility for some prehistoric activity in the area, particularly as the moraine running east-west across the Vale of York may have been a route used in prehistoric times from as early as the Bronze Age.

Stray finds from the York area indicate that prehistoric remains have likely been disturbed by the extensive occupation within the city. Polished stone axes have been found at the Mount, Holgate, Dringhouses, Dunnington, Haxby, Stamford Bridge, Newton-on-Ouse and Aldwark. Perforated mace heads have been found in York and Strensall (Benson 1911, 5).

Within the boundaries of the study area near the outlet of Holgate beck, a number of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age implements were found in 1868 (Benson 1911). These included flaked stone axes, backed knives, arrowheads and scrapers, and have become known as the 'York Hoard'.

A Neolithic stone axe and pottery dating from the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age was found within peat deposits at St Pauls Green, Holgate (Antoni & Hunter-Mann 1999). These rare finds for York seem to indicate that the areas of higher ground to the south west of the Ouse may have been important locations from the Neolithic period.

There is minimal evidence for Iron Age occupation within York; however, a crouched burial uncovered below the Roman burials during the construction of the Railway Station in the 19th Century may be of Iron Age date (RCHME 1962).

### **8.3 Roman**

There are likely to be Roman period deposits at the proposed site. The top of Roman deposits was encountered in Wenham's Blossom Street excavations between 13.57 – 15.95m AOD. Trench 14 from Wenham's investigations lies 5m from the site location, where a sequence of deep stratigraphic deposits and well preserved features survived (Plate 3, 4, 5).

Roman remains were found at Prudential House at a depth of 14.90m AOD, but were heavily truncated (MAP, 2000). Remains of significance, such as Road 10, were found to the north of the site location at 14-20 Blossom Street between 12.77 – 14.50m AOD (YAT 1991).

There is potential that deposits relating to Road 10 may be found on this site, especially as the trajectory of this road has already been seen in 1953-55 (Wenham 1965). There is also the possibility for the survival of burials, cremations, pits and structures surviving across the proposed development site. Any remains may be heavily disturbed. Further archaeological evaluation would determine the survival of any Roman period archaeology, including burials, within the proposed site area. Any deposits found would have the potential to further inform understanding of the wider Roman landscape.

### **8.4 Early medieval**

It is unlikely that any settlement or burial remains from this period will be uncovered within the proposed site. However, due to Anglian and Anglo Scandinavian settlement to the north-east, there is still the potential for early medieval archaeology and scattered finds to be present.

### 8.5 Medieval

Based on nearby investigations, there will almost certainly be a medieval plough soil across the proposed site. Other medieval features including pits and ditches may also be present.

### 8.6 Post-medieval

There is high potential to encounter 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings relating to commercial, residential and workshop use on the site of 22-26 Blossom Street. This study has shown that during this period the site area underwent dramatic changes, from open agricultural land to a two-dwelling property with warehouse and buildings to the rear. These buildings within the garden area were not demolished at least until after 1962, therefore it is uncertain as to how deep these foundations intruded into the earlier archaeology.

The surrounding buildings mainly consist of 20<sup>th</sup> century modern architecture along Blossom Street with scattered heritage assets interspersed.

## 9 POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ACROSS DEVELOPEMENT SITE

There is a **HIGH** likelihood of uncovering archaeological remains within the proposed development area based on the results of this desk-based assessment.

The site lies in an Area of Archaeological Importance, as well as being located within a Conservation Area and part of York's Historic Core. Although the current building facing onto Blossom Street is to be renovated, the main archaeological concern is for the construction of apartments in the garden area to the rear of 22-26 Blossom Street; which would certainly impact any archaeology present.

The chance of uncovering Roman remains onsite is **HIGH**. If remains from burials or cremations do survive they could be fragmented or in a poor state due to later truncations from 19<sup>th</sup> century development or they could survive at a high standard. Roman domestic activity may also be encountered and remains relating to the structure of Roman Road 10 are highly likely; as this is meant to cut-through the bottom half of the garden area onsite. Any remains uncovered from Roman Road 10, would provide a *significant* insight into the Roman landscape to the south-west of York.

At present due to the incomplete depths and deposit sequence it is difficult to create a cohesive narrative for the Roman period along Blossom Street. Many archaeological investigations have occurred over the last 25 years, but the survival of material has varied and

different archaeological methodologies have been employed; which makes the current dataset irregular.

There is a **HIGH** probability of encountering medieval plough soils within 22-26 Blossom Street. If agricultural deposits survive they may contribute to a better understanding of the development of cultivation and could potentially help to clarify the dates of any settlement outside the City walls area.

The next most extensive and significant remains likely to be present are structural remains from the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings associated with 22-26 Blossom Street's development over time. Due to the warehouse building in the garden area being demolished relatively recently and with no record, it is difficult to determine to what survives below ground, therefore the likelihood of encountering the remains of 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Century building structures with associated drainage onsite is **HIGH**.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Due to the lack of any previous archaeological investigations within the proposed area of development, this site needs to be considered for archaeological evaluation as the archaeological deposit sequence is incomplete. The enclosed nature of the garden to the rear of 22-26 Blossom Street requires a hand-excavated test-pit to assess the depth of the archaeological remains and characterise the archaeology.

The site location in the back garden of 22-26 Blossom Street is enclosed, but may be overlooked by the hotels to the north and south. A scheme of public engagement may not be possible due to the restricted nature of the site. The dissemination of results whilst archaeological investigations are undertaken would assist with the changing landscape of this area and help inform as to the significance of the archaeology and heritage assets of the local area.

Finally, given the possible presence of 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings on site at 22-26 Blossom Street, and the lack of understanding as to what this warehouse use to store, it is possible that ground contaminants including asbestos could be present. A soil condition survey should be undertaken prior to archaeological investigation of this site



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## APPENDIX 1 GAZETTEER OF SITES

Table 1 Gazetteer of sites used in study

Sites within 100m radius of site location.			
Number	Site Name	Date	Reference
1	Blossom Street, York	1965	Wenham, L.P. 1965 'Blossom Street Excavations, York, 1953-55' in Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, Vol. 41, 524-590.
2	14-20, Blossom Street, York	1991	York Archaeological Trust Report., 1991.11. An Archaeological Evaluation at 14-20 Blossom Street, York.
3	Forsselius Garage, 16-20, Blossom Street, York	1993	York Archaeological Trust Report., 1994.1063. An Archaeological Watching Brief at 16 -20 Blossom Street. YAT Annual Report 1993/94.
4	28-40 Blossom Street, York	2000	MAP Archaeological Consultancy., 2000.566. An Archaeological Evaluation Report at 28-40 Blossom Street.
5	28-40 Blossom Street, York	2009	York Archaeological Trust., 2009. Sewage Attenuation Tanks, 28-40 Blossom Street, York: An Archaeological Excavation Assessment Report: 2009/92.
6	Prudential House, Blossom Street, York	2004	Onsite Archaeology Report., 2004. Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at Prudential House, Blossom Street, York. OSA Report No: OSA03WB35.
7	18 Blossom Street, York.	1954	Wenham, L.P. 1965 'Blossom Street Excavations, York, 1953-55' in Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, Vol. 41, 524-590.

8	35-41 Blossom Street, York	2009	Oakey, N. 1992. 35-41 Blossom Street, unpublished YAT level 4 report. YAT 2009. York Archaeological Trust Fieldwork Recording Manual.
9	11 The Crescent, York	2019	Boast, E. 2019. A Desk-based Assessment at 11 The Crescent, York. York Archaeological Trust.
10	9 The Crescent, York	2018	Jackson, C. 2018. Archaeological Investigations at 9 The Crescent, York an Evaluation. York Archaeological Trust Report 2018/12.
11	9 The Crescent, York	2019	Slater, M-A., Boast, E. 2019. Archaeological Investigations at 9 The Crescent, York. Evaluation and Borehole Survey. York archaeological Trust Report 2019/20.
12	Blossom Street, York	1992	AGP Archaeological Services.,1992. A Desk-based Evaluation at Blossom Street.
13	The Crescent, Blossom Street, York	1981	Brinklow, D. Annual Report., 1981.1010. An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Crescent, Blossom Street, York. Appx. 1. York Archaeological Trust.
<b>Sites in the wider Blossom Street area, relevant to the wider landscape.</b>			
14	47, Blossom Street, York	1991	York Archaeological Trust Report., 1991.22. An Archaeological Evaluation at 47 Blossom Street, York. Report No:1992/2.
15	43, Blossom Street, York	1996	York Archaeological Trust Report., 1996.398. An Archaeological Watching Brief at 43 Blossom Street, York. Short Report: 1998.
16	To the rear of 27, Blossom Street,	1985	Brinklow, D. 1985. 1053. An Archaeological Watching Brief

	York		on land to the rear of 27 Blossom Street, York. No Report. Notes. York Archaeological Trust.
17	The Bar Convent, York	1998	York Archaeological Trust, 1998. The Bar Convent, York. Report on an archaeological Watching Brief. YAT 1998/67.
18	Blossom Street/Queen Street, C.C.T.V Pole Pit, York	1992	York Archaeological Trust, 1992.1022. Blossom Street/Queen Street, C.C.T.V Pole Pit, York. Report on an archaeological Watching Brief. YAT 1992/93.
19	Repairs to a Victorian Sewer at Micklegate, York	2007	Northern Archaeology Associates, 2007. Repairs to a tunnelled Victorian Sewer at Micklegate in the City of York. Archaeological Watching Brief Report: NAA07/18
20	Micklegate Bar, York	2000	Cale Archaeology 2000. Cable Trench Excavations at Blossom Gate/Micklegate Bar, York. Unpublished Report.
21	Micklegate Bar, York	2009	Johnson, 2009. Micklegate Bar, York. Internal Staircase Report. 2009/76. York Archaeological Trust.
22	York Station and Queen Street Bridge, York	2017	Slater & Laban, 2017. A Desk-based Assessment Report. 2017/105. York Archaeological Trust.
23	3 Blossom Street, York	2013	Evans, 2013. An Archaeological Watching Brief at 3 Blossom Street. 2013/25. York Archaeological Trust.



## APPENDIX 2 CITY OF YORK HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DATA

Table 2 HER data within 100m of Study Area.

HER No.	Grid Reference	Site Name	Description	Period
MYO1836	SE 5960 5135	Odeon Cinema and Buildings	Cinema and shops attached.	20 <sup>th</sup> Century 1937 – 1972 AD
MYO2203	SE 5958 5139	Blossom Street Roman Cemetery	Area of burials identified along and close to Blossom Street.	Roman 43 – 409 AD
MYO2174	SE 5401 5359	Roman Road (RCHME Road 9)	Roman Road Eburacum to Isurium. Exact line unknown.	Roman 43 – 409 AD
MYO2033	SE 5959 5136	Roman Road (RCHME Road 10)	Roman Road Eburacum to Calcaria. Exact line unknown.	Roman 43 – 409 AD
MYO1830	SE 5969 5135	27 Blossom Street	House. C.1840.	Mid-19 <sup>th</sup> Century c.1820 – 1860 AD
MYO1831	SE 5968 5135	29 Blossom Street	House, now office. C.1820.	c.1800 – 1840 AD
MYO1832	SE 5968 5134	31 & 33 Blossom Street	Two shops and flats. C.1850	c. 1830 – 1870 AD
MYO1833	SE 5968 5133	35 Blossom Street	Shop and offices. Mid C19.	c. 1833 – 1866 AD
MYO1848	SE 5973 5146	2-10 Blossom Street	Shops and flats.	c. 1863 AD
MYO1850	SE 5975 5143	The Punch Bowl Hotel, 5, 7 and 9, Blossom Street	Formerly known as: Nos.5-9 including the Magnet Inn.	c.1815 – 1883 AD
MYO1851	SE 5970 5142	Windmill Hotel, 14 and 16 Blossom Street.	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> Century Inn	c.1650 – 1890 AD

HER No.	Grid Reference	Site Name	Description	Period
MYO1852	SE 5971 5137	19 & 21 Blossom Street	Formerly known as: Nos.15, 17 and 19 Blossom Street	Early 18 <sup>th</sup> – Late 19 <sup>th</sup> Century c.1733 – 1847 AD
MYO3986	SE 5956 5133	1-7 The Crescent	Terrace Houses identified as buildings of merit.	19 <sup>th</sup> Century 1801 – 1900 AD
MYO1853	SE 5966 5139	Railwaymen's Club and Institute, 22 and 26 Blossom Street	Two houses and warehouse, now railwaymen's club.	18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> Century c.1789 -1934 AD
MYO1854	SE 5971 5137	23 & 25 Blossom Street	Two houses. Mid C19. Brick with stone dressings	c. 1833 – 1866 AD
MYO2196	SE 5975 5146	York City Walls (Micklegate Bar)	Micklegate Bar, Walls Defences. Museum.	c. 1100 – Present
MYO2197	SE 59744 51452	Micklegate Barbican	Site of barbican at Micklegate Bar	c. 1066 – 1833 AD (now demolished)
MYO3730	SE 59635 51529	York & North Midland housing (demolished)	Railway Workers Cottages	c. 1834 – 2000 AD (demolished)
MYO3740	SE 59635 51529	Railway Institute	Founded in former 'Railway Tavern' (demolished)	c. 1834 – 2000 AD (demolished)
MYO3795	SE 59596 51506	Locomotive Erecting Shops	Locomotive Erecting Shops for the North Eastern Railway Company	c. 1867 – 1900 AD
MYO3983	SE 59628 51506	Railway Institute	Offering Educational facilities for railway employees.	c. 1867 – 1900 AD
MYO3985	SE 59653 51488	11-16 Queen Street	Identified as a Buildings of Merit	c. 1834 – 1866 AD

HER No.	Grid Reference	Site Name	Description	Period
MYO4247	SE 59754 51467	Coin Hoard, Micklegate Bar	A hoard of less than 30 silver pennies of Aethelred II. Dubious location.	Saxon c. 410 – 1065 AD
MYO4351	SE 59743 51432	St Thomas's Hospital	Medieval Hospital	c. 1066 – 1900 AD
MYO846	SE 5965 5131	3-20 Blossom Street (Consecutive) including 43 Blossom Street	Shop, Office, Terraced House	c. 1825 - 1999 AD
MYO961	SE 5964 5149	17-20 Queen's Street	Four houses. c1835 with C20 restoration.	c.1815 – 1855 AD

**Table 3 Listed Buildings within 100m of proposed area of development.**

EH Listed Building No.	HER Reference	Grade	Site Name	Description	Period
1259530	MYO1853	II	Railwaymen's Club and Institute, 22 and 26 Blossom Street	Two houses and warehouse, now railwaymen's club.	c.1789 -1934 AD
1259501	MYO1836	II	Odeon Cinema and Buildings	Cinema and shops attached.	c.1937 – 1972 AD
1259525	MYO1851	II	Windmill Hotel, 14 and 16 Blossom Street.	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> Century Inn	c.1650 – 1890 AD
1259503	MYO1852	I	The Bar Convent and Railings attached to front, 19 and 21 Blossom Street	Convent and school of The Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	c.1786 – 1840 AD

EH Listed Building No.	HER Reference	Grade	Site Name	Description	Period
1259526	MYO1852	II	Houses Associated with The Bar convent, 19 and 21 Blossom Street.	Two houses, later chaplains' residence; now part of convent and Pastoral Centre. No.19 rebuilt 1837.	c.1786 – 1840 AD
1259534	MYO1854	II	23 and 25 Blossom Street	Two houses. Mid C19. Brick with stone dressings	c. 1833 – 1866 AD
1259491	MYO1830	II	27 Blossom Street.	House. C.1840.	c.1820 – 1860 AD
1259492	MYO1831	II	29 Blossom Street	House, now office. C.1820.	c.1800 – 1840 AD
1259493	MYO1832	II	31 and 33 Blossom Street	Two shops and flats. C.1850	c. 1830 – 1870 AD
1259495	MYO1833	II	35 Blossom Street	Shop and offices. Mid C19.	c. 1833 – 1866 AD
1259497	MYO1834	II	39 Blossom Street	Public house, now offices.	c.1828.
1256441	-	II	54, 56 and 58, The Mount	Shops and offices. Mid C19 with C20 alterations.	c. 1850 AD
1259524	MYO1850	II	The Punch Bowl Hotel, 5, 7 and 9, Blossom Street	Formerly known as: Nos.5-9 including the Magnet Inn.	c.1815 – 1883 AD
1259523	MYO846	II	3 Blossom Street	National School, now Citizens' Advice Bureau.	c. 1853 AD
1259522	MYO1848	II	2 – 10 Blossom Street	Shops and flats.	c. 1863 AD
1256826	MYO961	II	17-20 Queen's Street	Four houses. c1835 with C20 restoration.	c.1815 – 1855 AD

## APPENDIX 3 PLATES



**Plate 1** Looking towards Micklegate Bar in 1909 as new electric tram-lines are being laid.

(City of York Library and Archives: y9\_blo\_790)



**Plate 2** Forsselius Garage in 1908 along Blossom Street.

(York Press Article 2012)



**Plate 3.** Wenham's Trench 14 from 1953-55 Excavation showing Roman Road 9 (B) and 10 (A).

Facing west.

(YAJ 1965, 528)



**Plate 4.** Wenham's Trench 14. Section of Roman Road 10 ditch.

Facing north.

(YAJ 1965, 529)



**Plate 5.** Wenham's Trench 14. Section of Roman Road 10 and 9, with cobbled area in the middle.

Facing north-east.

(YAJ 1965, 529)



**Plate 6.** Trench 2 from 14 – 16 Blossom Street. Showing metallised surface, possibly Roman Road 10. Facing south-east.

(YAT 1991, 27)



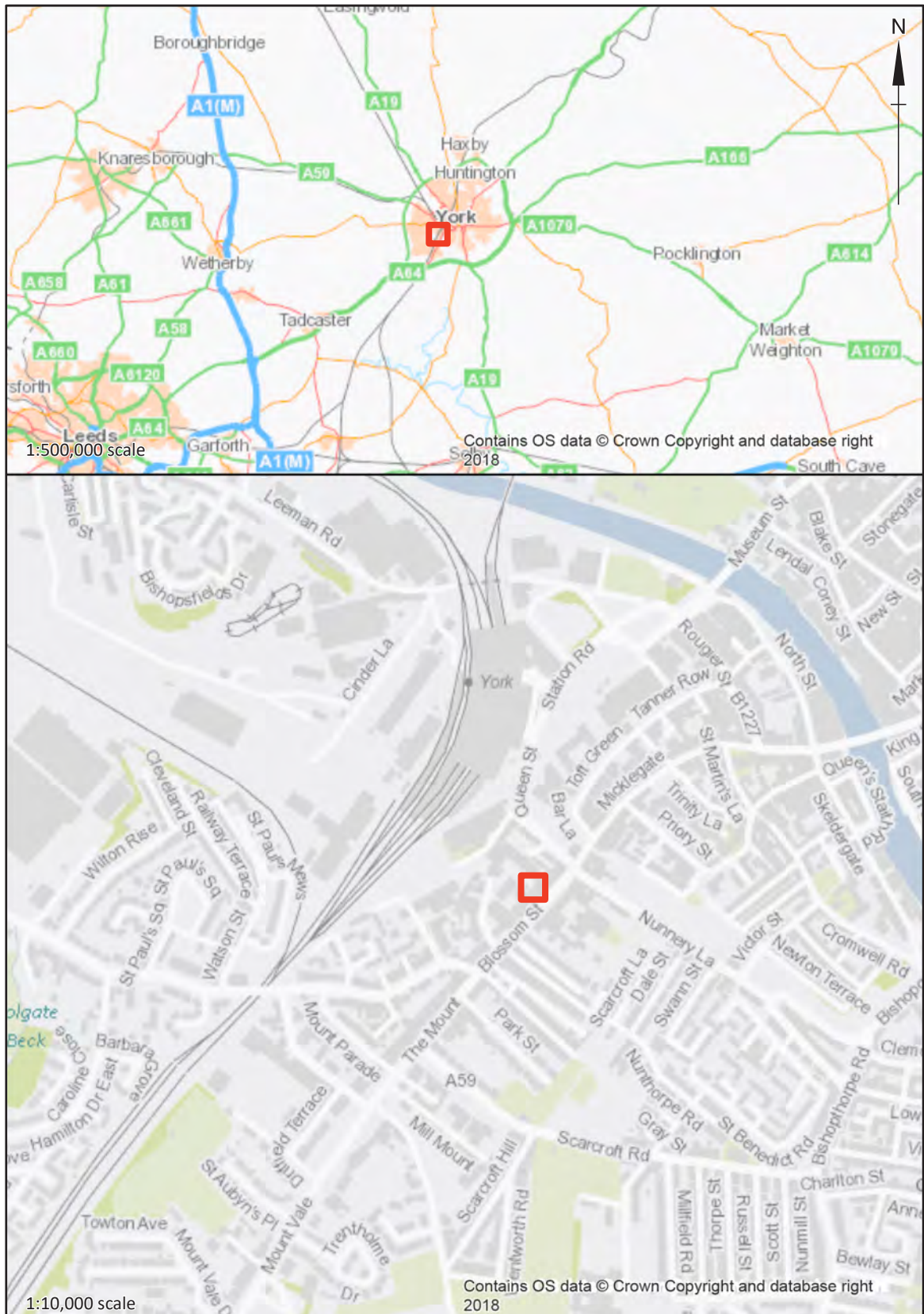


Figure. 1 Site Location

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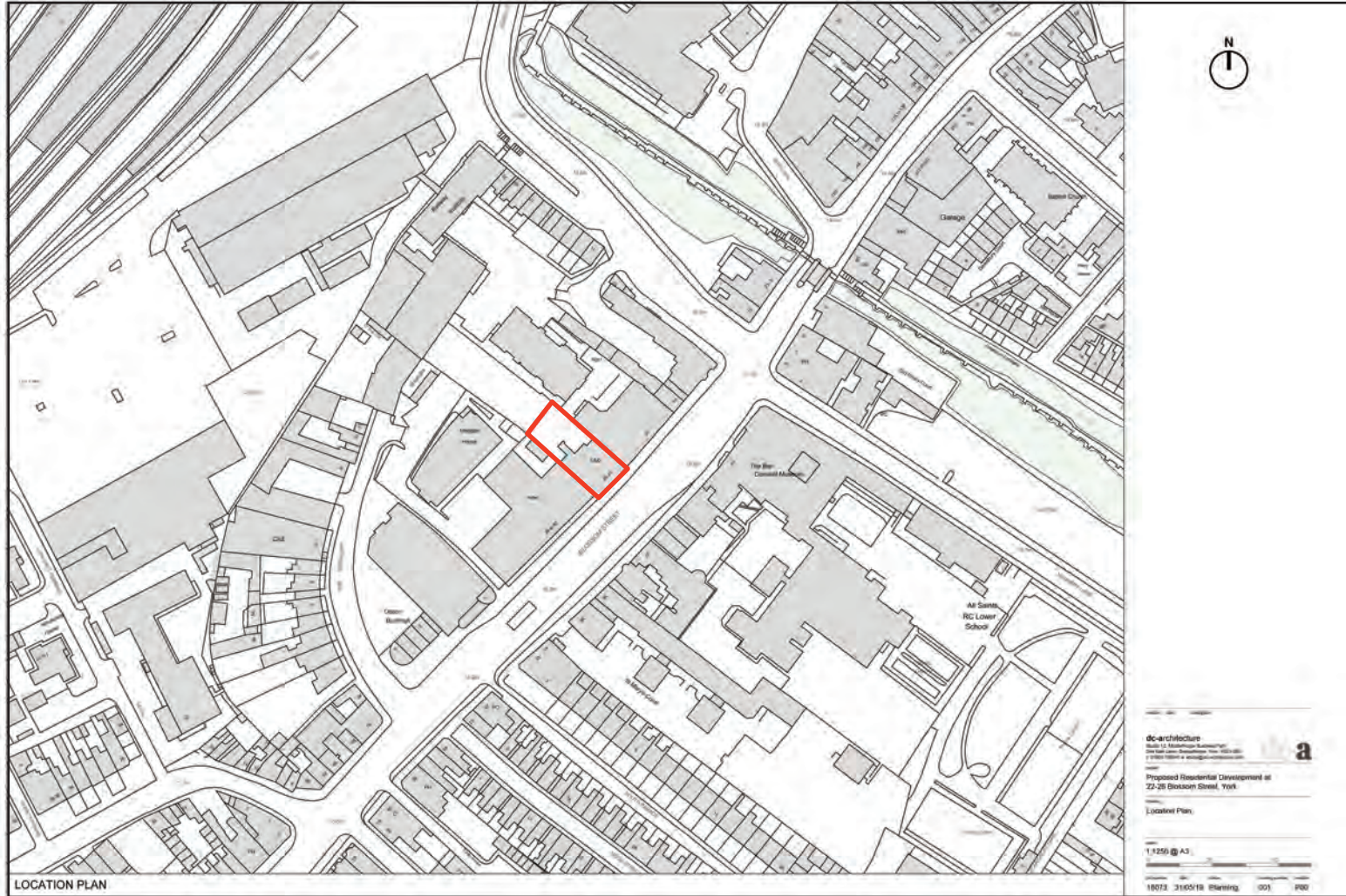


Figure 2 Works Location. Provided By Client.  
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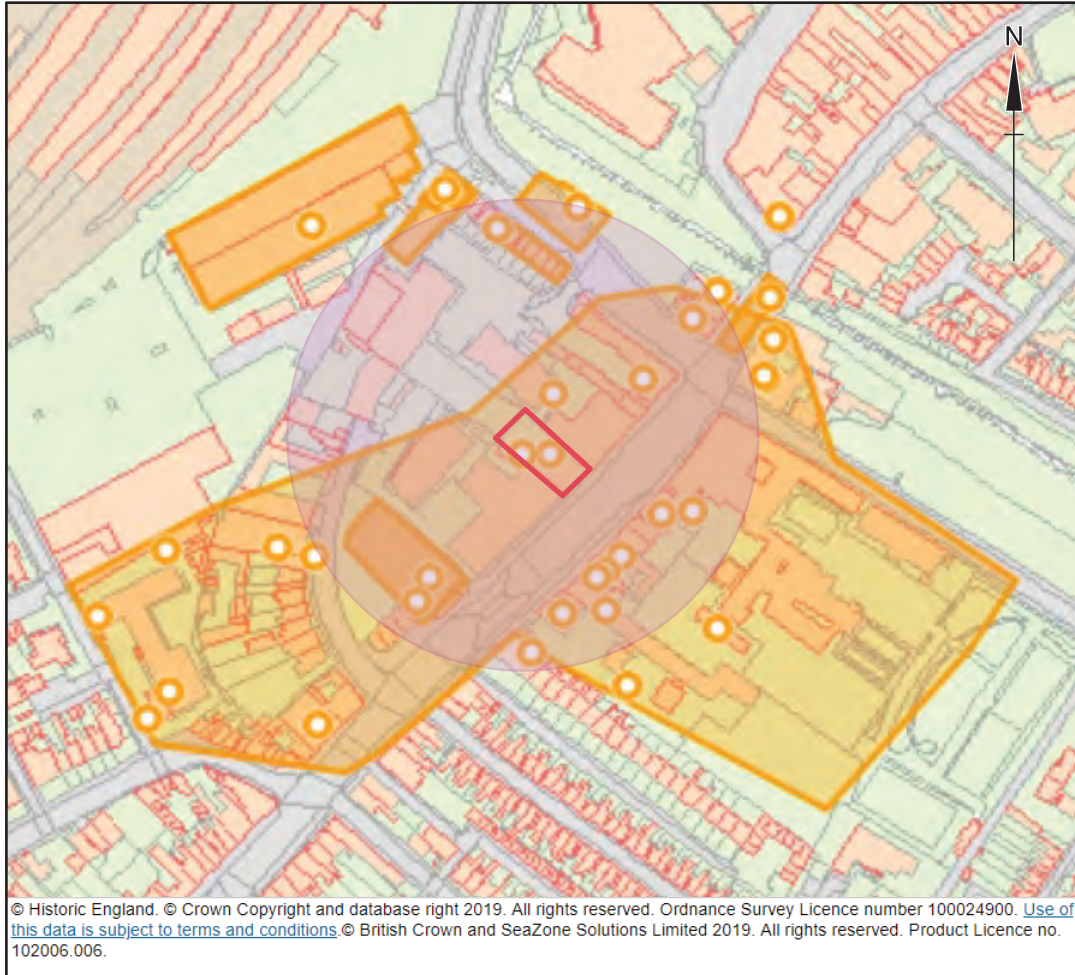


Figure. 3 HER results with 100m of the proposed site  
(Heritage Gateway).

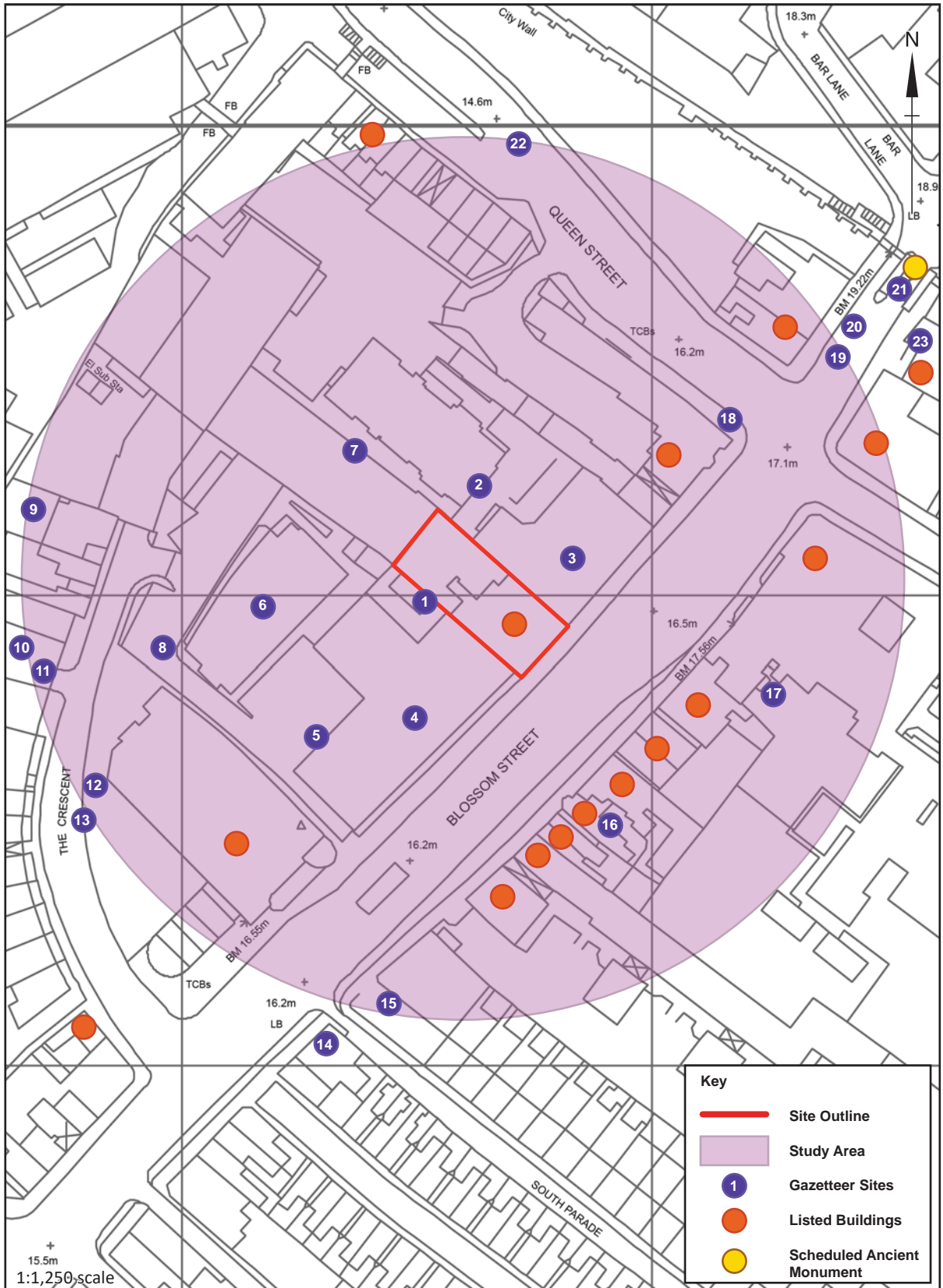


Fig. 4 Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites

(York Archaeological Trust Gazetteer and HER).

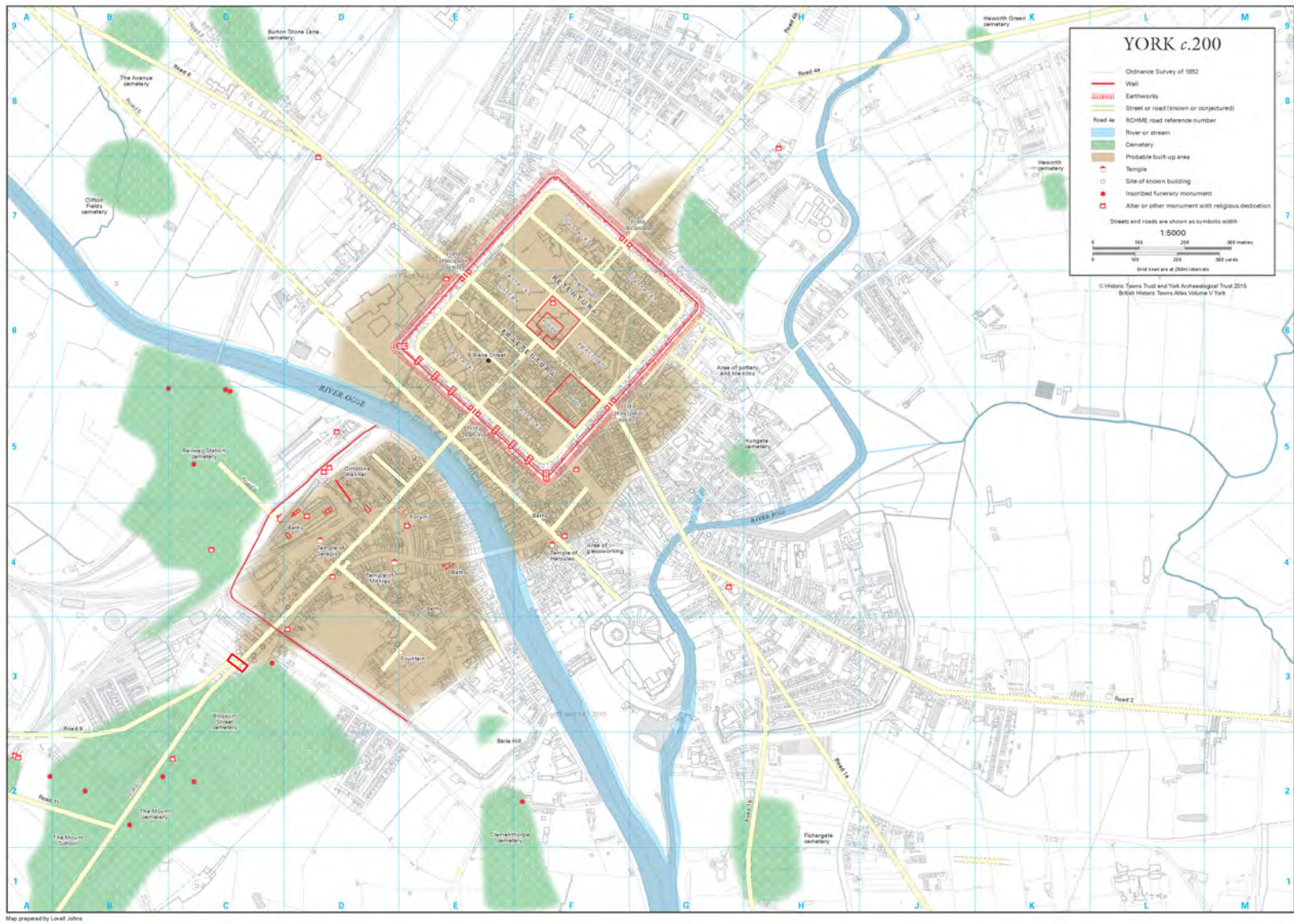


Figure. 5 Roman York, showing Roman Roads 9 and 10, Blossom Street Cemetery to the south (Addyman, 2015).

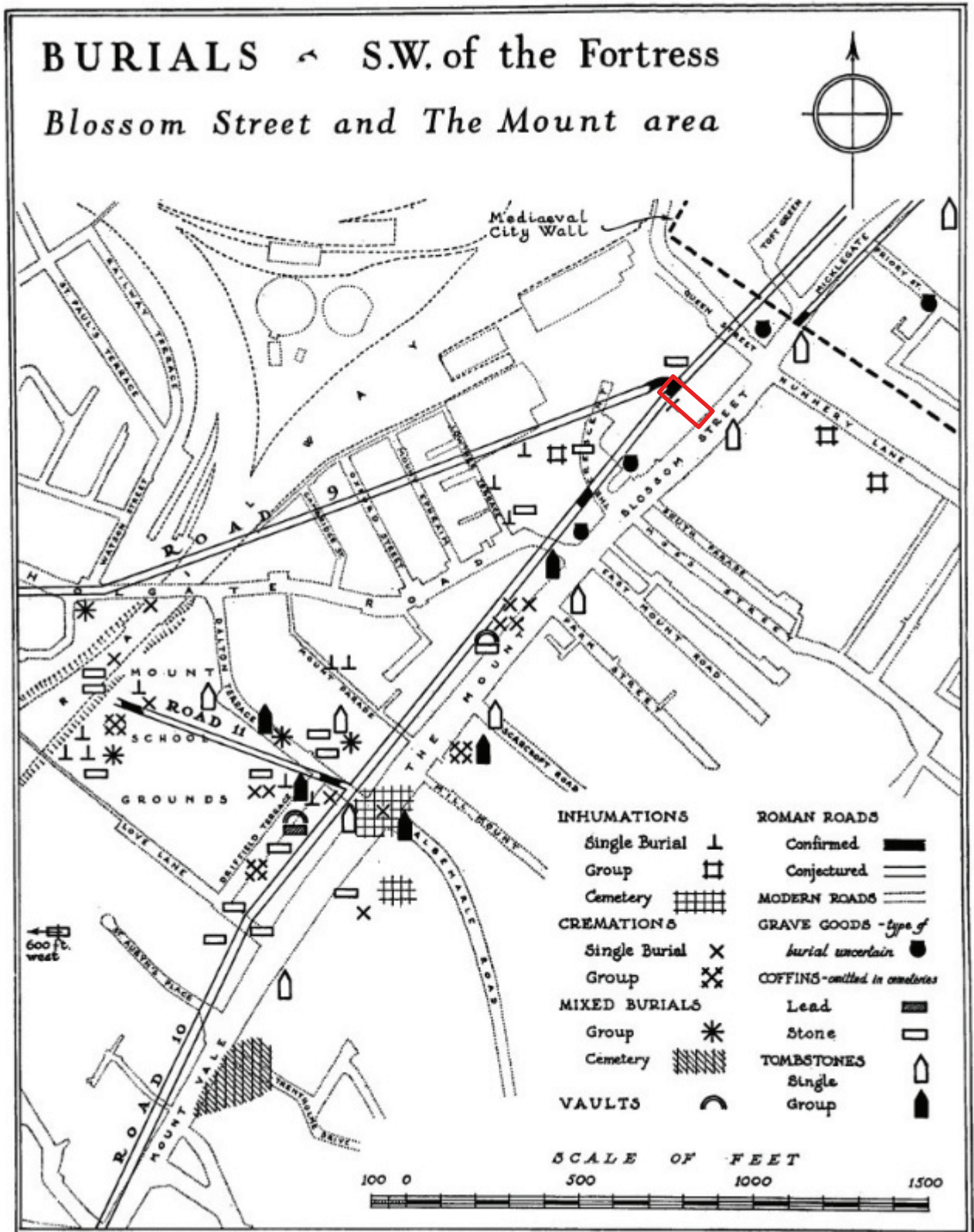


Figure. 6 Roman burials to the south west of the fortress, in detail.  
(RCHME, 1962: Fig. 70)

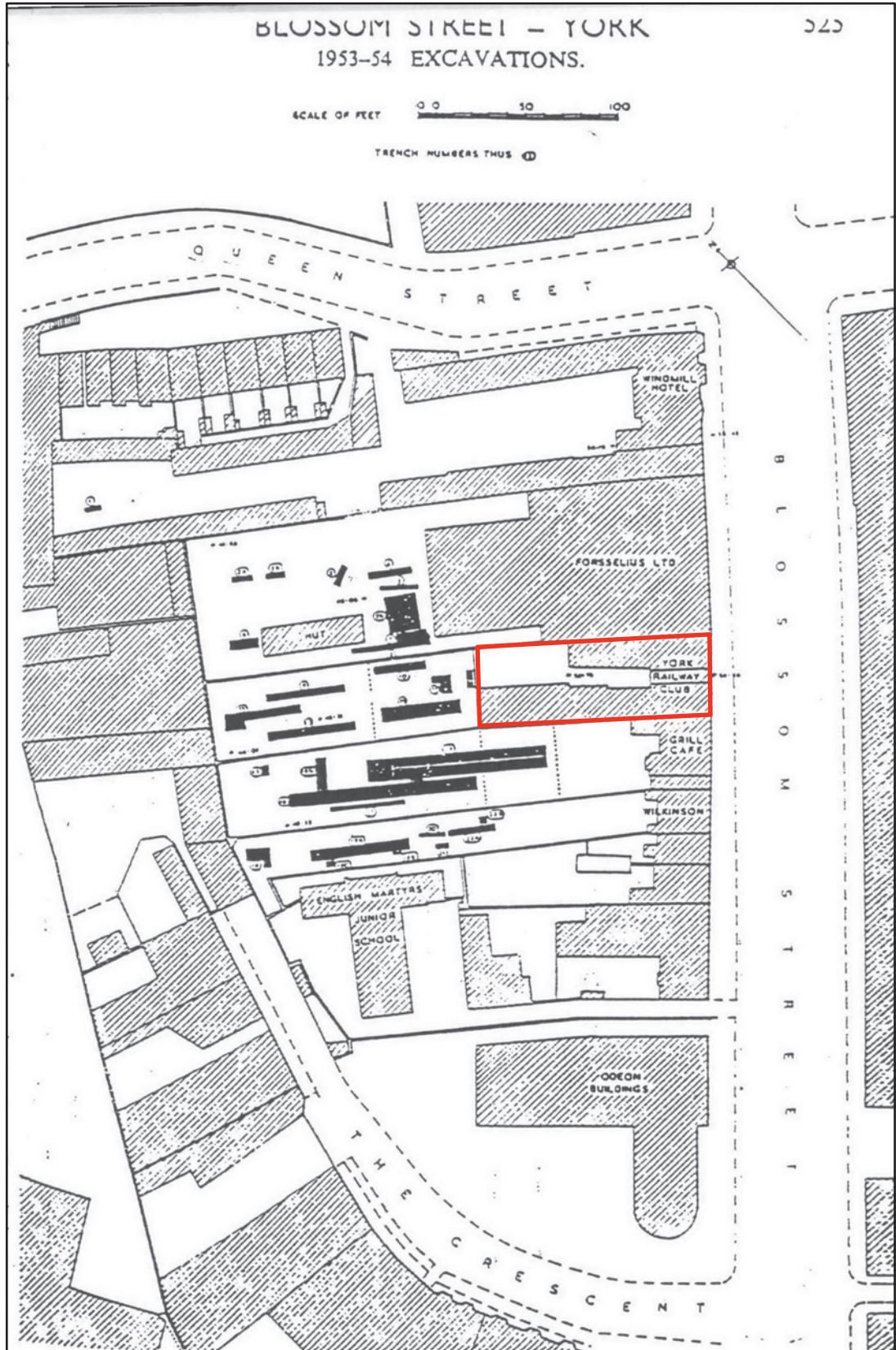


Figure 7. Wenham's Trench Locations behind Blossom Street 1953-4.  
(YAJ, Fig.1)

# BLOSSOM STREET – YORK 1953-54 EXCAVATIONS.

SCALE OF FEET 0 5 10 20 30 40 50

TRENCH NUMBERS THUS ②

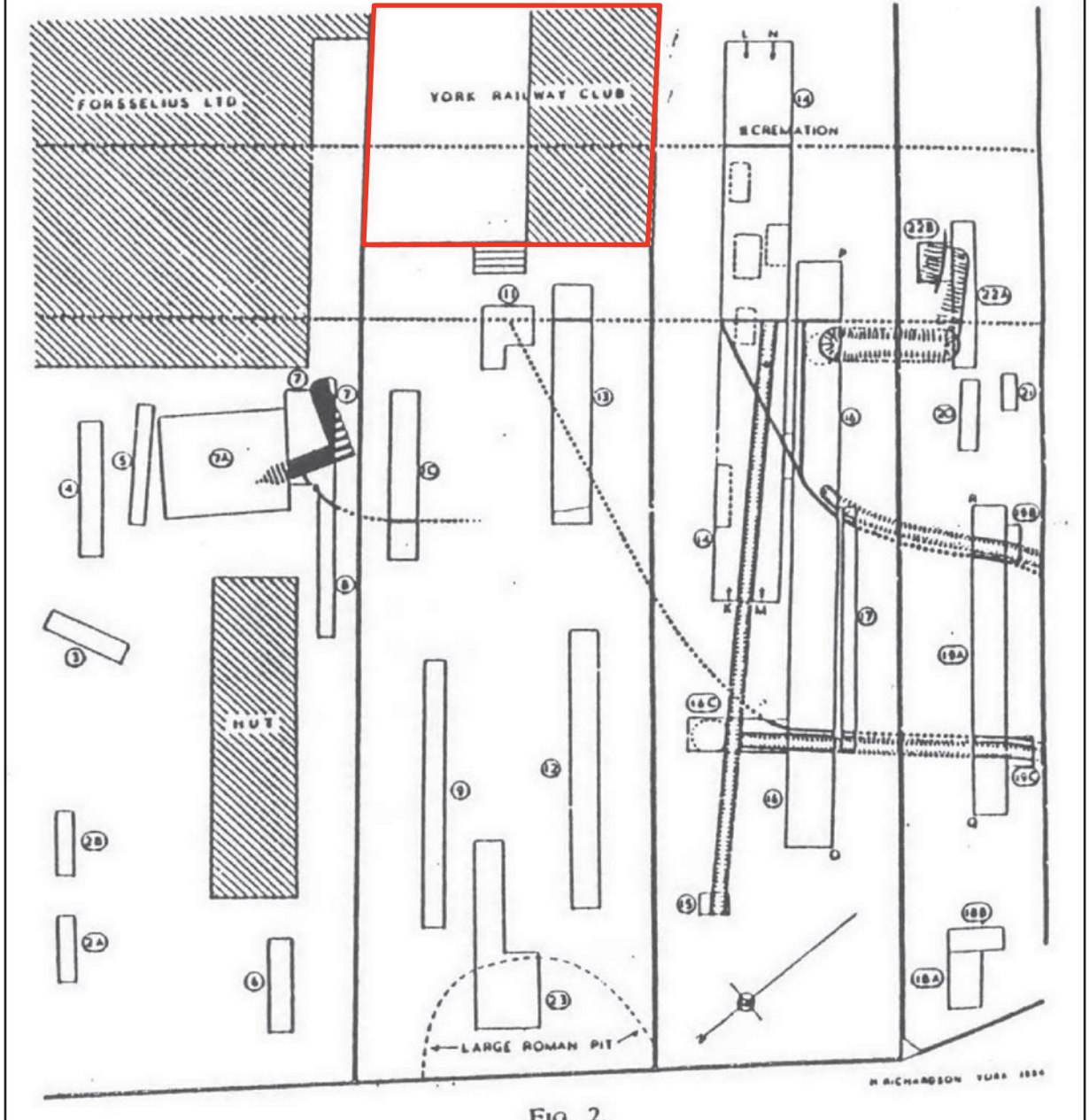


Figure.8 Wenham's Trench Locations with encountered archaeology 1953-4.  
(YAJ, Fig.2)



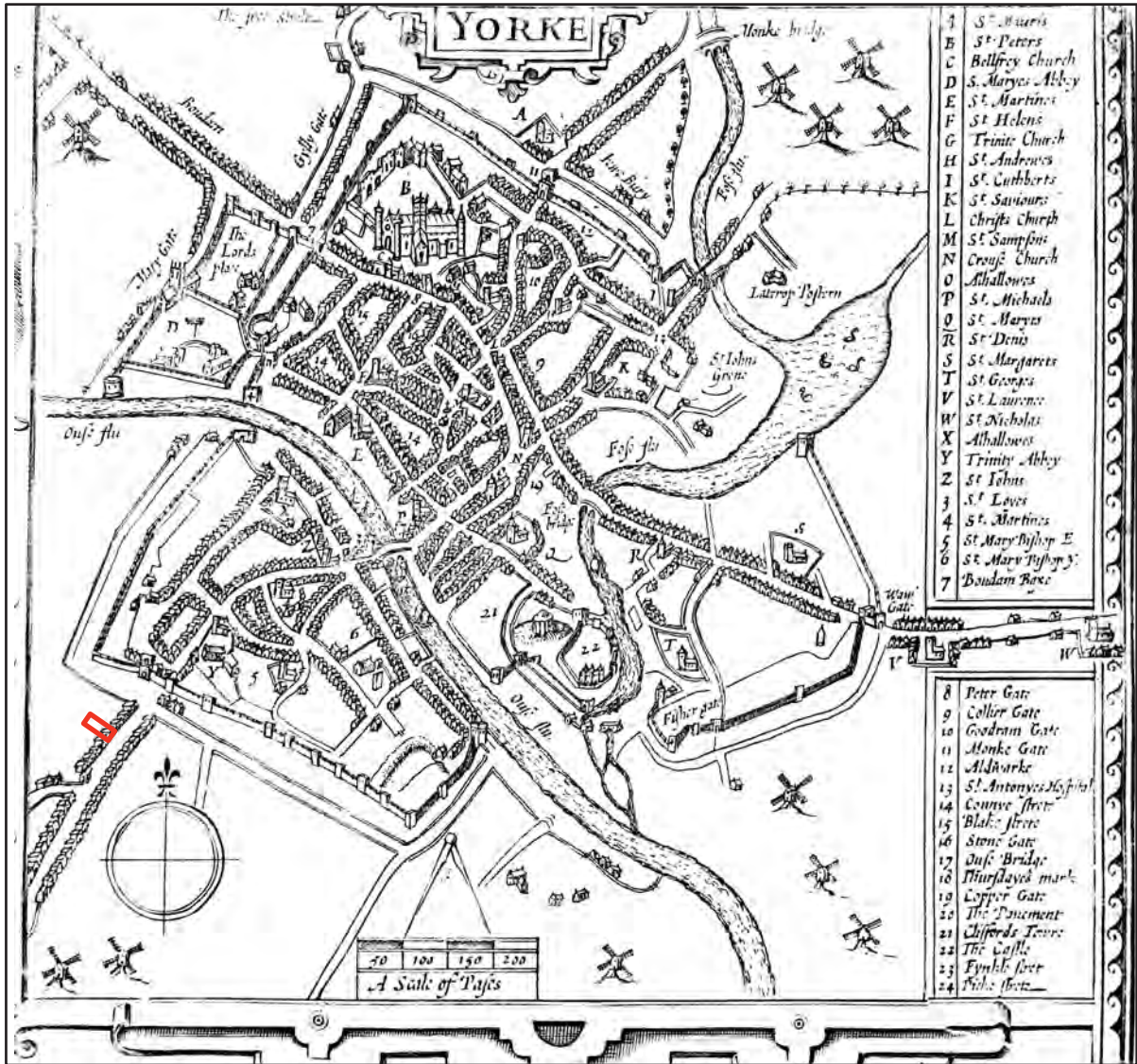


Figure.9 John Speed's Map of York 1610.  
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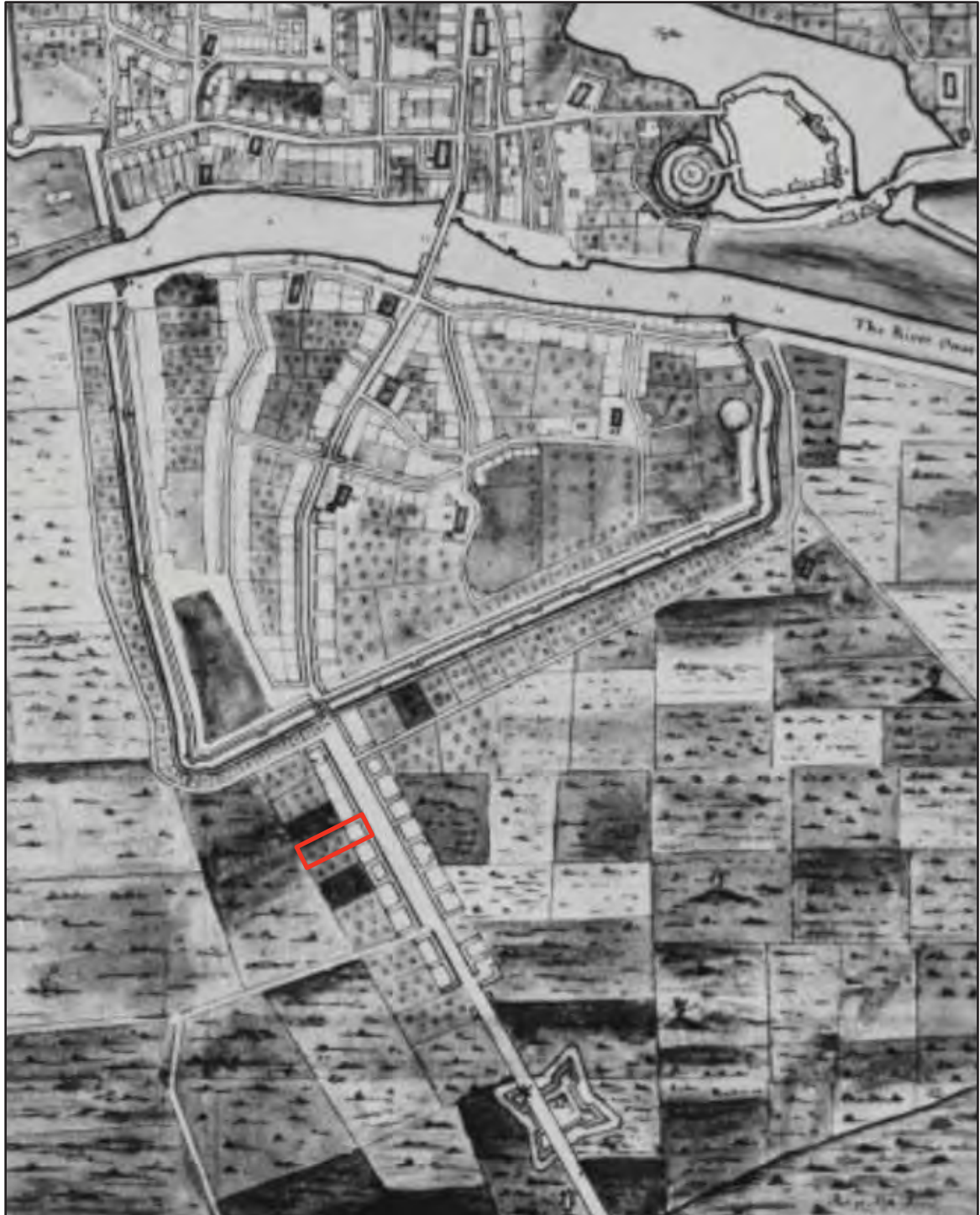


Figure.10 Jacob Richards Map of York, 1685.  
(RCHME, 1972: Plate 61)

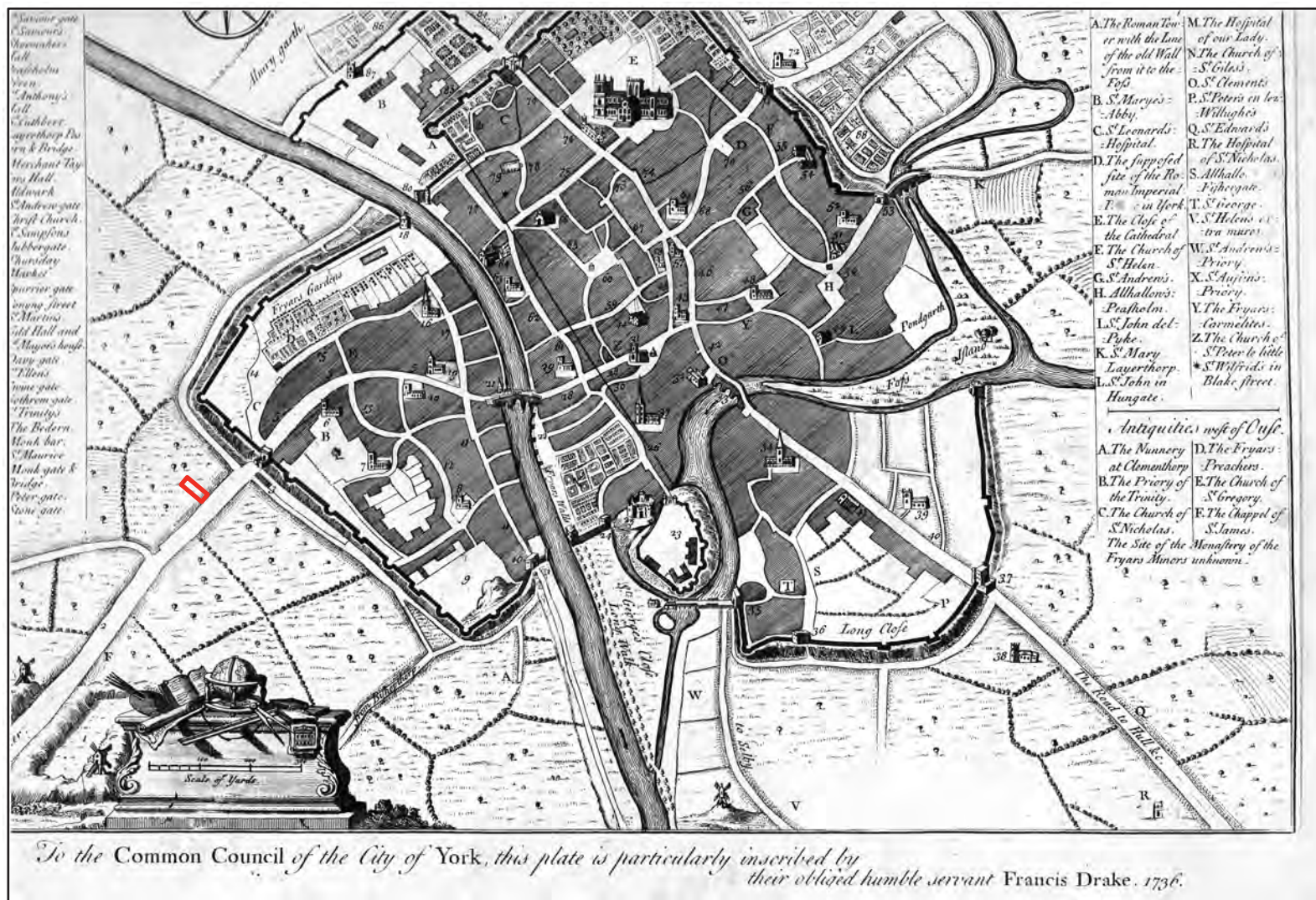


Figure. 11 Francis Drake's Map of York 1736. Approximate location of site area.  
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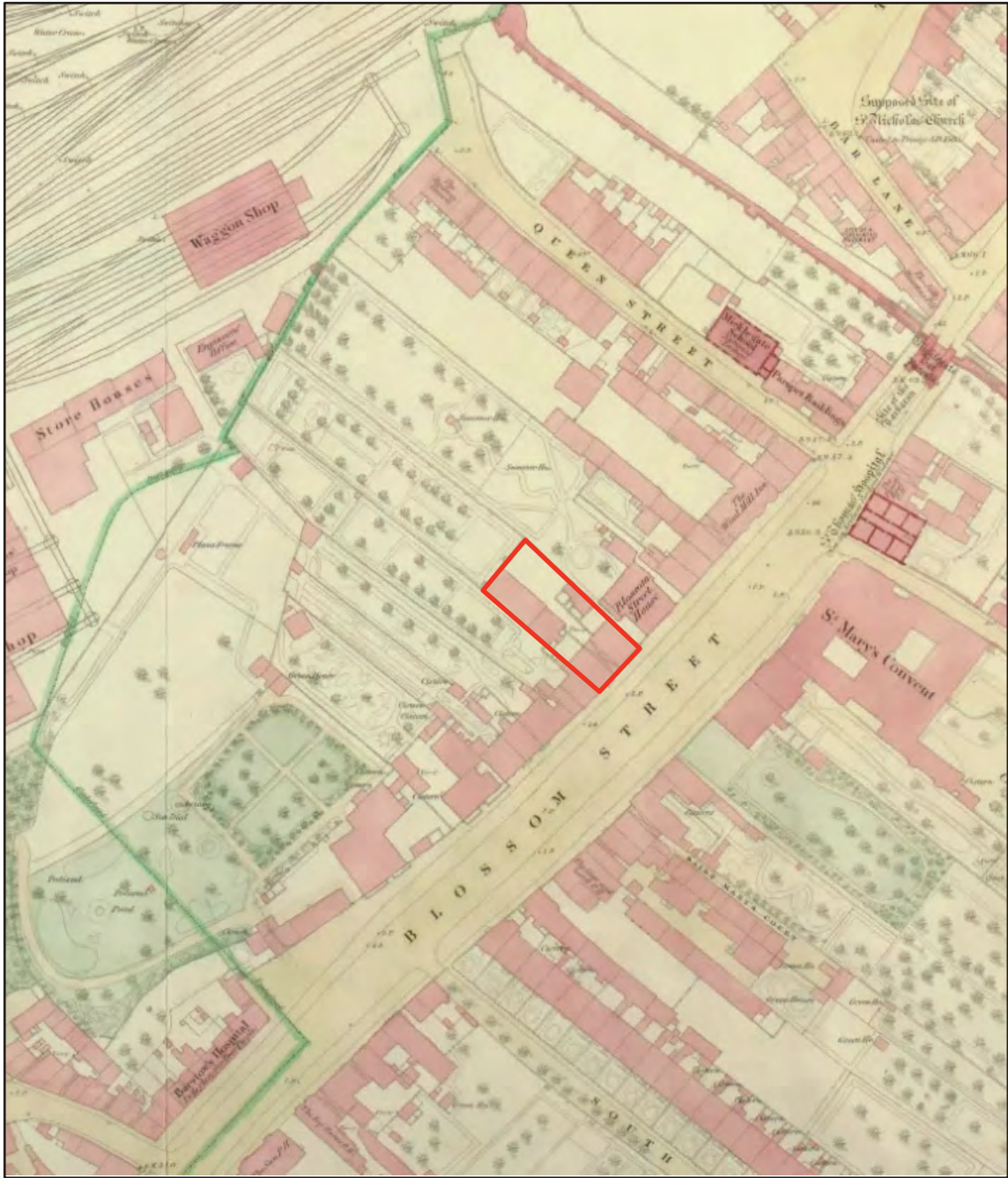


Figure. 12 1852 Map of York.  
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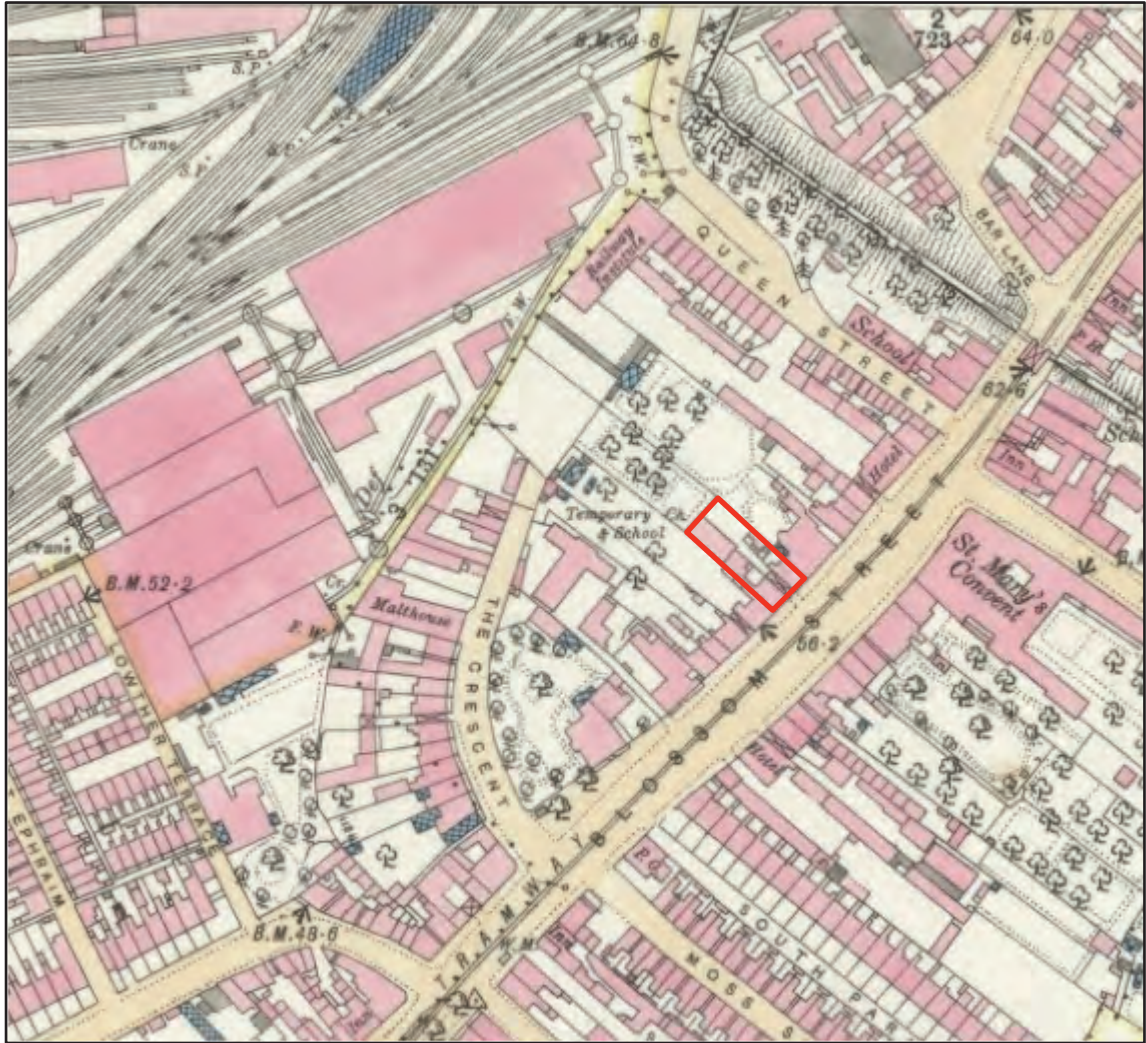


Figure. 13 York OS Map 1892.  
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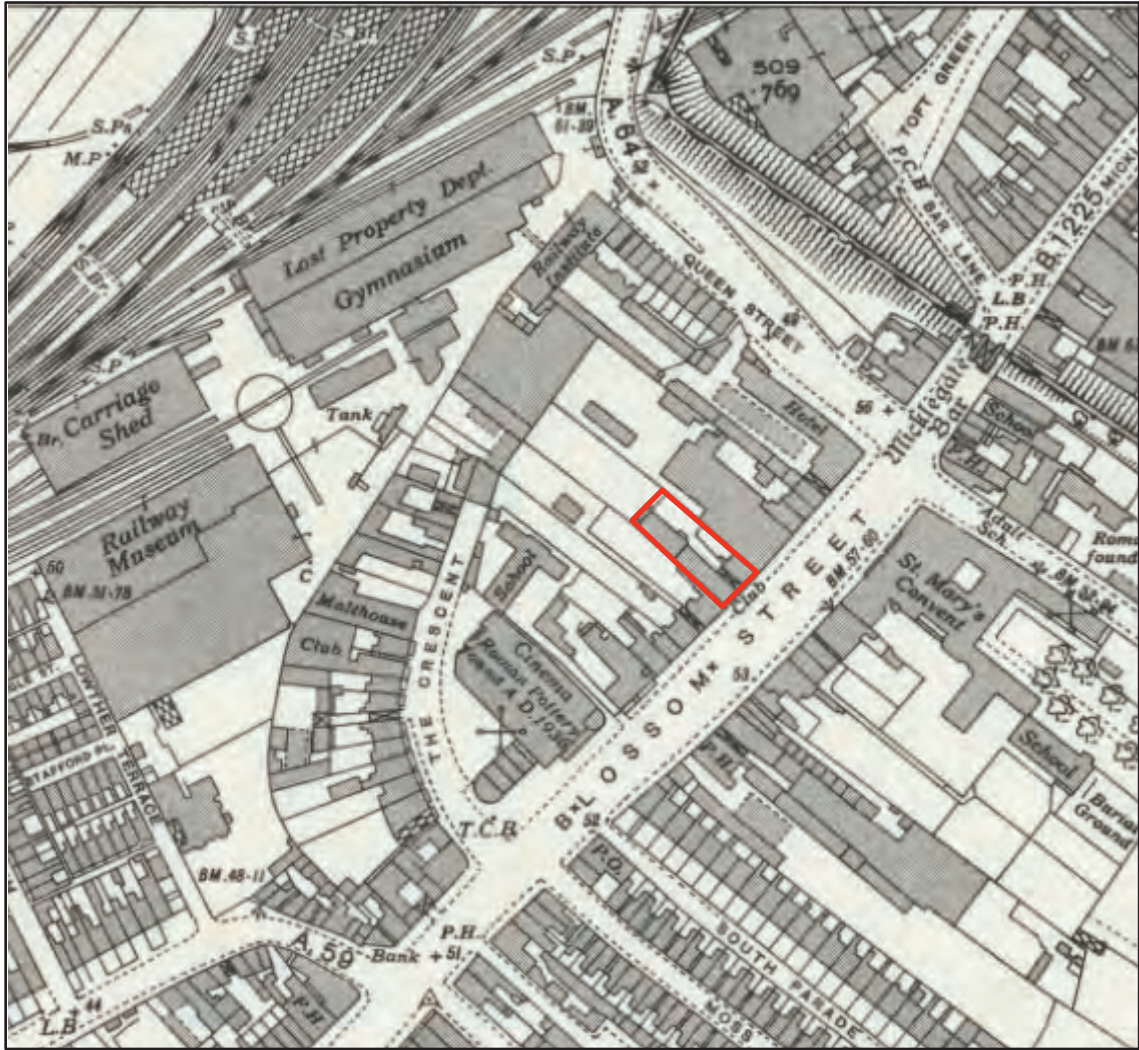


Figure. 14 York OS map 1941.  
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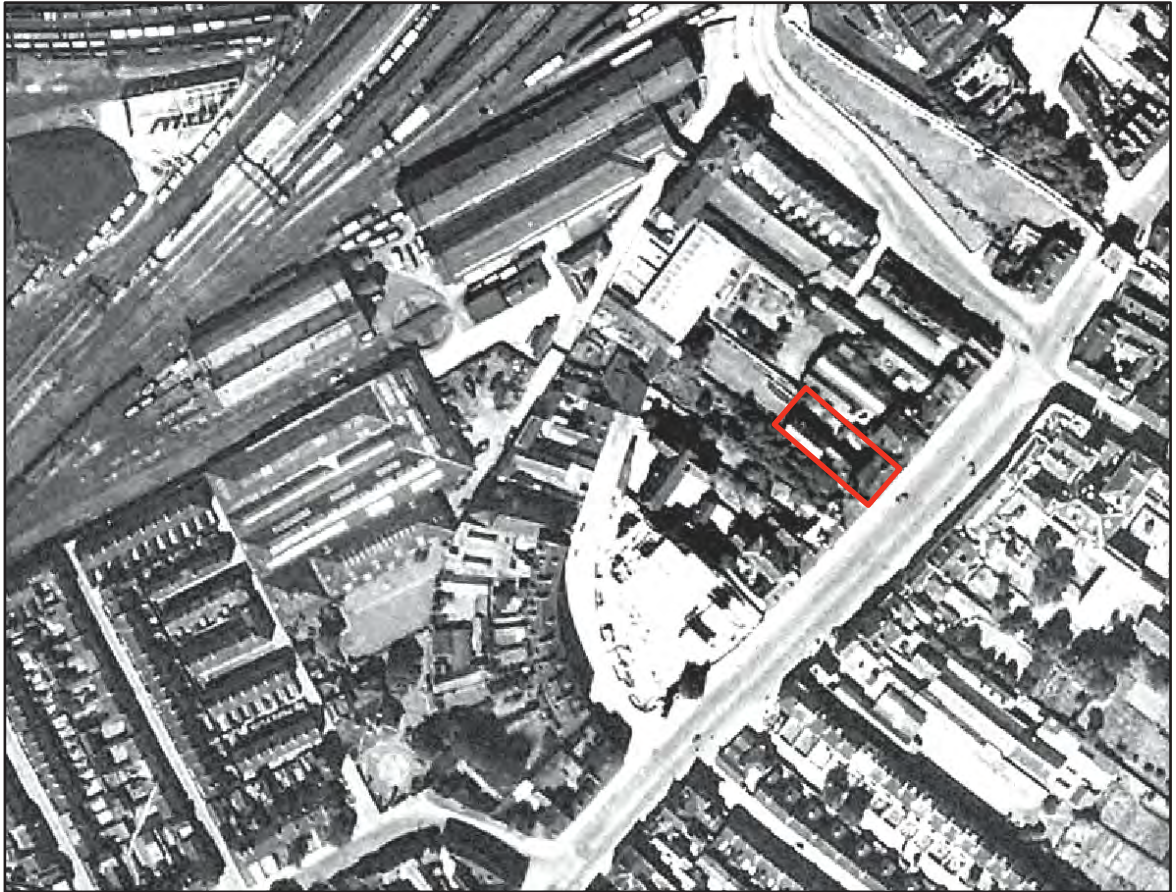


Figure. 15 Aerial view of the site taken in 1936.  
(CYC, 2019)

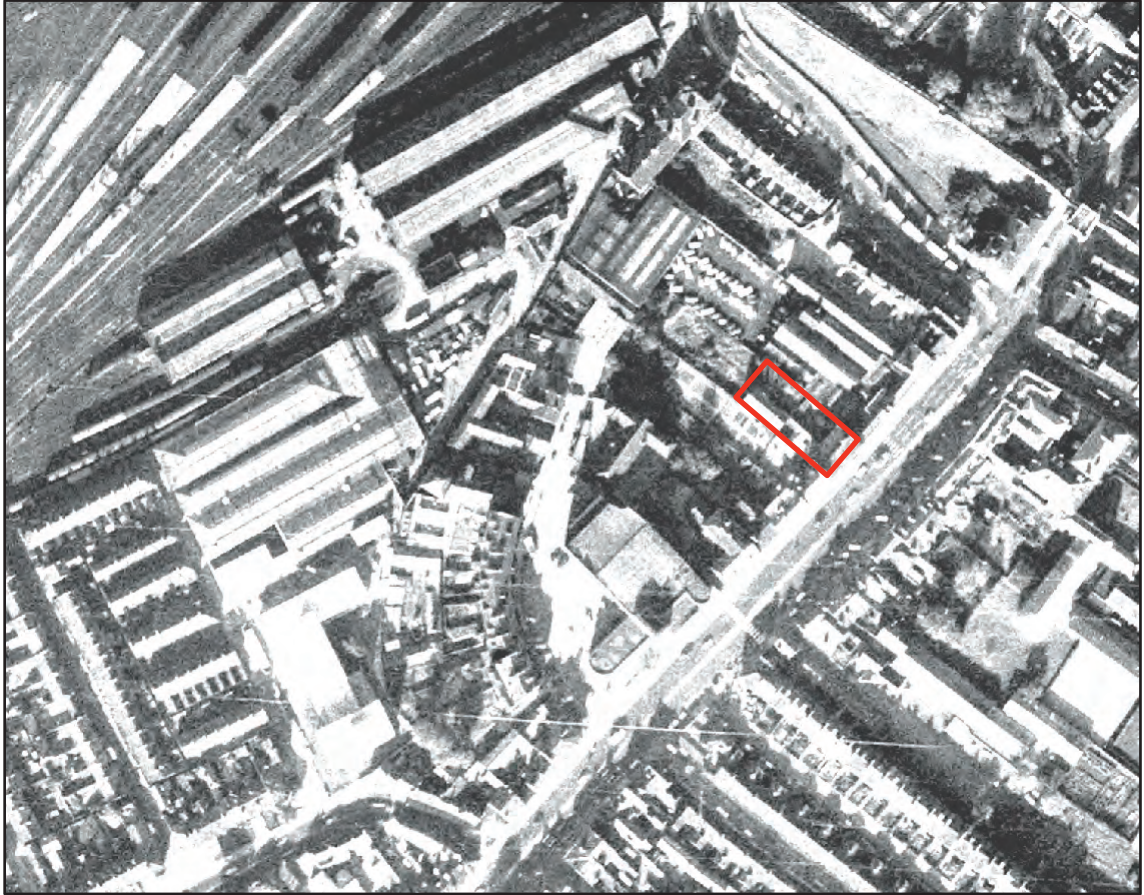


Figure. 16 Aerial view of the site taken in 1962.  
(CYC, 2019)





Figure. 17 Aerial view of the site taken in 2002  
(CYC, 2019)



Figure. 18 Aerial view of the site taken in 2014  
(CYC, 2019)



# YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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