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COMPREHENSIVE GEOTECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING SERVICES  
DELIVERED USING OUR OWN DRILLING RIGS / CREWS / SOILS LAB / ENGINEERS

## CASE STUDY 11

# Church

## Leeds

### // BACKGROUND

The client approached our team in late 2022, concerned about the structural conditions of the building's interior floor and structures.

### // CLIENT

Anonymous

### // DATE COMPLETED

March 2023



### // ABOUT THE JOB

The site is situated around the outskirts of Leeds' city centre. Dating back to the 1800's, this impressive building stands proudly on a hill in the Aire Valley fringe, with its famous spire recognisable from many miles away.

The vicar had noticed some damage in the reredos - an ornate decorative piece that sits behind the altar - and to the intricate marble flooring, with emerging cracks posing a safety issue and impacting the church organ.

RGS completed a site visit in March of the following year. We suspected settlement issues were the cause and got to work pinpointing the exact significance of the problem. Using one of our most trusted tools from the RGS fleet - the Dando Terrier split mast and power pack allowed the team to drill 3 no WS boreholes to a 4m depth close to the altar, taking care not to cause further damage to the church interior.

Here, we uncovered severe settlement issues to the ground-bearing floor at the eastern end of the building, with at least 3m of fill and evidence of recent water influx. The evidence-based information was precisely what the client required, allowing them to submit a claim for 'reasonable causes of structural distress' to their insurance company to support the necessary remediation works.

It took two days to complete the project due to the extreme care required while working inside the church building and mitigating any further distress to the building and assets. Thanks to our team, our client could move forward with rectifying their building issues, using detailed and reliable information they could trust.



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