



**EDGE HILL
UNIVERSITY,
ORMSKIRK,
LANCASHIRE**

**Archaeological
Evaluation**



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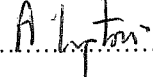
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SUMMARY

Edge Hill University, near Ormskirk, Lancashire, propose to construct a new sports facility, which will consist of ten sports pitches over the majority of the site, two piazza pools and a car park in the south-west corner, with associated access roads and footpaths, between the new facilities and the current university. At a later date, a sports hall will be constructed, and a gas pipeline will be inserted through the centre of the site.

As part of the planning application (Planning Application 8/2011/0504/FUL), Nexus Heritage was employed to undertake a contribution to an Environmental Impact Assessment in the form of an archaeological assessment, and a detailed magnetometer survey, to further identify the potential for archaeological remains. The resulting assessment indicated that there were seven sites of archaeological potential within the proposed development site.

As a result, and in consultation with Nexus Heritage, the Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) issued a verbal brief requesting a programme of archaeological trial trenching, designed to target the anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey data. Consequently, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) contributed to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Nexus Heritage Ltd, and was subsequently commissioned to undertake the archaeological evaluation. The programme of works consisted of the excavation of 18 trenches, ranging from 20m-50m in length, and 5m wide, apart from Trench 16, which was extended to a width of 15m, and equating to a 1% sample of the area. The works were spread over two phases. The first phase was initiated in August 2012, within the north-eastern area of the proposed development; the second phase, in November 2012, was across the southern and western limit.

Of the 18 trenches excavated Trenches 2-4, 6, 7, 9-15, 17 and 18, comprised only topsoil, subsoil and natural geology. Only four trenches contained remains of archaeological features; Trenches 1, 5, 8, and 16. As a result of the remains encountered within Trench 16, it was extended 5m on either side (Trench 16 ext).

Trench 1 was deliberately located in order to target the potential remains of Ruff Farm and Woodside Cottages. Made ground (**108**) at the southern end of the trench largely comprised residual building material, resulting from the demolition of the farmstead, and included sandstone fragments and brick. The remains of a sandstone wall foundation (**106**), and contemporary flagstone floor (**107**) were identified, and probably related to the original cottages. They were restricted to an area of approximately 1m² towards the south-western side of the trench, indicating that the cottages were nearly razed to the ground.

Trench 5 produced a pit (**508**) with a single homogenous fill, a possible posthole (**510**) that contained remnants of the packing material, and two field drains (**503** and **505**), the latter of which was a re-cut, following the line of an earlier drain or boundary. No finds were retrieved from either the pit (**508**) or posthole (**510**), and as singular features, it means that their function is difficult to discern, but they probably relate to post-medieval farming activities.

Trench 8 was positioned to target potential buildings, although no built structures, or related deposits were encountered. One bedrock-cut, clay-lined pit, **800**, was

identified towards the north-east limit of the trench, interpreted as a trough or watering hole, possibly from when the land was a common.

Although Trench 16 was positioned in an area of low archaeological potential, it contained several features, including a series of gullies, and three postholes. The linear features, **1610**, **1612**, and **1614**, proved to be shallow features with homogenous single secondary fills. At the southern end of the trench a line of three postholes, **1604**, **1606**, and **1608**, was identified; they were fairly uniform in diameter and depth, with single sterile homogeneous fills. Posthole **1608** had a large stone at the base, which may have been part of the post packing material.

The extended Trench 16 revealed a posthole alignment (**16100** to **16106**), including those observed in the original 5m trench, and most likely formed the remains of a boundary fence of mid-nineteenth century date, as supported by the pottery recovered and examination of the Ordnance Survey maps. The linears identified across the area (**16113** to **16129**), bar the modern ceramic land drains, are on the same alignment as the fence, and produced pottery of a similar date. It seems likely that these are early modern drainage gullies.

Trenches 1, 5 and 8 provided evidence most likely related to the former settlement and common that once fronted Ruff Lane, in the north and north-east areas of the development site. Trench 16 and its extension contained features dating to the post-medieval or early modern periods, relating to contemporary agricultural practices. The remains encountered are part of a late post-medieval or early modern farming landscape, and any groundworks will negatively disturb associated remains not yet encountered.

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The evaluation was undertaken by Mike Birtles, Kelly Clapperton, Anna Hodgkinson, Jon Onraet, Aidan Parker and Becky Wegiel, under the direction of Caroline Raynor. The survey was undertaken by Anna Hodgkinson and Caroline Raynor. The report was written by Caroline Raynor and Kelly Clapperton, with the drawings produced by Anna Hodgkinson and Mark Tidmarsh. The project was managed by Emily Mercer, who also edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Edge Hill University propose to construct a new sports facility, which will consist of ten sports pitches over the majority of the site, two piazza pools and a car park in the south-west corner, with associated access roads and footpaths, between the new facilities and the current university. At a later date, a sports hall will be constructed, and a gas pipeline will be inserted through the centre of the site.
- 1.1.2 As part of the planning application (Planning Application 8/2011/0504/FUL), Nexus Heritage was employed to undertake a contribution to an Environmental Impact Assessment in the form of an archaeological assessment, with a detailed magnetometer survey (Stratascan 2011) also being carried out to further identify the potential for archaeological remains.
- 1.1.3 The resulting assessment indicated that there were seven sites of archaeological potential within the proposed development site. Three sites are recorded on the Lancashire Historic Environment Records database (LHER):
- an undated cropmark to the south-east of Edge Hill University (LHER **2788**), which is likely to have been disturbed or destroyed following substantial landscaping of the area;
 - the site of Rough Farm and two wells in the north-west corner of the development area (LHER **9670**). Built prior to 1846, and in the late nineteenth century converted to cottages (listed on the Ordnance Survey (OS)map of 1898 as Woodlands Cottages). The farm buildings have long since been demolished, but some remains may still survive below ground;
 - a cottage, outbuilding and a garden fronting onto Ruff Lane in the north-east corner of the area (LHER **33039**), again built prior to the OS of 1846 and demolished during the latter half of the nineteenth century. The site has been subject to ploughing, but there may be some below ground remains.
- 1.1.4 The remaining four sites were identified as a result of the archaeological assessment, and included:
- occupation relating to the medieval or post-medieval period, comprising five potential buildings along the brow of the sandstone ridge,
 - a putative building was identified as a large square feature, together with a trackway, on aerial photographs, located towards the centre of the development area,
 - there is the potential for unknown prehistoric or Romano-British deposits along the sandstone ridge towards the northern site boundary.
- 1.1.5 As a result of the archaeological assessment, and in consultation with Nexus Heritage, Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS), issued a verbal brief requesting a programme of archaeological trial trenching, designed to target the anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey data.

- 1.1.6 Consequently, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) contributed to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Nexus Heritage Ltd (WSI; *Appendix 1*), and was subsequently commissioned to undertake the archaeological evaluation. The programme of works was carried out in two phases due to access availability, the first in August 2012, with the excavation of five evaluation trenches (Trenches 1-5), situated within the north-eastern area of the proposed development; the second comprised the excavation of Trenches 6 to 18 across the southern and western limit of the development area. As the result of features encountered in Trench 16, a third phase was requested, which included the extension of Trench 16 and the excavation of the features within.
- 1.1.7 The following document presents the results of the programme of archaeological works.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The development site is located approximately 1km to the south-east of Ormskirk town centre, and to the south of Edge Hill University Campus (centred on NGR SD 426070; Fig 1). The site covers an area of 24 hectares and, until recently, was in use as arable land. The site is bounded to the east by Ruff Lane, to the south by Scarth Hill Lane, and to the west by St Helen's Road. The land parallel to Ruff Lane sits at an elevation of *c* 75m AOD, sloping to a height of *c* 69m AOD to the south and west.
- 1.2.2 The drift geology is mostly characterised as Shirdley Hill Sand Formation, whilst the solid geology comprises Sherwood Sandstone Group, dating to the Late Permian (British Geological Survey (BGS) 2012). Information recently came to light that suggests that the site was subject to sand extraction for glass making in the 1960s, and was subsequently covered with 'night soil' from Manchester. The extents of these activities was not formally recorded (Page-Smith pers comm).

1.3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 The following section comprises a brief summary of the archaeological assessment compiled by Nexus Heritage Ltd (2011), and is included to put the results of the archaeological evaluation into its archaeological and historical context.
- 1.3.2 ***Prehistoric Period:*** although no features or finds dating to the prehistoric period are recorded on the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (LHER) for the development area, the physical characteristics of the development site would indicate high potential for remains dating to early prehistory (the Mesolithic, *c* 10,000-*c* 4000 BC; the Neolithic, *c* 4000 – *c* 1800 BC; and the Bronze Age, *c* 1800 – *c* 800 BC (Crosby 1994, and Peter Iles pers comm). Few prehistoric sites, from the Mesolithic onwards, have been identified prior to excavation in south-west Lancashire (Peter Iles pers comm), suggesting that the lack of prehistoric activity is due to the lack of archaeological investigation, rather than an absence of actual remains. Prior to the eighteenth century, the area would have been un-drained sandy soil, indicating a

waterlogged, mossy area of impassable waste land extending to the coast. Running through this to the north of the development boundary, is a sandstone ridge extending from Ormskirk to Scarth Hill that would have formed an important route way across the marsh from the mainland to the coast. In addition to this, the commanding position and stable fertile soil of the ridge would have been an attractive position for prehistoric settlement from the Mesolithic (*ibid*).

- 1.3.3 **Romano-British Period:** there are no known archaeological remains dating to the Iron Age or Roman periods on the development site. Nevertheless, between 1998 and 2002, a field-walking survey, a geophysical survey, and a series of excavations, were undertaken to the north-east of the site (Cowell 2002). The investigations uncovered a concentration of early prehistoric flintwork, and a late Romano-British farmstead, comprising five round houses, and contemporary and later features associated with an agricultural landscape, including trackways and boundaries. The farmstead is the earliest known in Lancashire, and is thought to have been inhabited from 200 BC to AD 150 (*ibid*).
- 1.3.4 A similar site was uncovered at Brook House Farm at Halewood, and at least three hoards of Roman coins have also been discovered in the Bickerstaffe and Lathom area, suggesting a larger Romano-British presence (*ibid*). Similar topographical characteristics to the development site would suggest potential for Romano-British activity (Peter Iles pers comm).
- 1.3.5 **Medieval Period:** little is known about the immediate post-Roman period in the Ormskirk area, although the region formed part of Northumbria by the beginning of the seventh century (Duggan 2007). Although Ormskirk is not mentioned in the Domesday Book, the area was being settled from the tenth century (*ibid*).
- 1.3.6 The earliest reference to Ormskirk was in the Charter of Burscough Priory, dating to 1189 (*ibid*). In 1287 Ormskirk was a town in its own right, and had been granted a royal charter for a weekly market (Farrer and Brownbill 1907). To the east of Ormskirk the land was described as open grass and woodland, much of which was cleared by the fifteenth century for arable usage (Crosby 1994).
- 1.3.7 Although no known sites dating to the medieval period are recorded on the development site, it was likely that it would have been cultivated during this time, indicating potential for the presence of preserved, sub-surface field systems (Nexus Heritage 2011).
- 1.3.8 **Post-medieval period:** by the late sixteenth century Ormskirk was a large town with an important regional market (Farrer and Brownbill 1907), and by the middle part of the eighteenth century it was at its height, but due to poor transport and its remote location it gradually reverted to a small rural settlement (Nexus Heritage 2011).
- 1.3.9 From the late seventeenth century onwards, large areas of West Lancashire were drained and enclosed in an attempt to increase the profitability of

agriculture, and this is likely to have included the development site (Nexus Heritage 2011). According to the Landscape History of West Lancashire (Crosby 1994) the creation of a planned landscape in this vicinity is significant because it radically transformed the character of lowland areas.

- 1.3.10 Two sites dating to the post-medieval period are situated within the development area, both are wells. One was located towards Rough Farm, in the north-west corner (LHER **9670**, SD 4257 0745), and the second towards Scarth Hill Farm, also known as The Woodlands (LHER **21039**, SD 4293 06945), along the eastern boundary.
- 1.3.11 **Cartographic Evidence:** Yates' map of 1786 illustrates two buildings to the south of Ruff Lane, both within the development site. The easternmost is thought to be Rough Farmhouse (Nexus Heritage 2011). By Greenwood's map of 1818 there are seven buildings to the south of Ruff Lane, following the alignment of a former road, the most westerly of which may have been Rough Farm, and the most easterly, Scarth Hill Farm, also known as The Woodlands (LHER **21039**; SD 4293 06945).
- 1.3.12 The Tithe Map of 1846 depicted a surprising number of field names incorporating the element 'croft', a term usually relating to a small field associated with a house in a settlement. Within the development site these are the fields positioned adjacent to Ruff Lane, highlighting the possibility of a settlement along Ruff Lane, in the north-eastern corner of the development.
- 1.3.13 The first edition of the Ordnance Survey map (1848-9) illustrates no significant alterations to the development site. A small quarry is illustrated in the centre of the development site, and a well at Rough Farm.
- 1.3.14 Later editions of the Ordnance Survey maps, from 1938, 1955 and 1971, show that the fields within the development site were not significantly disturbed by the construction of Edge Hill College to the west in 1933. In the 1970s the fields remained essentially as they were mapped in 1938.
- 1.3.15 An aerial photograph from the 1940s shows that the field boundaries, which are marked on the Ordnance Survey maps are not present on the ground, so the proposed development site was, in effect, one large field (Nexus Heritage 2011). Two faint lines at right angles to each other in the top centre of the field were observed on the photograph. These do not match any of the field boundaries annotated on the Tithe or first edition Ordnance Survey maps (1846 and 1848-9), indicating that there was a rectangular feature at this location prior to 1846 (*ibid*).
- 1.3.16 An aerial photograph from the 1960s depicts a faint rectangular feature in the centre of development site, which may relate to the quarry illustrated on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey (1848-9). Nevertheless, the intensive nature of arable farming means that it is difficult to interpret.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 OA North issued a project design, which was incorporated into a WSI (*Appendix 1*) by Nexus Heritage Ltd, for a programme of archaeological trial trenching. The WSI was adhered to in full, and complied with standards and guidance issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a), and English Heritage (1991 and 2006), and accepted best practice.

2.2 FIELDWORK

- 2.2.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of 18 trial trenches, measuring between 20m and 50m in length, and 5m in width, and over positions specified by Nexus Heritage Ltd (Fig 2). On site, the positions of some trenches were adjusted so as to avoid a high pressure gas main and fibre optic cables. The trenches were opened by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.9m wide toothless ditching bucket, and under the constant direction of an archaeologist. Overburden was removed down to either natural geology, or the first archaeological deposits. All trenches were cleaned by hand, with 5m sample sections cleaned, photographed and illustrated. All archaeological deposits and features identified were investigated manually, and recorded on *pro-forma* sheets provided by OA North, and based on the English Heritage recording system. All illustrations were recorded on permatrace, and produced at suitable scales (1:10, 1:20 and 1:100). A photographic archive was created, and recorded on *pro-forma* indexes.

2.3 FINDS

- 2.3.1 All finds were exposed, lifted, cleaned and bagged in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid for Finds*, 1998 (new edition). All identified finds and artefacts were retained from all material classes, and were hand collected from stratified deposits for processing and assessment.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full and professional archive was compiled following guidelines issued by the IfA (2008b). The original archive will be deposited with the County Record Office in Preston, Lancashire, and a copy of the report will be sent to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (LHER), also in Preston, on completion of the project.

3 RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The following section provides a summary of the fieldwork results. For a more detailed description of the contexts encountered see *Appendix 2*. The position of each trench is illustrated in Figure 2. A Finds List is located in *Appendix 3* to the rear of this document.

3.2 FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.2.1 **Trench 1:** measured 50m long by 5m wide, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.1m (Plate 1). it was located towards the northern limit of the site, roughly parallel to Ruff Lane, and was orientated north-west/south-east.



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north-west

3.2.2 The earliest deposit encountered was a compact natural sand (**102**), which was most clearly visible at the north-western end of the trench at a depth of 0.3m (68.51m AOD). This deposit was overlain by a natural lens of silver-grey sand measuring 0.2m thick, and extending across the western two-thirds of the trench.

3.2.3 Towards the south-east end of the trench, the disturbed remains of a building were identified (Fig 3; Plate 2), at a depth 69.53m AOD (1.1m below current ground level). These comprised a truncated L-shaped sandstone wall foundation (**106**), which was orientated north/south, and returned to the west, beyond the limit of excavation. Abutting the sandstone wall were the remains of a flagstone floor (**107**). However, the truncated nature of the remains meant

it was difficult to discern whether this represented an interior or exterior surface. The structure was sealed by a mixed demolition deposit comprising scrap metal, concrete and ceramic building material (CBM), within a matrix of silty brown loam **108**.



Plate 2: Wall **106** and flagged floor **107**, looking west

- 3.2.4 To the north of centre, a north-east/south-west aligned modern drainage ditch, **103**, was observed truncating the natural geology. This was backfilled by **104**, which produced a large amount of post-medieval pottery, and contained a ceramic field drain at 68.24m AOD. The trench was sealed by subsoil, **101**, and topsoil, **100**.



Plate 3: Trench 2, looking north-east

- 3.2.5 **Trench 2:** was situated to the south of Trench 1, and was orientated north-east/south-west (Fig 2). It measured 5m wide by 30m long with a maximum depth of 0.95m (Plate 3).
- 3.2.6 Undulating, compact sand natural, **202**, descending from north-east to south-west along the ridge, was observed between 68.94m and 68.3m AOD. This was cut by two types of modern land drain: a stone-lined drain, **205**, and a ceramic field drain network, **203**, which extended down the centre of the trench, and continued beyond the limit of excavation. They were identified at a depth of 68.5m AOD. The trench was sealed by a dark brown subsoil (**201**, 0.37m thick), which, in turn, was overlain by topsoil (**200**), 0.5m thick. No features of archaeological significance were identified within this trench.
- 3.2.7 **Trench 3:** was positioned to the south-east of Trench 2, and orientated north-west/south-east, parallel to Ruff Lane (Fig 2). It measured 5m wide by 25m long with a maximum depth of 0.45m (Plate 4).



Plate 4: Trench 3, looking north-west

- 3.2.8 The earliest deposit encountered was a compact, natural sand with evidence of iron panning (**305**), and was identified at a depth of 0.35m bgl (69.15m AOD). The upper surface of the natural sand was scarred with modern plough marks. Two narrow, parallel, modern field drains (**303**) were observed crossing the trench on a north-east/south-west orientation. The natural sand was overlain by 0.1m thick layer subsoil, **301**. The trench was sealed by a layer of topsoil (**300**; 0.2m thick). No features of archaeological significance were identified within this trench.
- 3.2.9 **Trench 4:** was situated to the west of Trench 3, towards to base of the slope. Orientated roughly north/south, the trench measured 5m wide by 30m long and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.26m (Plate 5).



Plate 5: Trench 4, looking south

- 3.2.10 The natural (402) comprised an undulating, pale orange-yellow sandy-clay, sloping down from north to south (67.9-66.4m AOD). At the southern end of the trench an east/west aligned ditch, 407, was identified. The form of the ditch would suggest that it was a relatively modern feature, and as it was still active it was not possible to fully investigate it. Towards the northern end of the trench, a number of features were identified, but further investigation indicated that they were modern in date.
- 3.2.11 Shallow pit, 405, was most likely associated with the mechanical excavation of modern ditch 403. A further modern, sub-circular pit, 409, was observed within the central section of the trench. It contained a mixed, loose deposit (410) comprising modern brick, fragments of sandstone, and numerous fragments of nineteenth century pottery.
- 3.2.12 The trench was sealed by subsoil 401, that was 0.5m thick, and topsoil 400, that measured 0.4m thick.
- 3.2.13 **Trench 5:** was situated to the south-east and parallel with Ruff Lane. It was orientated north-west/south-east, and measured 5m wide by 20m long, by a maximum depth of 0.9m. A slot was excavated at the north-west end to examine an area of modern disturbance (506; Plate 6).
- 3.2.14 The earliest deposit identified within the trench was a sandy-clay natural (501), at a depth of 69.24m AOD. A north/south orientated field drain, 505, was observed running across the central area of the trench (Fig 4). It measured 1.56m in width, and contained a ceramic field drain at a depth of 1.25m. Linear 503, orientated north-east/south-west at the eastern limit of the trench, produced similar results (Fig 4). A small sub-rectangular pit, 508, was located to the south of 505 (Fig 4). It was shallow and produced no finds.



Plate 6: Trench 5, looking north-west



Plate 7: Posthole **510**, looking north

- 3.2.15 On the northern side of ditch **505** was a putative posthole, **510** (Plate 7; Fig 4). The feature was lozenge-shaped, measuring 0.67m by 0.3m. Within backfill, **509**, were small fragments of wood, a large cobble stone, and a piece of timber that appear to be packing material. The elongated shape of the feature may be attributed to the angled removal of the post. The trench was sealed by 0.3m of subsoil, **501**, and topsoil, **500** (0.2m thick).



Plate 8: Trench 6, looking north-east

- 3.2.16 **Trench 6:** was positioned along the eastern perimeter of the site. The trench was orientated north-east/south-west, and was 25m long, 5m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.45m (Plate 8).
- 3.2.17 The earliest deposit comprised **602**, a sandstone bedrock that extended across the whole of the base of the trench, at a height of 74.41m AOD. This was overlain by **601**, a patchy thin layer of clay. Truncating these deposits was an east/west-orientated linear gully, **603** (Plate 9; Fig 5). The linear was found to be wide and shallow, with a depth of 0.19m, and width of 0.9m. It contained a single fill, **604**, from which several sherds of post-medieval pottery were retrieved. The trench was sealed by topsoil **600**.



Plate 9: Gully **603**, looking north

3.2.18 **Trench 7**: was situated to the south-east of Trench 6, on a north-east/south-west orientation. The trench measured 30m long, 5m wide, and excavated to a depth of 0.66m (Plate 10).



Plate 10: Trench **7**, looking north-east

3.2.19 Sandstone bedrock, **701**, was the earliest deposit identified within the trench (Fig 6). Truncating the bedrock was a north/south aligned linear feature, **702** (Fig 6). This shallow feature, similar in form to the linear identified in Trench 6, was most likely a shallow gully. No finds were retrieved from its fill, **703**. The trench was sealed by an organic, silt topsoil, **700**.

3.2.20 **Trench 8**: was positioned to the south-east of Trench 7, and was the easternmost trial trench. It measured 25m long, 5m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.98m (Plate 11). It was aligned north-west/south-east.



Plate 11: Trench 8, looking south-west



Plate 12: North-east-facing section through pit **800**

- 3.2.21 The trench was excavated down to the natural sandstone bedrock, **803**, at a height of 74.21m AOD. A bedrock cut pit, **800**, was identified at the northern end. It was sub-circular, measured 1.1m in diameter, and 0.55m in depth (Plate 12, Fig 7). The pit was lined with **806**, a thin layer of plastic clay, which appeared to have acted as a sealant. The feature had been backfilled with a single deposit, **801**, containing sandstone fragments and crushed, handmade brick. No finds were retrieved from this feature so it is not possible to provide a date, although it is most likely post-medieval. A modern field drain was observed, **807**, truncating the material above pit **800**. This drain produced fragments of modern pottery. The trench was sealed with topsoil **802**.
- 3.2.22 **Trench 9:** was positioned approximately 20m to the south-west of, and parallel to, Trench 8, and was aligned north-west/south-east at the edge of the slope and sandstone ridge. The trench measured 25m long, 5m wide and a maximum of 0.82m deep (74.94m AOD; Plate 13).



Plate 13: Trench 9, looking south-west

- 3.2.23 The trench comprised a layer of very large irregular fragments of natural, sandstone bedrock interspersed with lenses of topsoil, the result of weathering and frost shattering, **901**. This was overlain by a thin layer of subsoil, **902**, and topsoil, **900**. No archaeological remains were observed within the trench.
- 3.2.24 **Trench 10:** was near to the eastern boundary of the development area, west of the junction between Ruff Lane and Scarth Hill Lane. It was aligned north/south and measured 20m long by 5m wide and a maximum depth of 0.4m (Plate 14). Natural, **1002**, comprised a mix of sand and sandstone bedrock, and was encountered at 74.6m AOD. This was sealed by a 0.4m thick layer of topsoil, **1001**. Although the trench had been disturbed by roots, no archaeological remains were observed.



Plate 14: Trench 10, looking south-west

3.2.25 **Trench 11:** was to the south-west of Trenches 6-10. It was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 20m long by 5m wide, with a maximum depth of 1.22m (Plate 15). The trench had been located in order to assess a possible square crop mark identified on the aerial photography.



Plate 15: Trench 11, looking north-west

3.2.26 The earliest deposit identified was a sandy-clay natural geology, **1104**, sloping to the south and west into a hollow. Towards the south-eastern side of the trench two small square features were observed. Investigation revealed these

to be very shallow and modern, and likely to relate to heavy plant used during the installation of the gas pipeline.

- 3.2.27 Within the lee of the hill two, modern levelling deposits, **1102** and **1101**, were identified, sealing a former soil horizon, **1103** (Fig 8). These were most likely deposited to level out the field for crop planting. These deposits were sealed by a dark, organic topsoil, **1100**. No features of archaeological interest were observed within this trench.
- 3.2.28 **Trench 12:** was positioned to the west of Trench 11. It was aligned north-east/south-west on a gentle slope, and measured 20m by 5m, with a maximum depth of 0.3m (Plate 16). Natural, sandy-clay, **1201**, was identified at a depth of 68.73m AOD, and was sealed by a layer of silty, organic topsoil, **1200**. Plough marks were evident across the majority of the trench, but no archaeological features or deposits were observed.



Plate 16: Trench 12, looking north-east

- 3.2.29 **Trench 13:** was positioned to the north of Trench 12, and was aligned east/west. The trench measured 25m by 5m, and was excavated to a depth of 0.4m (Plate 17).
- 3.2.30 The earliest deposit was a natural sandy-clay, **1301**, encountered at 68.26m AOD. Modern plough marks were clearly visible cutting the natural at the northern end of the trench, and a modern ceramic field drain also crossed the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment. Towards the south-eastern end of the trench a small shallow square feature, **1302**, was identified. Investigations revealed it to be less than 0.06m deep and of modern origin. The trench was sealed by topsoil **1300**.



Plate 17: Trench 13, looking east

3.2.31 **Trench 14:** was to the south-east of Trench 11, on an east/west alignment, and measured 20m by 5m, and was excavated to a depth of 0.55m (Plate 18).



Plate 18: Trench 14, looking north-east

3.2.32 The earliest deposit identified was sandy-clay natural, **1401**, encountered at 71.32m AOD. A linear feature, **1402**, was identified at the eastern end of the trench, orientated north-west/south-east. The irregular and heavily rooted nature suggested the truncated remains of a hedge line. No finds were retrieved from its fill, **1403**. The trench was sealed by an organic, silty topsoil **1400**.

- 3.2.33 **Trench 15:** was located to the south-west of Trench 14, and was aligned roughly north/south. The trench measured 20m by 5m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.46m (Plate 19).
- 3.2.34 The earliest deposit identified was **1502**, a sandy-clay natural, encountered at 68.41m AOD. This was cut by **1503**, a modern ceramic service drain. This feature was overlain by **1501**, a dark silty-sand subsoil, which was sealed by **1500**, an organic, modern topsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were noted.



Plate 19: Trench 15, looking north-west

- 3.2.35 **Trench 16:** was positioned to the south-west of Trench 15, and was orientated north-west/south-east. The trench initially measured 20m by 5m, with a maximum depth of 0.46m (Plate 20). Following completion of the investigation of Trench 16, it was extended widthways by 5m either side, so the area was 20m by 15m.
- 3.2.36 The earliest deposit identified within the trench was a fine, natural sand, **1603**, which was truncated by a number of features. Three linears, **1610**, **1612** and **1614** (Plate 21; Figs 9 and 11), were located towards the north-western end of the trench, and did not conform to the orientation of modern plough marks or known field boundaries. Linear **1610** was the southernmost and measured 1.28m in width and 0.11m in depth. It was filled by **1611**, an homogenous, silt that produced no finds.
- 3.2.37 To the north were linears **1612** and **1614** (Fig 9). They were narrower than **1610**, measuring 0.55m and 0.67m in width, and 0.16m and 0.18m in depth respectively. They both contained homogenous fills, **1613** and **1615**; No finds were encountered. The purpose of these features proved difficult to discern.



Plate 20: Trench 16, looking north-west



Plate 21: South-west-facing section through gullies **1610**, **1612**, and **1614**

- 3.2.38 Towards the southern limit of Trench 16, a line of three small postholes was identified (Plate 22). The postholes, **1604**, **1606** and **1608** (Fig 9), were all fairly uniform in diameter and depth, ranging between 0.4m and 0.5m in diameter, with steep sides and concave bases. A large stone was observed at the base of **1608** (Fig 10). The function of these undated postholes was unconfirmed but it is likely to be a fenceline. All of these features were sealed by subsoil **1601**, and modern, organic topsoil **1600**.
- 3.2.39 Trench 16 was extended widthways by a total of 10m, to investigate further the features identified, which were seen to continue across the stripped area (Fig 9). A further six postholes (**16100**, **16102**, **16104**, **16106**, **16108** and **16110**; Plate 23) were identified along the south-eastern end and, along with those recorded during the evaluation, they formed a north-east/south-west alignment, excluding posthole **16110**, which was to the north-west of **16106**. These postholes measured 0.4m diameter on average, and ranged from 0.17m to 0.3m in depth (Fig 10). A possible post-pipe was observed in **16104**, but the remainder contained either material deliberately backfilled into the postholes

when their posts were removed, or a secondary material, eroding in as the post decayed. A fragment of nineteenth century pottery was recovered from **16100**, which had been truncated by **16102** (Plate 24). Further to the south-east, a large modern land drain was observed.



Plate 22: Posthole alignment in Trench 16, looking south-west



Plate 23: Posthole alignment in the extension to Trench 16, looking north-east



Plate 24: South-west-facing section through postholes **16100** and **16102**

3.2.40 To the north-west a series of parallel linears was investigated. They seemed to be grouped into sets of three. The first three beyond the postholes comprised **16124**, **16126** and **16128** (Plate 25; Figs 9 and 11). These were a series of shallow gullies, ranging from 0.38m to 0.67m wide, and 0.1m to 0.24m in depth, and were all filled by secondary silting. Fragments of later post-medieval pottery were recovered. To the north (Plate 26), gully **16117** was 0.58m wide by 0.24m deep, and was truncated along its southern edge by small gully **16115** (Fig 11). Both produced nineteenth century pottery. Immediately to the north of **16117**, but not disturbing it, was a modern land drain (**16120**). Two further, reasonably substantial gullies were situated to the north, **1610** and **16113=1614** (0.7m wide and 0.3m deep; Fig 11). These, again, were filled by secondary deposits and produced pottery of nineteenth century date. Gully, **16122**, lay at approximately right angles to the others, and terminated around the junction of gullies **16115** and **16117**. It had been truncated by all the other linears. Nevertheless, it still produced pottery of post-medieval date.



Plate 25: Gullies **16124**, **16126** and **16128**, looking south-west



Plate 26: Gullies **16115**, **16117** and field drain **16120**, looking south-west

- 3.2.41 **Trench 17**: was positioned to the south-east of Trench 15, along the edge of the southern site boundary with Scarth Hill Lane. The trench measured 20m by 5m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6m (Plate 27).
- 3.2.42 The earliest deposit identified was a mixed natural deposit of sand and clay (**1701**). Towards the northern end of the trench a north-west/south-east aligned ceramic field drain, **1702**, was identified. It truncated the shallow remains of a putative hedge line. The trench was sealed by a dark, organic topsoil, **1700**.



Plate 27: Trench 17, looking south

- 3.2.43 **Trench 18:** was situated to the south-west of Trench 17, near the south-east site boundary with Scarth Hill Lane. It was aligned north/south, measured 20m by 5m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m (74.11m AOD; Plate 28).
- 3.2.44 The earliest deposit encountered was **1801**, a compact, sandy-clay natural. This deposit was sealed by **1800**, a dark, organic topsoil. No archaeological deposits or features were identified within this trench.



Plate 28: Trench 18, looking north-east

3.3 FINDS

3.3.1 An assemblage of 246 fragments of artefacts was recovered in the course of the excavations. Its composition and distribution between contexts is shown below in Table 1.

Context	Pottery	Ceramic building material	Clay tobacco pipe	Metalwork	Glass	Totals
101	1					1
102	5					5
104	145	1	1	2	3	152
200	24		2	1		27
509	2			2		4
604	3					3
802	3	1			2	6
1600	3					3
1611	1					1
1613	1					1
10125				25		25
16102	1					1
16107	1					1
16114	1	2				3
16116	1			1		2
16118	2		1			3
16123	2					2
16125	4					4
16129			1		1	2
<i>Totals</i>	200	4	5	31	6	246

Table 1: Distribution of finds

3.3.2 Pottery, dating from the seventeenth to the early twentieth century, formed the bulk of the assemblage. It was in relatively good condition, being for the most part large and unabraded fragments. During the first phase, the majority of the pottery was recovered from the backfill (**104**) of modern drainage ditch **103**, clearly a very mixed deposit, and it can be assumed with relative security that all but the latest pottery from this deposit is residual.

3.3.3 The earliest pottery from the site is a group of black-glazed red-ware storage vessels from **104**, which probably date to the mid-seventeenth century, bearing strong resemblances to material from a post-Dissolution pit dug within the transept at Warrington Friary (Howard-Davis 2002). Most are cylindrical storage jars, there are at least four vessels represented and, in addition, an ornate lid of around the same date comes from just above natural geology, **102**. The one fragment of pottery from subsoil **101** is of similar date. There were also a few fragments of contemporary yellow wares, thrown slip-decorated dishes, and mottled wares, persisting into the early eighteenth century. It must be remembered, however, that drain backfill **104** also produced numerous vessels of later date, in typically late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century fabrics, such as Creamware, Pearlware, and later refined white earthenwares, as well as long-lived styles, for instance Industrial slipwares, including the base of a small tankard of probably early nineteenth-century date. What is of interest is that there are none of the fabrics typical of

the middle years of the eighteenth century, with tin-glazed wares, and white salt-glazed stonewares conspicuous by their absence. This might suggest that either the seventeenth-century material originated elsewhere and was redeposited at the site at a later date, or that there was a marked period of hiatus in the eighteenth century. There was, in addition, one small and featureless fragment of brick from **104**. The pottery from topsoil, **200**, and the backfill (**509**) of posthole **505**, is almost entirely of late eighteenth to nineteenth-century date.

- 3.3.4 There were only three fragments of glass, probably representing two vessels, both blown wine bottles of late eighteenth to early nineteenth-century date. Both were from backfill **104**. Similarly, there were only three fragments of clay tobacco pipe (backfill **104** and topsoil **200**), all undiagnostic stem fragments to which no date can be assigned.
- 3.3.5 Only five fragments of metalwork were noted, of these, four were iron; three nails (from topsoil **200** and backfill **509**), and an iron bar from **104**. There was also a distorted, but otherwise complete, copper alloy (presumably brass, although this was not tested) wall-mounted decorative gas-lighting sconce. This object, also from **104**, is in the Art Nouveau style, at its peak of popularity *c* 1890-1914 (www.vam.ac.uk/page/a/art-nouveau), and must confirm the impression gained from the pottery that backfill **104** was still accruing into the early twentieth century.
- 3.3.6 The second phase of excavation produced a somewhat different assemblage of finds. Only 57 fragments of artefacts or possible artefacts were recovered, all of them rather small, with pottery fragments seldom more than *c* 30mm in maximum dimension. It must be noted that the iron recovered from **16125**, the secondary fill of gully **16124**, is most likely to be fragments of a natural concretion of iron oxides in the soil, forming round a tree root-system.
- 3.3.7 Again, pottery forms the largest part of the overall assemblage, *c* 78% if the iron from gully fill **16125** is discounted. Nothing in the group can be dated to earlier than the late eighteenth century, and it is quite likely that the entire group can be placed in the nineteenth century, with the group dominated by tablewares, for the most part the transfer-printed and painted refined white earthenwares of the middle and later part of the century.
- 3.3.8 Here were only small fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem, which cannot be dated with any precision, and the glass, both window and vessel, seems to indicate a nineteenth to early twentieth-century date, with the Hamilton-type bottle fragment from topsoil **802** providing a date after the first quarter of the nineteenth century, when they were introduced, although they continued in production into the twentieth century. Apart from the probable natural concretions of iron from **16125**, there was a single fragment of a nail from **16116**.
- 3.3.9 Thus it is clear that the areas investigated in the second phase of excavation, deposition was confined to the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and there was nothing to suggest earlier activity.

4 CONCLUSIONS

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 Although several trenches were positioned to target various features, including Rough Farm (Trenches 2-4), several buildings (Trenches 7, 9 and 10), and anomalies identified in the geophysics or on aerial photographs (Trenches 6, 11-15, and 17-18), no features of archaeological significance were identified. Several of the features encountered were for modern drainage, such as the drainage ditch (**603**) in Trench 6. It is most likely that any buildings that were identified during the desk-based research have been wholly removed from the site, including the foundations. Numerous fragments of pottery were recovered from topsoil **200** (Trench 2), suggesting that there was a concentration of activity in this area in the past, but all substantial traces of it have been removed. Trenches 1, 5, 8, 16, and its extension, all produced features of archaeological interest.
- 4.1.2 Trench 1 was deliberately positioned in order to target the potential remains of Rough Farm and Woodside Cottages. The made ground (**108**) at the southern end of the trench largely comprised residual building material, most likely resulting from the demolition of the farmstead. This included sandstone blocks and flags, CBM, and general detritus. At the base of the trench, the remains of a sandstone wall foundation (**106**), and contemporary flagstone floor (**107**) were identified. These were restricted to an area of approximately 1m² at the south-western side of the trench, indicating that the cottages were nearly razed to the ground. It is likely that any useful elements, such as flagstone floors, ashlar masonry, sills and lintels, may have been removed and reused.
- 4.1.3 Within Trench 5 a pit (**508**), a possible posthole (**510**), lined with timber and stone, and two field drains (**503** and **505**) were encountered. The excavation of field drain **505** suggested that it was a re-cut, following the line of an earlier drain or boundary, and was most likely the feature identified in the geophysical survey. The pit, **508**, contained a single homogeneous fill, while posthole, **510**, contained remnants of the packing material. No finds were retrieved from either of these features, and their isolated nature means that their function is difficult to discern. Nevertheless, they are most likely to be post-medieval in date, and probably relate either to contemporary farming activities, or the putative settlement to the north-east.
- 4.1.4 Trench 8 was deliberately situated in order to identify potential remains associated with the use of the land as a common, as well as the site of possible buildings. However, no built structures, or demolition rubble, was encountered during the excavation, and there is no evidence to suggest that any buildings stood in this part of the site. One bedrock-cut pit, **800**, was identified towards the north-east limit of the trench. This sub-circular feature was flat-based, and lined with a thin layer of plastic clay (**806**), probably acting as a seal, indicating that the pit contained some form of liquid. It may have been used as trough or watering hole, possibly when the land was a common. No dating

evidence or artefacts were recovered from the pit, although the fill did contain crushed hand-made red bricks suggesting that the feature is post-medieval.

4.1.5 Although Trench 16 was located in an area of low archaeological potential, it contained several features, including a series of gullies, and three postholes. The linear features, **1610**, **1612**, **1614**, were all investigated, and proved to be shallow features with a homogenous single secondary fills. The north-east/south-west orientation of these features does not respect the alignment of any existing field boundaries or modern plough marks, suggesting an earlier establishment. The purpose of these features was unknown. At the southern end of the trench a line of three postholes, **1604**, **1606**, **1608**, was identified. All of the postholes were fairly uniform in diameter and depth, with single sterile homogeneous fills. Posthole **1608** had a large stone at the base which may have been part of the post-packing material. Again, however, no dating evidence was retrieved from these features.

4.1.6 As a result, Trench 16 was extended to an area measuring 15m by 20m, and revealed a number of features (Plate 29). A posthole alignment was observed (**16100** to **16106**), including those investigated during the evaluation, and most likely formed the remains of a boundary fence. The pottery recovered from the postholes was nineteenth century in date, and the Ordnance Survey maps from the first edition (1848-9) to the 1955 edition, illustrate a fence line in the correct position, suggesting a late post-medieval or early modern date. The linears identified across the area, bar the modern, ceramic land drains, are on the same alignment as the fence, and produced pottery of a similar date. Although the initial natural geology encountered in this part of the development site is sand, it is thin and overlies a layer of clay, probably glacial in origin. The ground would become easily saturated, and need some form of drainage. It seems likely that the features observed in Trench 16, and its extension, are the remains of early modern agricultural field systems.



Plate 29: Overall, post-excitation view of Trench 16 Extension, looking east

4.2 IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT

- 4.2.1 The evaluation covered approximately 1% of the total development area, and demonstrated that archaeological remains dating to the post-medieval period are present within discrete areas. This does not discount the potential for the presence of more extensive remains within the rest of the unexamined area.
- 4.2.2 The identified archaeological features are vulnerable to the impact from development. The proposals include stripping the area to the level of natural geology to allow the insertion of drainage, the construction of new buildings, and their associated sports pitches. Trenches 1, 5 and 8 provided evidence most likely related to the former settlement and common that once fronted Ruff Lane, in the north and north-east areas of the development site. Whilst Trench 16, and its extension, contained features dating to the post-medieval or early modern periods, and relating to contemporary agricultural practices. The remains encountered at Edge Hill University Campus probably relate to a late post-medieval or early modern farming community. However, the highly disturbed nature of the remaining features, and the complete removal of others in the recent past, indicates that any further remains will have been heavily truncated. Therefore, the impact of the proposed development groundworks will be limited.

5 ILLUSTRATIONS

5.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench location plan

Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1

Figure 4: Plan of Trench 5 and south-facing section through posthole **510**

Figure 5: Plan of Trench 6

Figure 6: North-west facing section in Trench 7

Figure 7: Plan of Trench 8 and north-east-facing section through pit **800**

Figure 8: North-east-facing section through Trench 11, showing levelling layers

Figure 9: Plan of Trench 16 and subsequent extension

Figure 10: Sections through postholes in Trench 16 and the extension

Figure 11: Sections through linears in Trench 16 and extension

5.2 PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north-west

Plate 2: Wall **106** and flagged floor **107**, looking west

Plate 3: Trench 2, looking north-east

Plate 4: Trench 3, looking north-west

Plate 5: Trench 4, looking south

Plate 6: Trench 5, looking north-west

Plate 7: Posthole **510**, looking north

Plate 8: Trench 6, looking north-east

Plate 9: Gully **603**, looking north

Plate 10: Trench 7, looking north-east

Plate 11: Trench 8, looking south-west

Plate 12: North-east-facing section through pit **800**

Plate 13: Trench 9, looking south-west

Plate 14: Trench 10, looking south-west

Plate 15: Trench 11, looking north-west

Plate 16: Trench 12, looking north-east

Plate 17: Trench 13, looking east

Plate 18: Trench 14, looking north-east

Plate 19: Trench 15, looking north-west

Plate 20: Trench 16, looking north-west

Plate 21: South-west-facing section through gullies **1610**, **1612**, and **1614**

Plate 22: Posthole alignment in Trench 16, looking south-west

Plate 23: Posthole alignment in the extension of Trench 16, looking north-east

Plate 24: South-west-facing section through postholes **16100** and **16102**

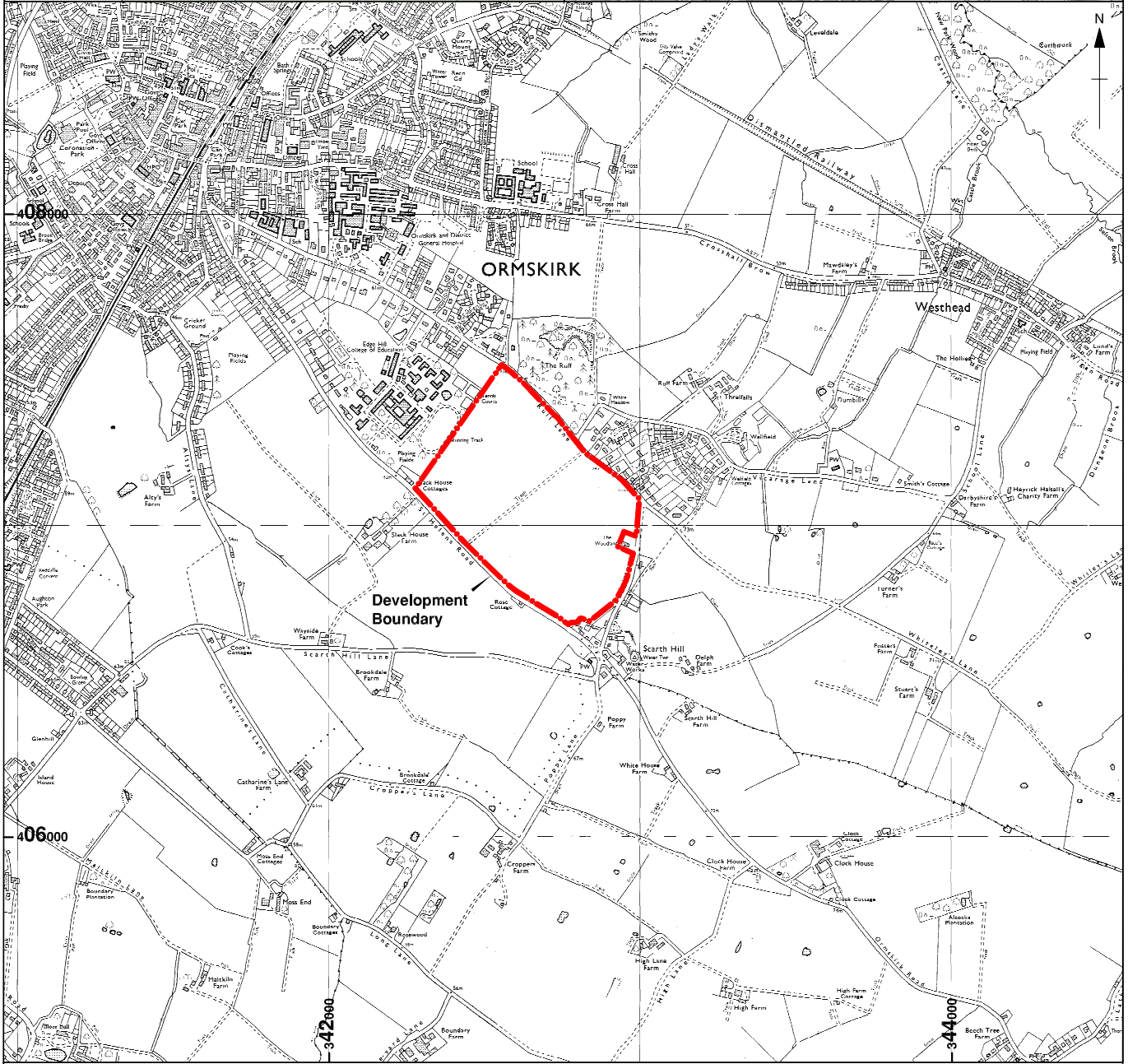
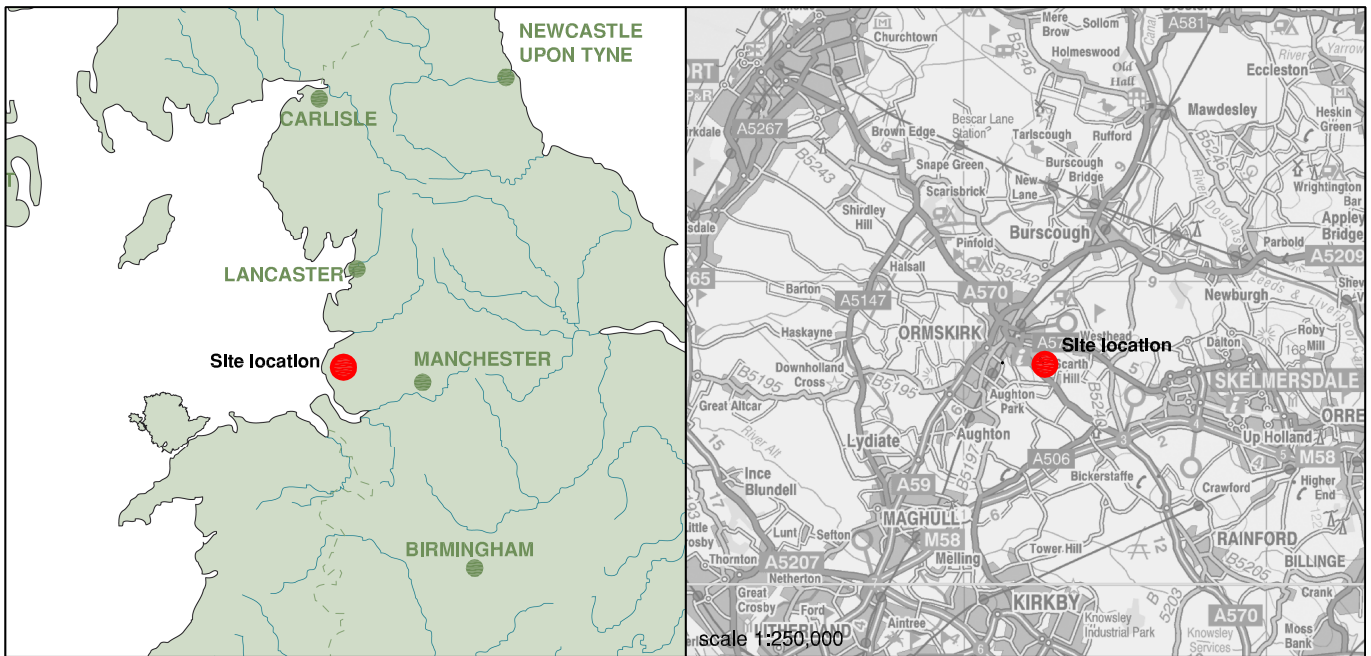
Plate 25: Gullies **16124**, **16126** and **16128**, looking south-west

Plate 26: Gullies **16115**, **16117** and field drain **16120**, looking south-west

Plate 27: Trench 17, looking south

Plate 28: Trench 18, looking north-east

Plate 29: Overall, post-excavation view of Trench 16 Extension, looking east



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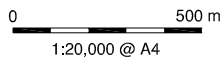
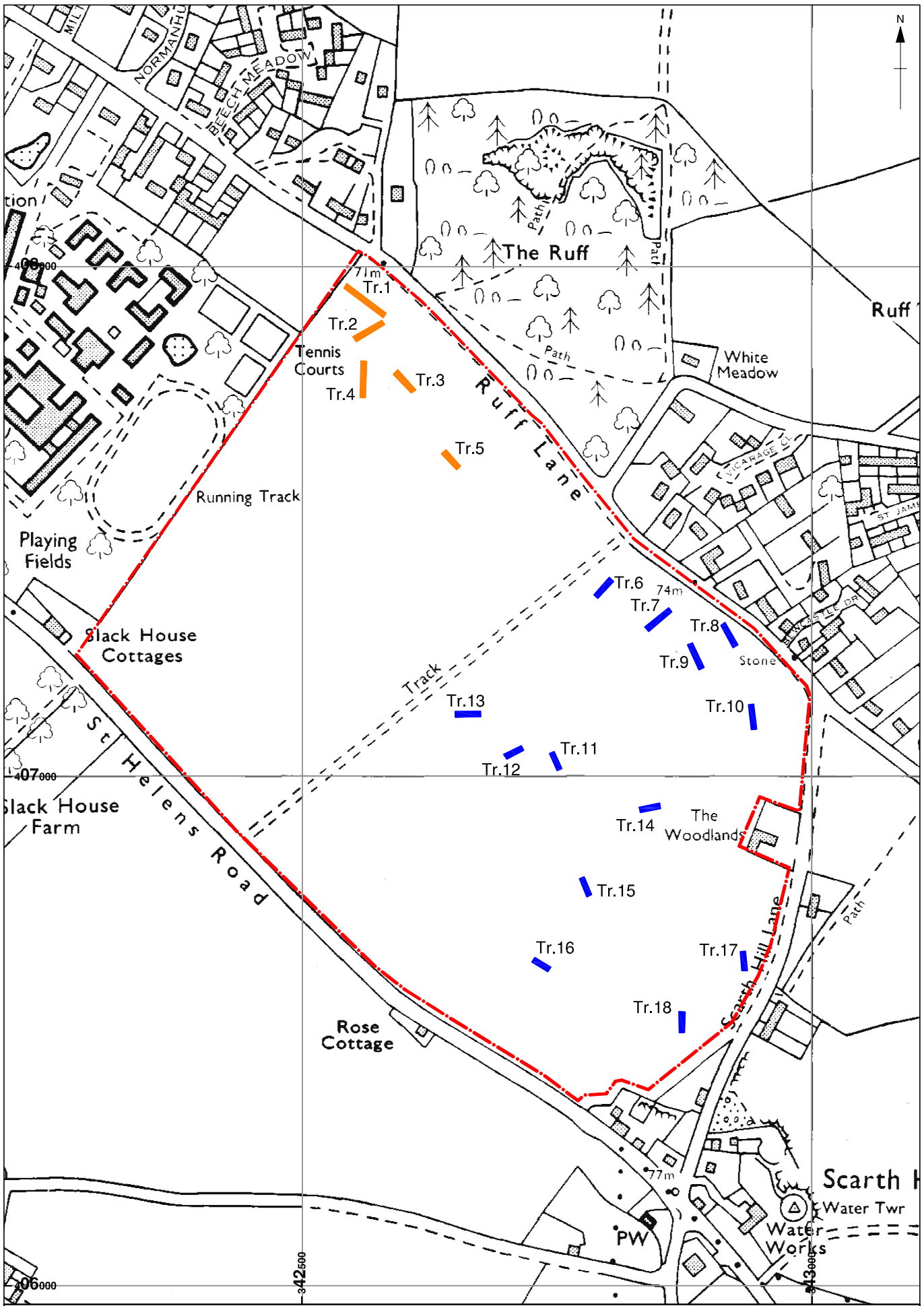


Figure 1: Site location

EMPL10502*AKH*17/08/2012



EM *L10502 *MAT *Nov 2012

Figure 2: Trench location plan

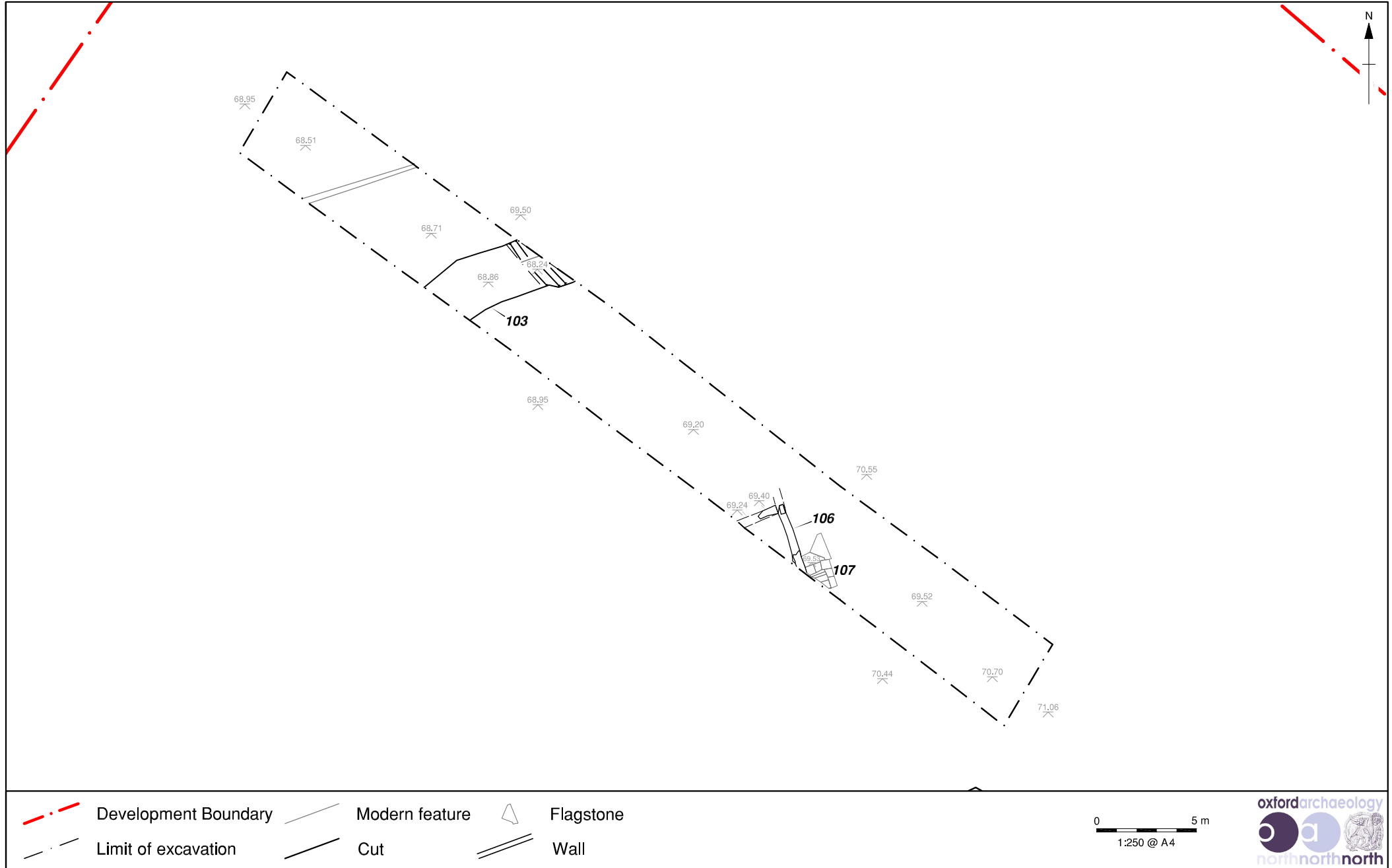


Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1

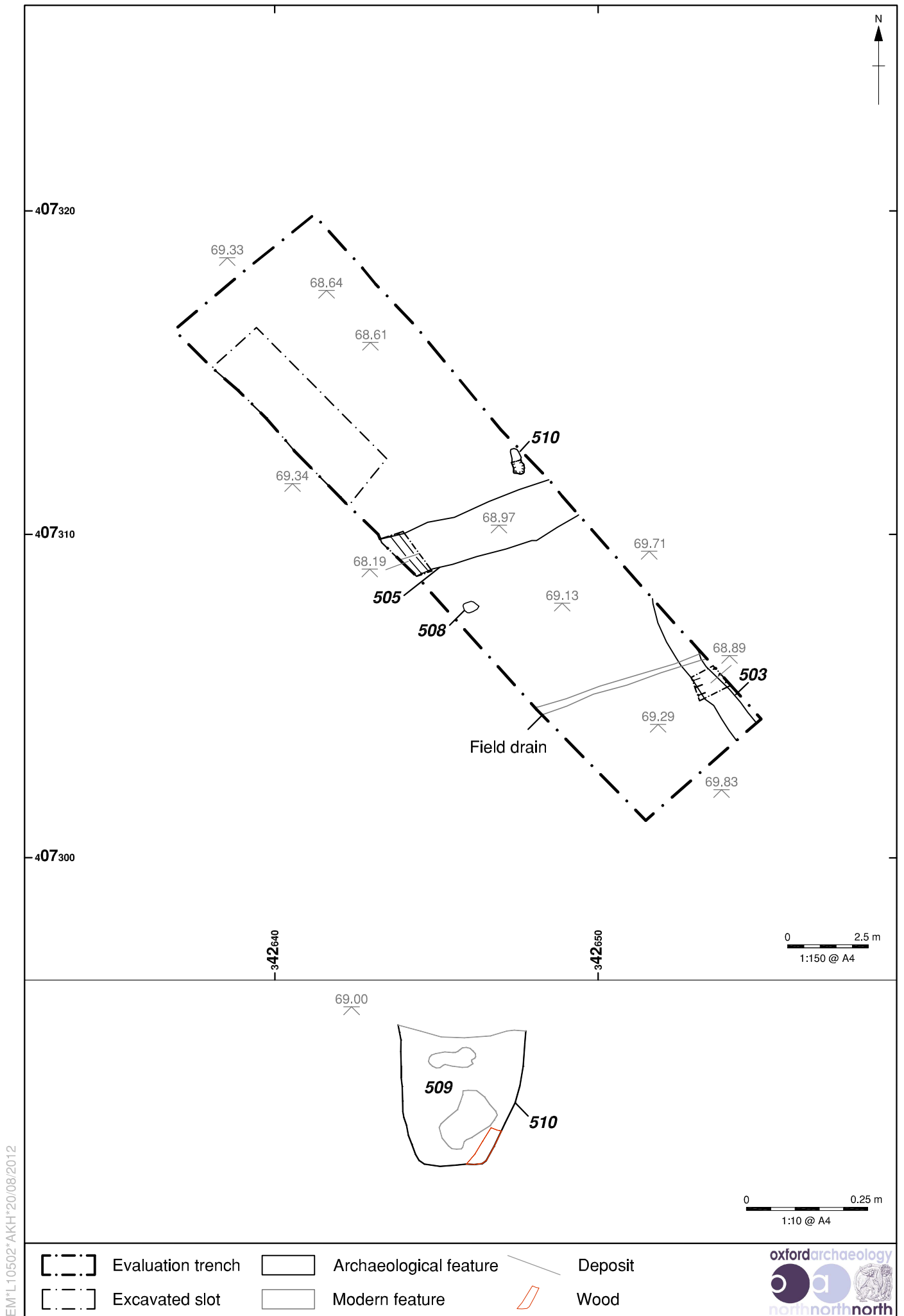


Figure 4: Plan of Trench 5 and south-facing section through posthole 510

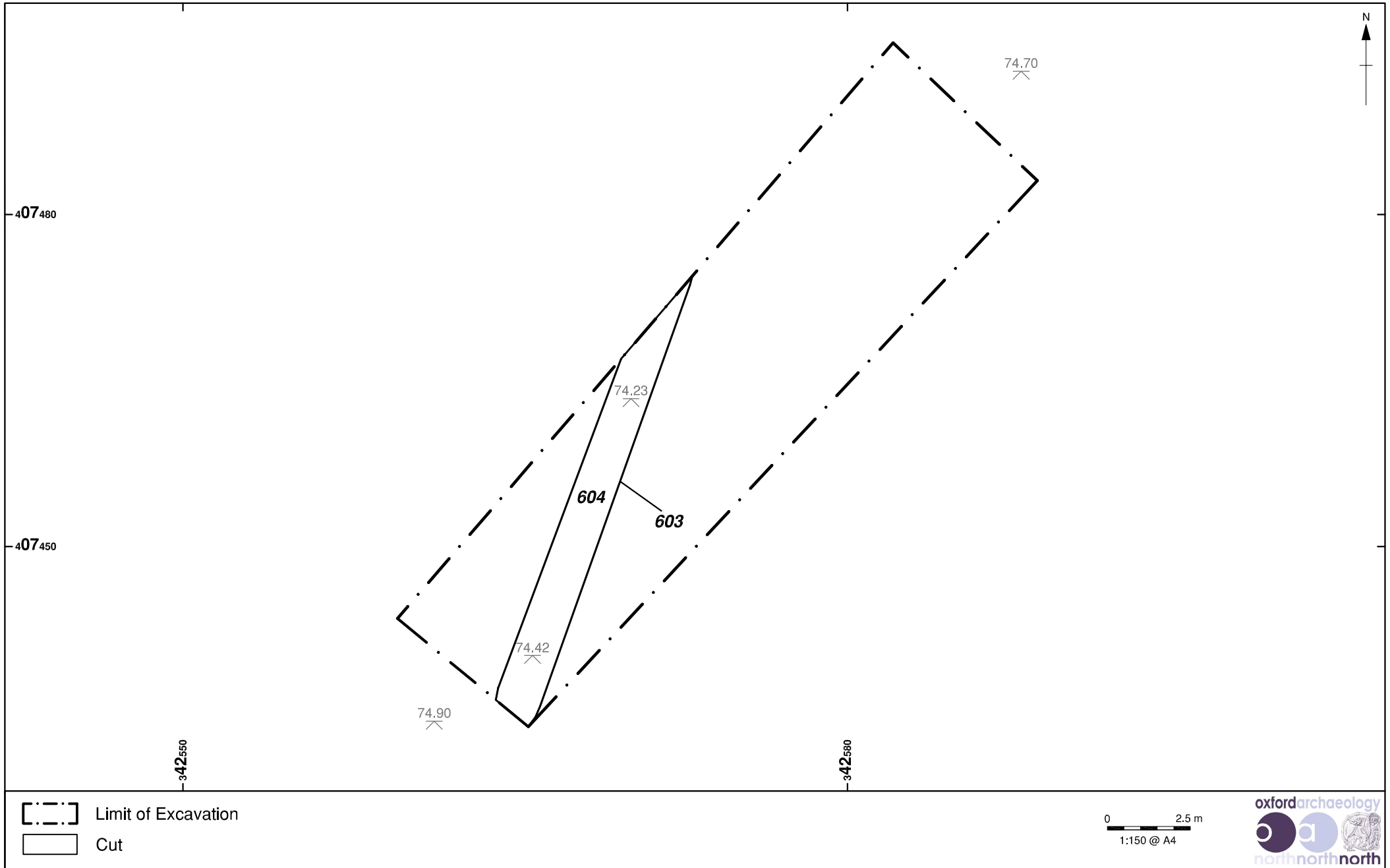


Figure 5: Plan of Trench 6

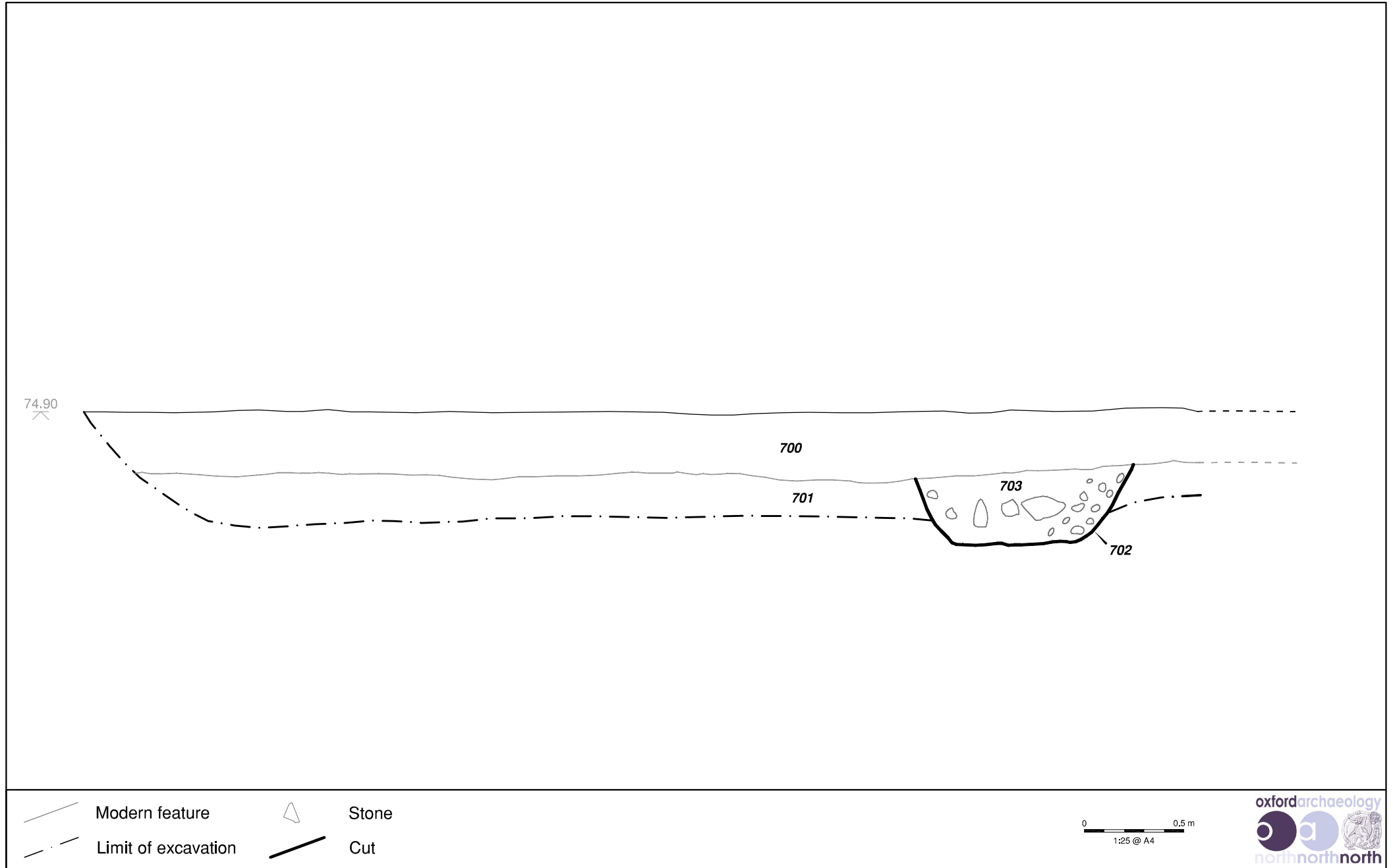


Figure 6: North-west-facing section in Trench 7



Figure 7: Plan of Trench 8 and north-east-facing section through pit **800**

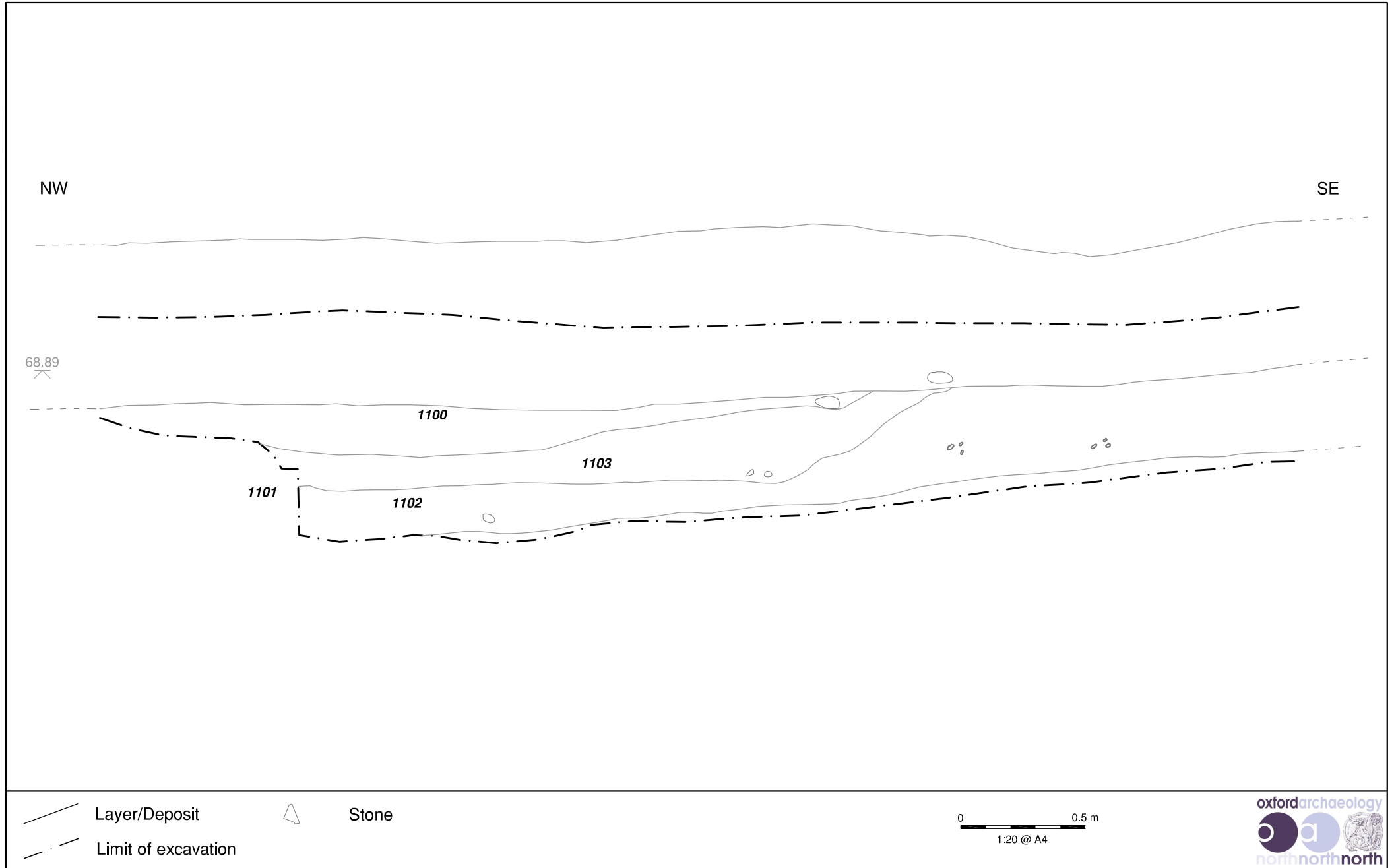
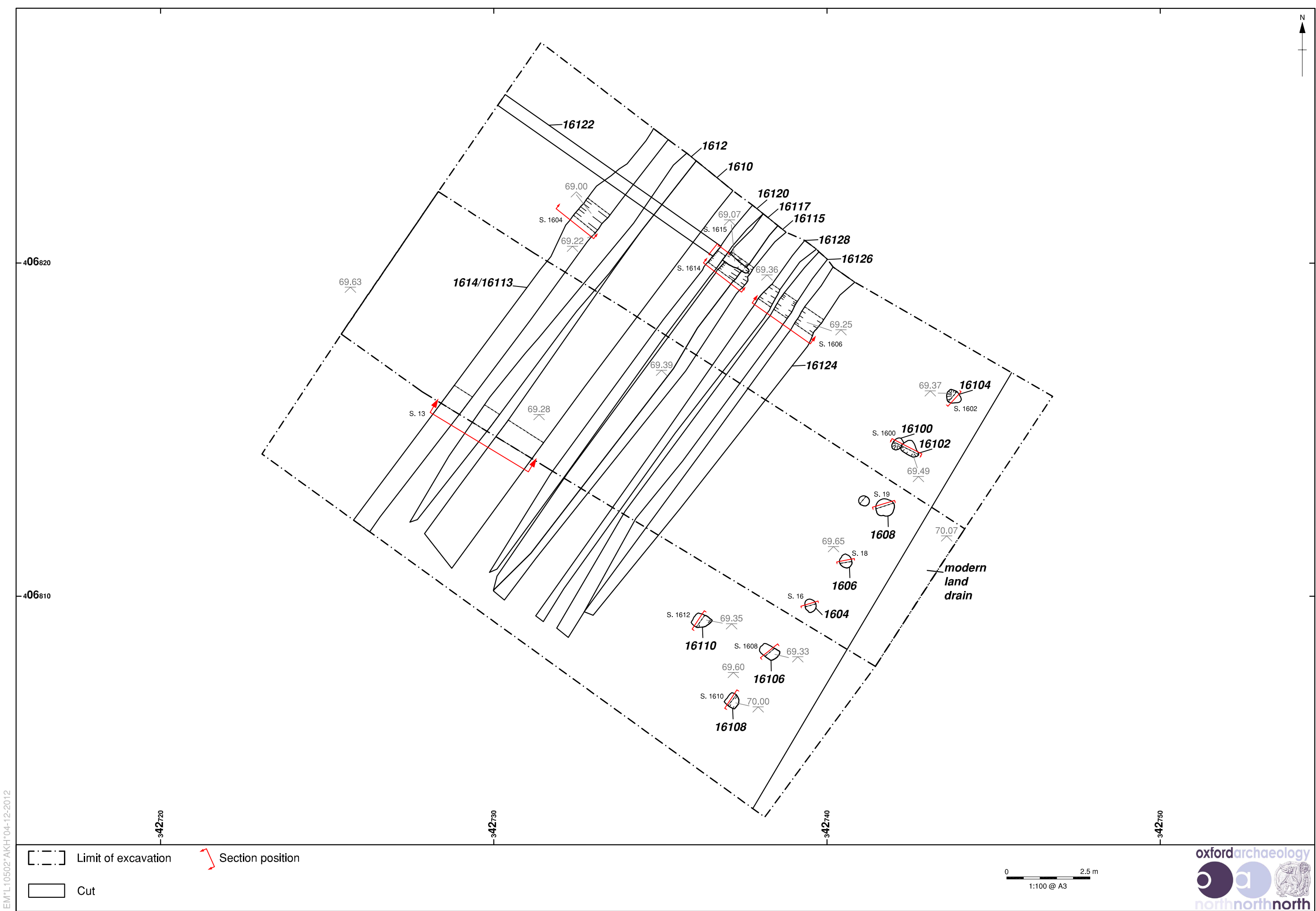


Figure 8: North-east-facing section through Trench 11, showing levelling layers



EIM*L10502*AKH*04-12-2012

Limit of excavation

 Section position

Cut

0 2.5 m
1:100 @ A3



Figure 9: Plan of Trench 16 and subsequent extension

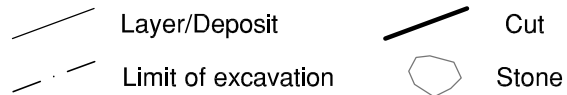
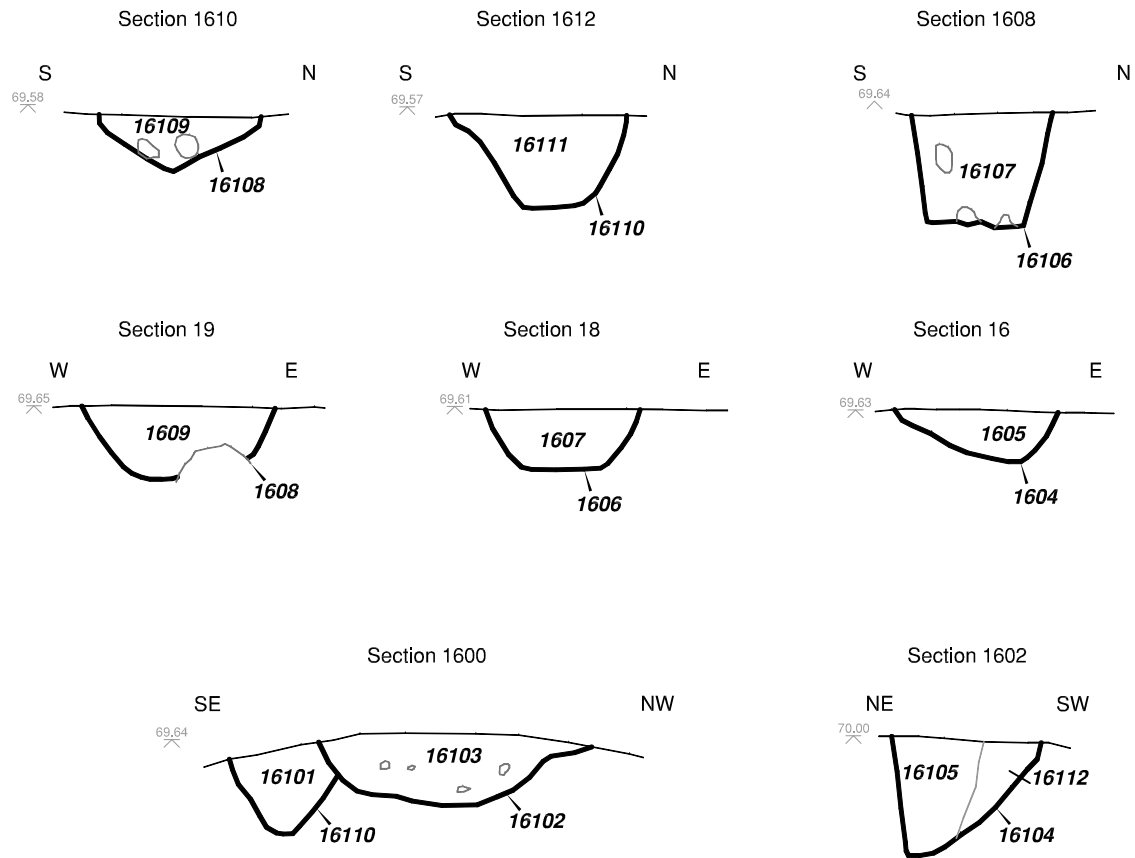


Figure 10: Sections through postholes in Trench 16 and extension

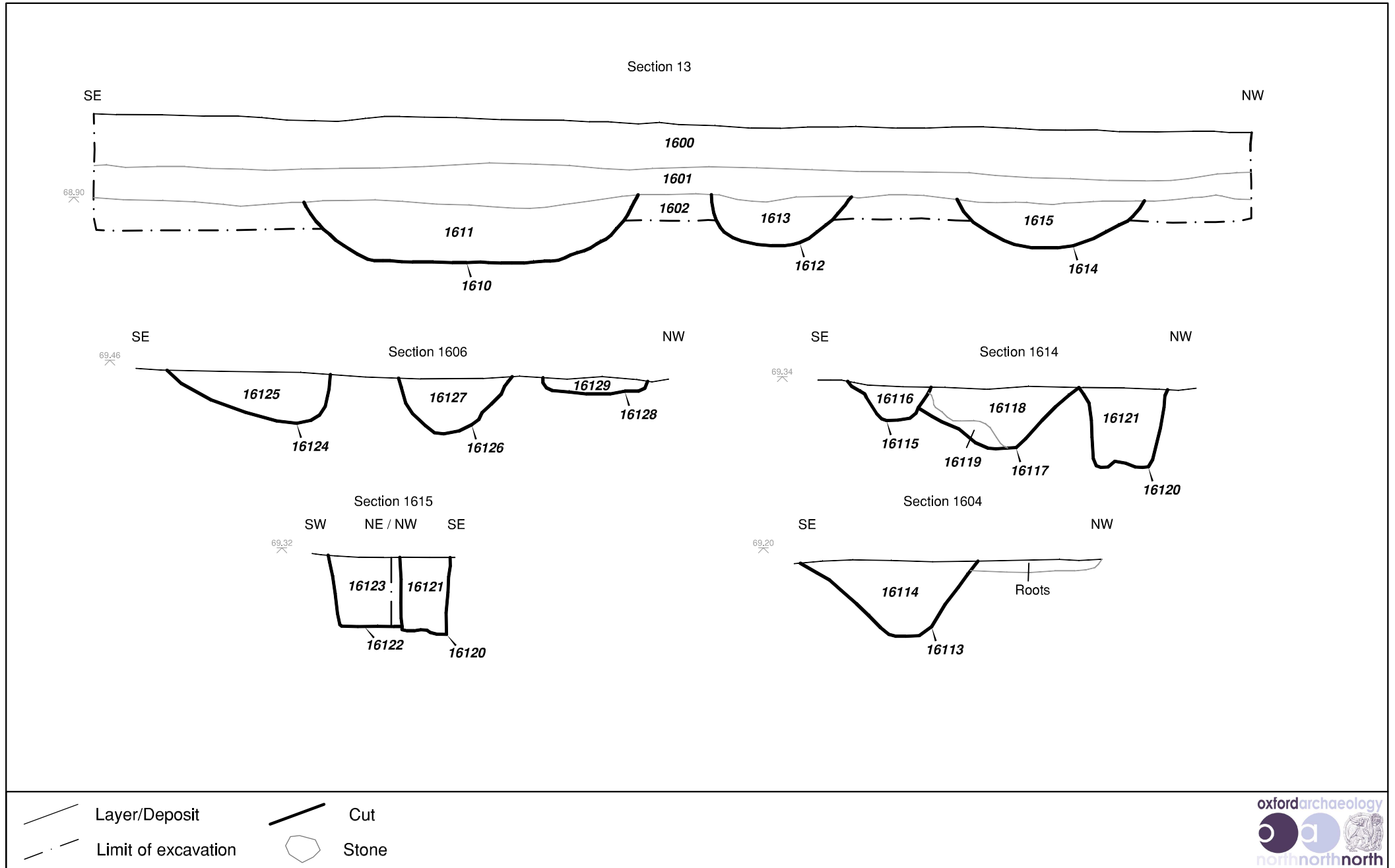


Figure 11: Sections through linear features in Trench 16 and extension

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APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Lancashire



Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

Document No: 3113.R01 (March 2012)

Nexus Heritage Controlled Document – Commercial-in-Confidence

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Report Status	Draft	
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1. INTRODUCTION

Edge Hill University has applied for planning permission to construct a new sports and recreation complex to the east of the campus, on land north of St Helen's Road (Planning Application 8/2011/0504/FUL).

In May 2010, Edge Hill University submitted an Environmental Statement to Lancashire County Council, which identified a number of potential areas of archaeological interest within the proposed development area. The Environmental Statement recommended that the site be the subject of a programme of archaeological mitigation comprising, in the first instance, a combination of geophysical survey and trial trenching. The results of this work would then be used to formulate a second stage of mitigation if deemed necessary. The Environmental Statement was approved by Lancashire County Council in August 2011 (Ref: PJB/ASP/DM), under the condition that should the Local Planning Authority grant planning permission for this scheme, such archaeological work must be secured by means of the following condition:

No works shall take place on the site until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: *To ensure and safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological/historical importance associated with the site.*

This is in accordance with PPS5, Policy HE12.3 (Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, local planning authorities should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost, using planning conditions or obligations as appropriate).

In September 2011, Nexus Heritage was commissioned by Edge Hill University to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological geophysical survey in line with the recommended condition. This document was approved by Doug Moir, Planning Officer (Archaeology) at Lancashire County Council later that month and a detailed magnetometer survey was subsequently undertaken in October 2011.

The archaeological geophysical survey identified three areas of archaeological potential. These included the square crop mark in the centre of the site, the north-east corner of the site adjacent to Ruff Lane and the remains of Rough Farm in the north-west corner of the site.

In accordance with Lancashire County Council's requirements, the following WSI has been compiled for a programme of evaluation trenching, targeting anomalies observed in the geophysical survey data. Discussions have been held with the Doug Moir, Planning Officer (Archaeology) at Lancashire County Council, to discuss the aims of the assessment, and the methods to be employed, in order to ensure that the assessment meets the expectations of the County and Local Planning Authority. Although no formal brief has been issued, it has been acknowledged that all archaeological work will be prepared with reference to the relevant provisions in *Planning Policy Statement 5 – Planning for the Historic Environment*

and follow the requirements and standards of the Institute for Archaeologists. In addition to this a trench location plan has been agreed and approved by Mr Moir prior to the preparation of this document.

2. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Assessment Site is located approximately 1km to the south-east of the centre of Ormskirk and is included in West Lancashire District Council (Figure 1).

It consists of two different land-uses. The majority of the site is a large arable field, which has recently been ploughed and harvested. It is surrounded on its southern and western side by managed fragmented hedgerows and on its eastern and northern side by grass verges. In the south-west corner of the assessment site are a number of playing fields and car parking areas linked to Edge Hill University Campus. This area has been subjected to ground levelling and modification. Nestled into the south-west corner is an artificial, relatively modern pond. Outside of the eastern boundary, adjacent to Scarth Hill Lane, is a residential property called The Woodlands. To the north of the Assessment Site is Ruff Lane and to the south is St Helen's Road. The main campus area is located to the west of the site. It is located on the eastern edge of the urban sprawl of Ormskirk.

Overall the site is approximately 24ha in area. Within the arable field there are no structures or archaeological earthworks present; within the playing fields there are no structures or earthworks that pre-date the 1990s.

The nearest large watercourses in the area are the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, located approximately 4km to the north and west of the Assessment Site, and the River Tawd c. 5.5 km to the east. There are also the small watercourses, which include the Goose Brook, the Dungeon Brook, and the Sefton Brook c. 2km to the east; the Hurlston Brook c.3.5km to the north; the Sudell Brook and the Cock Beck c. 3km to the south-west and the Knoll Brook c. 2.5km to the south.

The gently undulating landscape surrounding the Assessment Site consists of small natural ridges on a relatively flat terrain, which limits the area that can be seen from the site. It is visibly enclosed by modern residential estates and large arable fields with isolated farmsteads, which are all fairly low-lying. Therefore the most prominent features in the landscape are taller structures, which include the Edge Hill University buildings immediately to the north-west, the 19th century Roman Catholic Church of St Anne on Prescott Road and Christ Church Aughton on Holborn Hill to the west and Ormskirk Parish Church to the north-west.

The geology of the Assessment Site is mostly characterised as the Shirdley Hill Sand Formation from the Flandrian to the Devensian Age. The solid geology is Sherwood Sandstone Group from the Ladinian to the Late Permian Age. According to the farmer currently leasing the land from the university, the arable field was subjected to sand abstraction for glass making in the 1960's and then covered with 'night soil' from Manchester, which was spread over the fields. The extent and depth of these activities are not recorded in the documentary or cartographic record.

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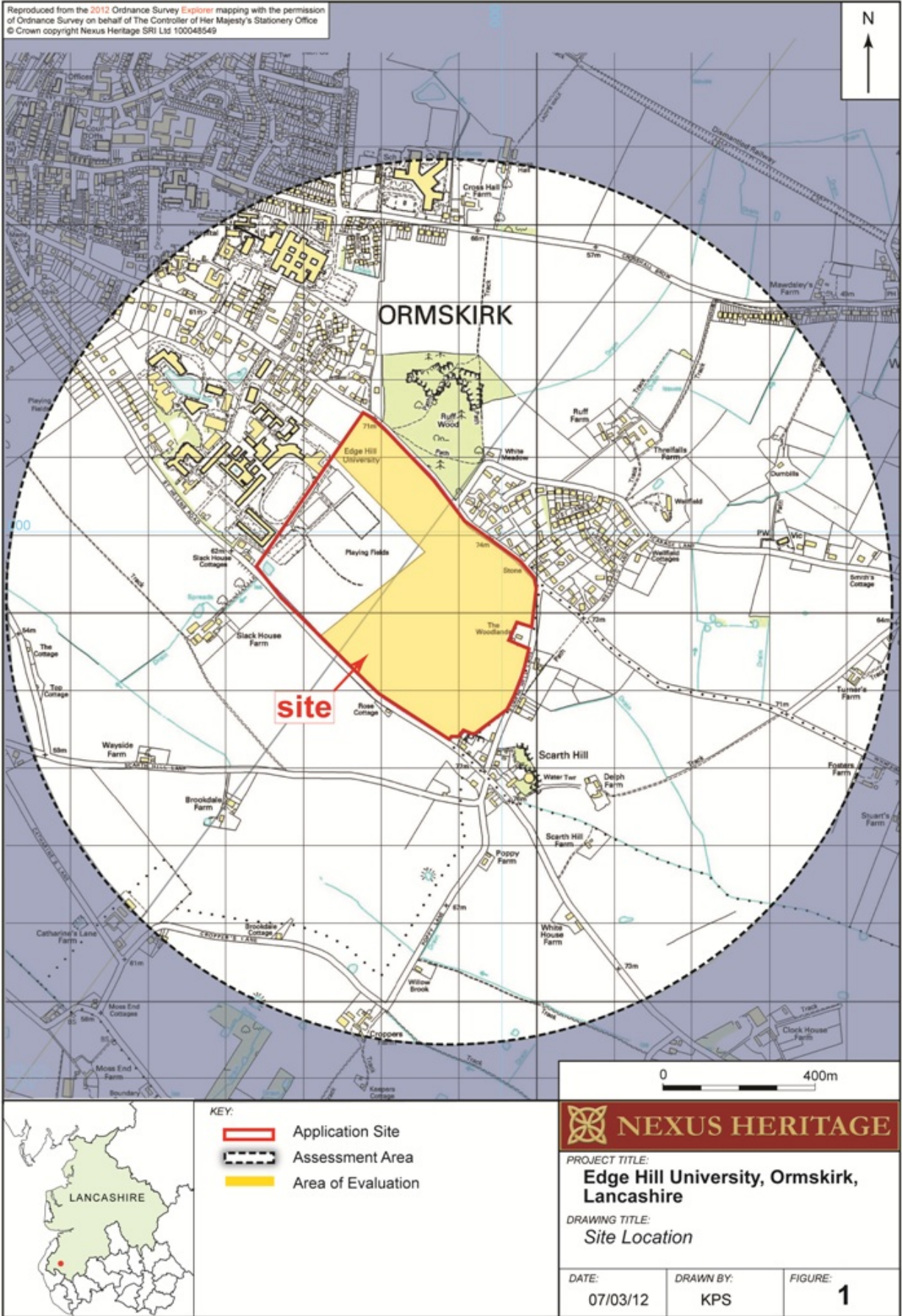


Figure 1: Site Location

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

The following section is a summary of the archaeological and historical evidence within a 1km radius of the assessment site (known as the Assessment Area) as identified in the Environmental Statement and Nexus Heritage's *Edge Hill University Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, (Nexus Report No: 3100.R01). The evidence was colligated from the Lancashire Historic Environment Record, the Lancashire Record Office and other documentary and cartographic sources. Please see the above reports for further details.

The assessment site is located on a ridge of Ormskirk Sandstone, which outcrops from Ormskirk to Scarth Hill along St Helens Road to the south of the site, and in Ruff Wood to the north. Prior to the 18th century, the area surrounding the ridge would have been undrained sandy soil, indicating a waterlogged, mossy area of impassable waste land extending to the coast. It is more than likely that the ridge extending from Ormskirk to Scarth Hill would have been a very important route way across the marsh from the mainland to the coast. In addition to this, the commanding position and stable fertile soil of the ridge would have been an attractive position for prehistoric settlement from the Mesolithic (c. 10,000 – c.4,000 BC) onwards (Peter Iles *pers comm.*) the point in which agriculture and a tendency for static settlements were emerging.

Although the LHER records no prehistoric artefacts or structures from within the assessment site, the physical characteristics of the site suggest a potential for remains dating to the Mesolithic (c. 10,000-c. 4000 BC), Neolithic (c. 4,000 – 1,800 B.C.) and Bronze Age (c. 1,800 - c.800 B.C) to be present on the assessment site (Crosby 1993 and Peter Iles *pers comm.*). According to Peter Iles, special advisor for archaeology at Lancashire County Council, the prehistoric sites from the Mesolithic onwards discovered in south west Lancashire have not been identified prior to excavation due to the lack of ceramic evidence on site. This suggests that the lack of prehistoric activity in the area is due to the lack of archaeological investigation rather than an absence of actual remains.

There are no known archaeological remains relating to the Iron Age or Roman period recorded within the LHER for the assessment area. However, there is very little information concerning West Lancashire during these periods due to the lack of investigations undertaken in the district (The Landscape History of West Lancashire). Between 1998 and 2002, a field-walking survey, geophysical survey and a series of excavations were undertaken to the north east of the assessment site. The investigations uncovered a concentration of early prehistoric flintwork, a late Romano-British farmstead (consisting of five round houses) and contemporary and later features associated with an agricultural landscape including trackways and boundaries. The farmstead is the earliest known farmstead in Lancashire and is thought to have been in continual use between 200 B.C. and A.D. 150. A similar site was uncovered at Brook House Farm at Halewood and at least three hoards of Roman coins have also been discovered in the Bickerstaffe and Lathom area, suggesting a larger Romano-British presence than a single farmstead. Although these sites are outside the Assessment Area, they are of regional archaeological importance and, as stated by Lancashire County Council, there are similar topographical characteristics that may suggest Roman-British activity on the Assessment site (Peter Iles *pers comm.*).

Following the departure of the Roman administration in c. 410 A.D, it is likely the sandstone ridge stretching across the assessment site would have continued in use as a main crossing point across the surrounding marsh land.

In the 10th century, the Vikings had begun to infiltrate south west Lancashire from Ireland and the Isle of Man with the intention of establishing settlements. They were apparently successful as there are several place names in the area that are believed to have Norse origins, including 'Ormskirk' which is derived from *Ormres kirkja*. *Kirkja* is the Norse term for church and *Ormr* is suggested to be a personal name, probably the founder of the original church. It is feasible that if there were settlements at Ormskirk and Lathom during the Saxon period the area would have been in continuous occupation since at least the Roman period. However, there is presently no known archaeological evidence to confirm or disprove this suggestion.

Ormskirk is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, but it is likely that it featured as part of Lathom. The earliest documentary reference to Ormskirk featured within the foundation charter of Burscough Priory in 1189 (Duggan, 2007), when the 'church of Ormskirk with all its appurtenances' (VCH) was provided to the Austin canons by Robert de Lathom. This suggests that there was already an established rectory manor within Ormskirk, that would have been subordinate to Lathom and it would therefore have featured within Lathom's Domesday entry rather than as a separate settlement. In 1286 the town of Ormskirk had developed in its own right and the canons obtained from the king and from Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, the grant of a weekly market (VCH). Ormskirk continued to develop throughout the medieval and early post-medieval period to become the main urban settlement and ecclesiastical centre for the region before the 19th century. According to the Landscape History of West Lancashire, the area to the east of Ormskirk would have been open grassland and thin woodland, which had been cleared by the end of the 15th century to create large open arable fields. Despite the rapid growth of the adjacent settlements of Lathom and Ormskirk, there are no medieval archaeological finds, features or deposits within the assessment area recorded within the LHER. The proposed assessment site was likely to have been utilised as arable fields during the medieval period but there is no evidence of ridge and furrow visible in the area.

From the late 17th century onwards, large areas of West Lancashire were drained and enclosed in an attempt to increase the profitability of agriculture, and this is likely to have affected the assessment area. According to the Landscape History of West Lancashire the creation of a planned landscape in this vicinity is of national significance because it radically transformed the character of lowland areas.

Within the Assessment site, two wells were situated at Rough Farm, in the north-west corner, (LHER No: PRN9670; SD 4257 0745) and at Scarth Hill Farm, also known as The Woodlands (LHER No: PRN21039; SD 4293 06945) along the eastern boundary. Ormskirk is considered to have been at its height between 1730 and 1777, but due to poor transport and its remote location it gradually reverted to a small rural settlement.

Yate's map of the area in 1786 shows that the current roads to the south east of Ormskirk had already been established and do not appear to have been altered significantly since this time. The two main

turnpike roads heading from Ormskirk to the east are St Helens Road, to the immediate south of the site, and Cross Hall Brow further to the north. Ruff Lane is evident as a smaller road, and although Scarth Hill Lane maintains its original alignment, its northern end previously turned to the north east to connect with Wellfield Lane. The place name Scarth Hill is not limited to the five ways cross road as it is today, but it appears to apply to a larger area that extended north-west to the present Ruff Wood. Here there appears to have been a small settlement, including two buildings located on the south side of Ruff Lane within the Assessment site. The eastern building is likely to have been Rough Farmhouse.

Greenwood's map of 1818 shows Ruff Lane, along the northern boundary of the site, but there are seven buildings depicted to the south of the road that appear to form the alignment of a former road. The most westerly building is likely to have been Rough Farm and the most easterly was probably Scarth Hill Farm, also known as The Woodlands (LHER No: PRN21039; SD 4293 06945). The large building shown in the centre of Yate's map does not appear to resemble the central buildings shown in Greenwood's map. The former triangular area situated between Vicarage Lane, Scarth Hill Lane and Ruff Lane is highlighted by the west end of Vicarage Lane, which has been truncated. To the east of this is a diamond-shaped clearing, through which Ruff Lane is depicted as a dotted line. From other areas of Greenwood's map this would appear to be a Green, or open space associated with a settlement. The buildings previously depicted to the north of Ruff Lane are no longer present. The name Scarth Hill is also no longer mentioned, only Scarth Mill to the south east of the Assessment site.

The Ormskirk Tithe Map from 1846 reveals that the majority of the Assessment site was divided up into rectangular 'parliamentary' fields. The central fields appear to have a small pond along their western boundary. Rough Farm is located in the north western corner of the Assessment site and consists of a cottage, five outbuildings, a yard and garden. Scarth Hill Farm is situated on Scarth Hill Lane, which appears to have been diverted to the west at its northern end, to follow its current alignment. The farm consists of a house, two outbuildings, a yard and a garden. A trackway is evident from Scarth Hill Farm along the fields to the west to a large field in the centre of the site. The purpose of this trackway is not clear, but its termination is in the approximate location of the large building featured on Yate's map of 1786. At the southern base of the large field is the faint outline of a semi-circular enclosure, which resembles a small quarry. The name of the field is quite revealing, 'Big Pit close little Croft and Kitchen Croft'. This suggests that there was a quarry, but also a garden and kitchen garden relating to a nearby building. In the north east corner of the Assessment site, a field boundary outlines a triangular shape that appears to correspond with the triangular shape depicted in Greenwood's map of 1818. The fields are much smaller and uneven within the triangle unlike the rest of the Assessment site, suggesting that they are later than the surrounding parliamentary enclosures. A cottage with an outbuilding and a garden is also present in this section, fronting on to Ruff Lane (LHER No: PRN33039; SD 4291 0714). It would seem that this area was previously an open area, possibly a green of a former village that was turned into agricultural fields after 1818. This green or village was probably associated with the concentration of buildings within Ruff Wood, indicated on Yate's map of 1786. Rough Farm could therefore have been a Manor Farm and there would have been several tenants' dwellings in the vicinity associated with an as yet unidentified manor house. Ruff Wood may have been gardens associated with this potential manor house. There is no evidence for any manor house in the vicinity and the associated settlement components have been dispersed. This may have originally been the main settlement of Scarth Hill, as from 1818 to 1848 this name is not referred to cartographically.

The Tithe Map was accompanied by an Apportionment which outlined the ownership, occupancy and use of each parcel of land. There was a surprising amount of field names incorporating the element 'croft', a term usually relating to a small field associated with a house in a settlement. Within the Assessment site these crofts are mainly the fields located adjacent to Ruff Lane. The field names therefore highlight the possibility of a settlement along Ruff Lane, in the north eastern corner of the Assessment site.

Between the Tithe Map of 1846 and the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map in 1848-9 there are no significant alterations to the landscape of the Assessment site. However, the current Vicarage Lane was formerly called Back Lane, which generally refers to a road running parallel to the main centre of a settlement rather than a radial road on the outskirts of a town. This suggests that Back Lane did originally run parallel to a village centred on Ruff Lane (called Rough Lane on the 1848-9 OS map) in the north-eastern corner of the Assessment site rather than referring to Ormskirk or Lathom. The small quarry is represented in the centre of the Assessment site and a well at Rough Farm is depicted. The name Scarth Hill has also been applied to the growing settlement at Scarth Mill.

Between 1849 and 1894, both Rough Farm (now called Woodlands Cottages) and Scarth Hill Farm ceased to be farmhouses and became residential properties. The outbuildings had been demolished and only the farmhouses appear to remain, as shown on the OS map of 1894. The cottage in the north east corner of the Assessment site has also been demolished. The fields within the Assessment site have also been amalgamated from 23 'parliamentary' fields surrounded by hedges to seven large fields with a few solitary trees. The quarry and all but one small pond have been filled and all remnants of the triangular enclosure in the north east corner have been removed.

The OS map of 1909 shows that The Woodlands, previously referred to as Rough Farm, had been demolished by 1909, although a trackway still leads to an enclosure that previously encircled the building, suggesting it has been left to decay rather than removed for another purpose. Between 1909 and 1928, a drinking fountain is indicated on the site of the former farmhouse. To the east of the former farmhouse, there remains a single field boundary and a pond that spans the length of the proposed development site; the majority of the surrounding field boundaries have been removed.

The Ordnance Survey maps from 1938, 1955 and 1971 show that the fields within the Assessment site were not significantly disturbed by the construction of Edge Hill campus to the west of the site in 1933, its requisition as a military hospital during World War II or its re-organisation as a mixed college in 1959. In the 1970s the fields remained essentially as they were mapped in 1928. An aerial photograph from the 1940s shows that the field boundaries, which are marked on the Ordnance Survey maps are not present on the ground, so the proposed development site is in effect one large field. Although the field has been heavily ploughed, there are two faint lines at a right angle to each other in the top centre of the field. These do not line up with any of the field boundaries on the 1846 Tithe or the first edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1848-9. It is also unlikely that this cropmark is due to geology. This would therefore seem to suggest that there was a rectangular feature at this location prior to 1846. In an aerial photograph from the 1960s, the majority of the cropmarks would appear to be caused by geological factors. However, there is a faint rectangular feature in the centre of the field within the Assessment site which is most likely an archaeological feature, but due to the intensive arable landscape it is not clear.

Between 1971 and 1976 the college expanded rapidly with the construction of approximately 21 buildings, playing fields, a running track and tennis courts, which extended to the western boundary of the Assessment site. All the field boundaries on the Assessment site have been removed by 1976 and it has become a single large field, with no sign of the drinking fountain in the north-west corner, the pond in the centre or the boundary stone to the south. Between 1976 and 1993 a track was introduced spanning the length of the Assessment site in the approximate centre of the field. This track became the eastern boundary of the campus between 1993 and 2001, when the college expanded its sports facility. The eastern section of the campus was heavily landscaped to accommodate level playing fields, a pond in the south west corner and car parks. However, the former site of Rough Farm in the north-west corner of the Assessment site remained undisturbed.

It is apparent that the Assessment site has been subjected to intensive ploughing, which is likely to have impacted on any subsurface archaeological remains. However, an aerial photograph from 2010 shows a very distinct square feature in the centre of the large arable field to the east of the campus. This feature was also present in the aerial photograph from the 1960s. This does not appear to be any of the buildings apparent in any of the maps since 1846, yet it does seem to be in the approximately location of the large structure shown in Yates 1786 map. The field located in the north-west corner of the Assessment site has been evidently exposed to more plough damage. Yet to the south east of the Rough Farm site there is a faint, roughly rectangular feature with a rectangular enclosed area to its south east. Again these structures are not illustrated on any of the maps post 1846, but they do seem to share a similar position to the buildings depicted Greenwood's 1818 map.

Lancashire has been a focus for human settlement and activity for thousands of years and so it is possible that artefacts and other archaeological remains could be present in the assessment area which relate to earlier human activity. It should be noted that the lack of archaeological investigative work in the area results in a potential for previously undiscovered sites/features of archaeological interest to be encountered during any ground disturbance works. This was highlighted by both Peter Iles, Special Advisor for Archaeology and Doug Moir, Planning Officer for Archaeology at Lancashire County Council. They explained that archaeological sites in this area are often not visible on the surface and are not recorded within documentary evidence because the sites are aceramic. Because of the lack of artefacts exposes during fieldwalking, many archaeological sites remain undiscovered. It should therefore be assumed that the lack of documentary and archaeological evidence recorded is not a true reflection of the potential archaeology that could be present on the Assessment site.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

In October 2011, a geophysical survey (Stratascan, 2979 2011) was undertaken across the site (Figure 2). This discovered a series of rectilinear positive anomalies, representing cut features of archaeological origin in the northern section of the site. It also uncovered:

- Five moderately strong bipolar anomalies, possibly representing thermoremanent features in the north of the site.
- Several long linear anomalies, representing possible former field boundaries.
- A number of small and weak positive anomalies, providing tentative evidence of archaeological cut features.
- Weak amorphous negative anomalies, caused by ploughed out earthworks are evident in the data.
- A number of magnetic 'spikes' (strong focussed values with associated antipolar response) indicate ferrous metal objects.
- Several areas of magnetic debris are evident within the data.

The survey identified three main areas of archaeological interest on the site:

- The square cropmark (interpreted in the DBA as a building platform) evident in the 1960s and 2010 aerial photography is situated on the alignment of the service cable and therefore does not appear on the survey due to magnetic disturbance. However, surrounding its location are a number of unknown linear earthworks which may have been associated with it.
- Adjacent to Ruff Lane in the north of the site, the survey identified a linear cut feature of archaeological origin. This is on the alignment of a boundary (visible in Greenwood's 1818 map and the 1846 Tithe map) which marked the edge of the possible 'common' area. Surrounding this boundary are some patches of disturbed ground, which are on the approximate locations of the buildings marked in both of these maps.
- There are remains of Rough Farm still evident in the north-west corner of the site and a collection of possible cut features in the south-west corner of the site may related to a building identified in the vicinity on the 1846 Tithe map.

Elsewhere on the Assessment site the Geophysical Survey results were inconclusive and emphasised the need for further evaluation on the site.

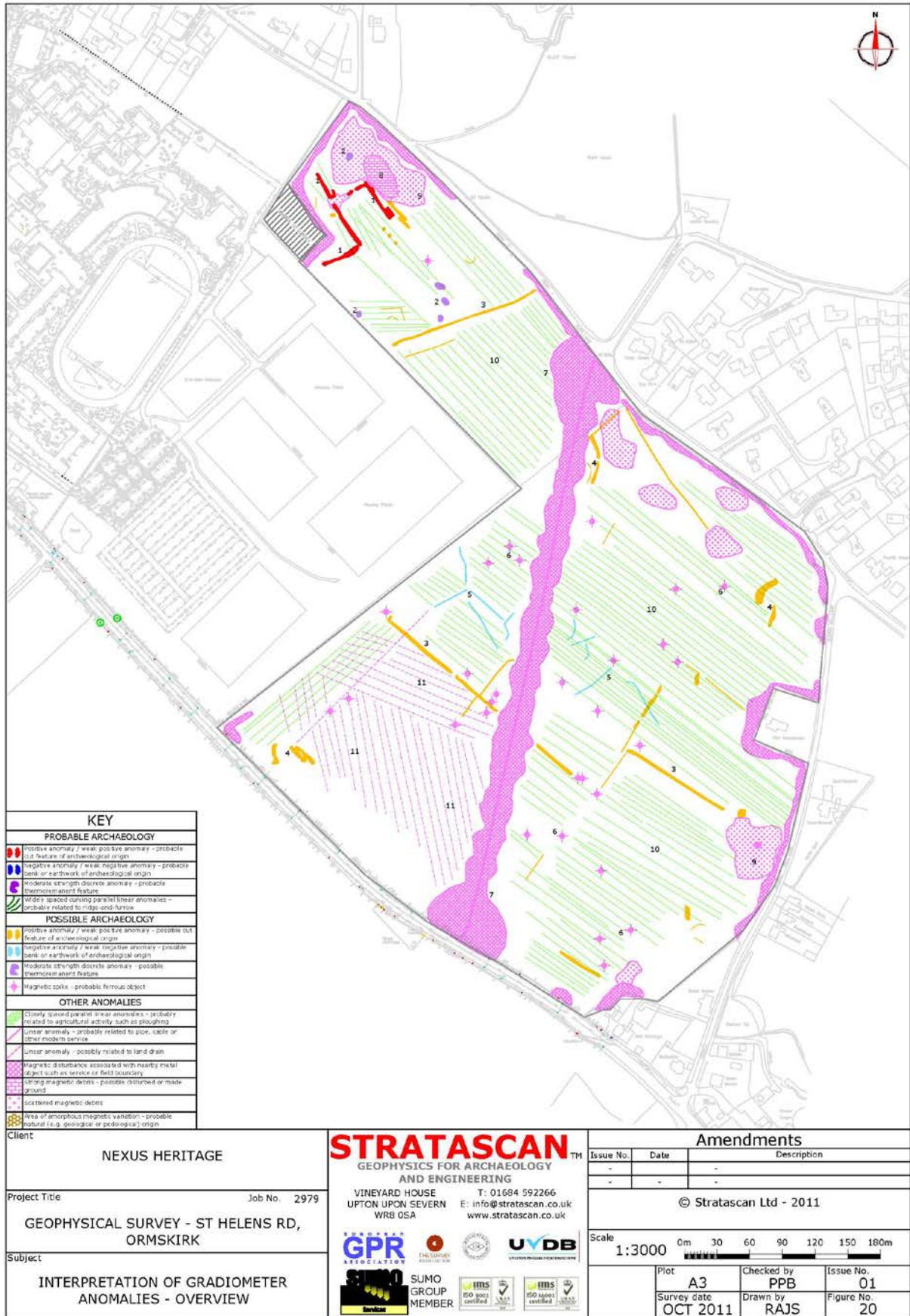


Figure 2: Geophysical Survey Results 2011 (courtesy of Stratascan)

4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

Nexus Heritage will be employed by Edge Hill University as Archaeological Consultant and to oversee the archaeological evaluation. Nexus Heritage will monitor all works carried out by the Archaeological Contractor, in this case Oxford Archaeology North. Communication between Oxford Archaeology North and Edge Hill University regarding the overall scheme of archaeological works is to be carried out through Nexus Heritage. However, direct communication between Edge Hill University and Oxford Archaeology North is to be undertaken regarding site health and safety and contractual matters.

The archaeological works will be undertaken in accordance with:

- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Code of Conduct* (2010 edition).
- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (2008 edition).
- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2008 edition).
- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2008 edition).
- The European Association of Archaeologists *Principles of Conduct for Archaeologists Involved in Contract Archaeological Work* (1998).
- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (2008 edition).
- The Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2008 edition)

Oxford Archaeology is an educational charity under the guidance of a board of trustees with over 35 years of experience in archaeology. They have a considerable experience of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past three decades. They are also an Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Registered Organisation, (Registration Number 17) and all its members of staff operate subject to the IfA *Code of Conduct* (2010).

5. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Following the recommendations of the Environmental Statement and the results of the geophysical survey an archaeological trial trench evaluation will be undertaken within the arable field. Due to ground modifications and leveling it was decided that neither a geophysical survey nor a trial trench evaluation would be necessary for the playing field area.

The broad aims of the archaeological excavation are:

- to enhance knowledge and understanding of the historic environment of Ormskirk in particular, and the south-west Lancashire in general;
- to effectively and rapidly disseminate the results of the project, and to archive them, enabling the project findings to be widely and readily accessed by professional and non-professional audiences alike
- to ensure that professional expertise and experience is advanced by the continual improvement of archaeological method and practice.

The detailed objectives of the archaeological excavation are:

- to determine the presence or absence of any buried remains of archaeological interest within the proposed development area;
- to investigate the nature, extent and significance of the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey;
- to determine the presence or absence of any prehistoric or Romano- British remains anticipated in the northern area of the site, on the sandstone ridge;
- to determine what below-ground remains survive of Rough Farm situated in the north-east corner of the site;
- to investigate a square cropmark feature (possible building) and trackway of unknown date in the centre of proposed development site;
- to determine what remains of the five possible buildings identified on early nineteenth century mapping;
- investigate the potential 'green' in the north-east corner of the site, that may be associated with additional buildings;

The supplementary research aims of the archaeological watching brief are:

- To create knowledge which is of value to several constituencies under the over-arching imperative to advance society's understanding of the historic environment
- To build experience by contributing to continuous improvement in best practice
- To build for the future by effectively disseminating the project results and archiving them for the benefit of future generations and their needs with regards to management and enjoyment of the historic environment
- Where the data allows, establish a reconstruction of the site's history and formation processes.
- Where the data allows, identify the research implications of the site with reference to the regional research agenda and recent work in the West Lancashire District.

6. METHODOLOGY

The methodology for the Archaeological trial trench evaluation has been prepared by Oxford Archaeology North who will be undertaking the fieldwork, reporting and interpretation on behalf of Nexus Heritage. Nexus Heritage will ensure that the evaluation is prepared with reference to English Heritage's and the Institute of Archaeologists guidelines and will constant review these standards during the project, in order to see how far it is meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions which may arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority will be carried out by an officer(s) of Lancashire County Council. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer shall be provided with a minimum of one weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work.

It is essential that the relevant parties (Edge Hill University, tenants, all contractors and subcontractors) are aware of the need for the archaeological evaluation to take place. Moreover it is essential that Nexus Heritage is kept informed of any potential disruptions which may impact on the identified archaeological assets with as much notice as possible. This should ideally be at least a week in advance.

TRIAL TRENCHING

The results of the Environmental Statement and Geophysical Survey highlighted the need for further evaluative works to ensure and safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological/historical importance associated with the site. Discussions were held between Nexus Heritage and Mr Moir at LCC to establish the key areas that should be targeted by the archaeological evaluation. Based on these discussions a trench location plan was agreed in February 2012 consisting of 20 trenches of various sizes scattered across the site, covering in total 2450m², equivalent to 1.05% of the proposed development site (Figure 3).

The programme of trial trenching will establish the presence or absence of any suspected or previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, will then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. This will enable the outlined area to be adequately sampled. The following methodology has been prepared in line with standard LCAS requirements.

Trenching requirements: the configuration and sample percentage of the evaluation trenches has been agreed previously between Nexus Heritage and LCAS. Twenty 5m wide trenches are required, comprising one 50m long trench (Trench 1), three 30m long trenches (Trenches 2, 4 and 7), six 25m long trenches (Trenches 3, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 13), and ten 20m long trenches (Trenches 5, 11, 12, and 14-20). This equates to 2450m², which is equivalent to 1.05% of the proposed development site.

Access: liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through Nexus Heritage. It is understood that there will be access for both pedestrian and plant traffic to the site.

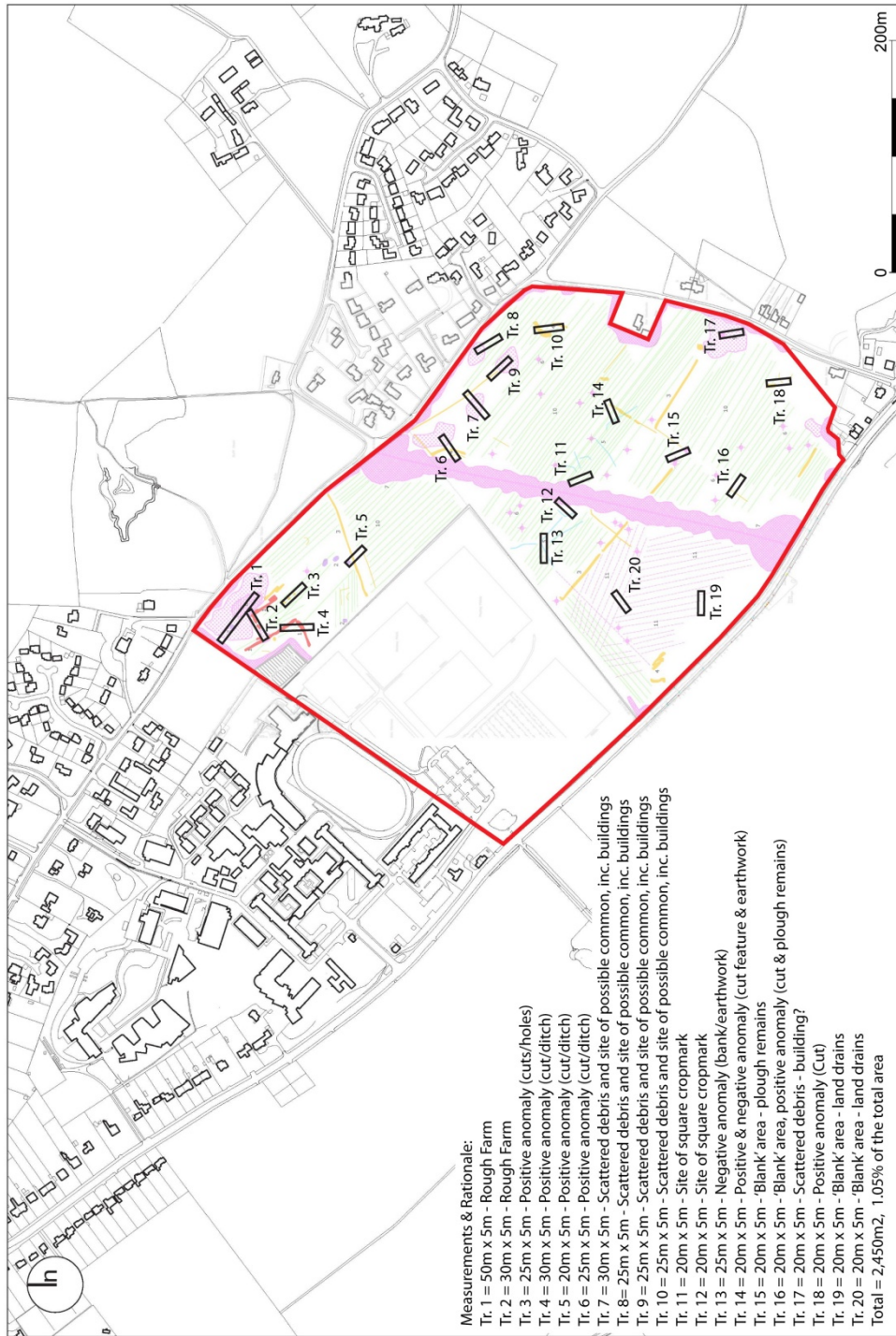


Figure 3: Agreed Trench Location Plan 2012 (base plan courtesy of Turley Associates)

Methodology: the topsoil overburden will be removed by a 13-ton tracked 360 excavator (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision and, thereafter, excavation will proceed in level spits of a maximum 0.25m each down to the surface of the first significant archaeological or natural deposit, whichever is encountered first. This deposit will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. All features of archaeological interest will be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with LCAS. The trench will not be excavated deeper than 1.2m to accommodate health and safety constraints; any requirements to excavate below this depth will involve stepping out or battering of the trench sides, which will require the agreement of a variation to the costing.

The trench will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand, and will be located by the use of GPS equipment, which is accurate to +/- 0.25m, or using an EDM Total Station, based on a site grid related to the national grid obtained from any available client base mapping. Altitude information will be established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum.

Any investigation of intact archaeological deposits will be exclusively manual. Selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal. It is hoped that in terms of the vertical stratigraphy, maximum information retrieval will be achieved through the examination of sections of cut features. All excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features, which appear worthy of preservation *in situ*.

All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections, and monochrome contacts) to identify and illustrate individual features. A Harris Matrix will be compiled during the fieldwork. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

Results of all field investigations will be recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record (black and white (35mm), and digital shots for illustration purposes) and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). At least one long section of the trench will be recorded. All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current IfA guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.

Contingency plan: a contingency costing may also be employed for unseen delays caused by prolonged periods of bad weather, vandalism, discovery of unforeseen complex deposits and/or artefacts which require specialist removal, use of shoring to excavate important features close to the excavation sections etc. This has been included in the costings document and would be utilised in agreement with the client.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Environmental Sampling: environmental samples (bulk samples of 40 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative

features (gullies, pits and ditches). An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of suitable deposits by the in-house palaeoecological specialist, who will examine the potential for further analysis. The assessment would include soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features. In addition, the samples would be assessed for plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits. The costs for the palaeoecological assessment are defined as a contingency and will only be called into effect if good deposits are identified.

Advice will also be sought as to whether a soil micromorphological study or any other analytical techniques will enhance the understanding of the site formation processes, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. Should this be required the costs for analysis have been provided as a contingency.

Faunal remains: if there is found to be the potential for discovery of bones of fish and small mammals a sieving programme will be carried out. These will be assessed as appropriate by OA north's specialist in faunal remains, and subject to the results, there may be a requirement for more detailed analysis. A contingency has been included for the assessment of such faunal remains for analysis.

Human Remains: any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and character of the burial. LCAS, the client, and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations. Any delays caused by unforeseen and complex excavation of inhumations may be subject to a variation to the cost of the contract and will be agreed with the client.

Treatment of finds: all finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines.

All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained on advice from the recipient museum's archive curator.

Treasure: any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.

REPORT

One copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to Nexus Heritage, together with a digital copy on CD, within four weeks of completion of the fieldwork, unless specialist reports are still outstanding. A digital copy (pdf) will be forwarded to Mr Moir at LCC for reference purposes following agreement with the client. The report will include;

- a site location plan related to the national grid
- a front cover to include the planning application number, where relevant, and the NGR
- a concise, non-technical summary of the results
- the circumstances of the project and the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
- description of the methodology
- a summary of the historical background of the study area
- appropriate plans showing the location and position of features
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements
- a statement, where appropriate, of the archaeological impact
- photographs as appropriate
- a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
- the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted

Confidentiality: all internal reports to Nexus Heritage are designed as documents for the specific use of Nexus Heritage, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision.

Nexus Heritage and Oxford Archaeology North will treat as confidential all information obtained directly or indirectly Edge Hill University in connection with these archaeological investigations and will not, without the prior consent of Edge Hill University, disclose any information relating to the project or publicise the project in any way. Nexus Heritage will manage, on behalf of Edge Hill University, all matters pertaining to publicity arising from the archaeological works and for any public education/outreach events or matters, as appropriate.

ARCHIVE

The results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (2006). The project archive will include summary processing and analysis of all features, finds, which will be catalogued by context.

The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is essential and archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a

synthesis will be submitted to the Lancashire HER, Preston (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the appropriate Record Office (in this instance, that at Preston).

All artefacts will be processed to MAP2 standards and will be assessed by our in-house finds specialists. The deposition and disposal of any artefacts recovered in the evaluation will be agreed with the legal owner and an appropriate recipient museum. Discussion regarding the museum's requirement for the transfer and storage of finds will be conducted prior to the commencement of the project, and LCAS will be notified of the arrangements made.

A summary report on the archaeological works will be provided by Nexus Heritage to a suitable local journal if this is appropriate to the significance of the results, with a record note presented to the appropriate national period journal(s). These reports/notes will include the collaborative role of Edge Hill University, Oxford Archaeology North and Lancashire County Council and the Local Planning Authority in the completion of the archaeological works.

OASIS: an OASIS form will be completed as part of the works.

COPYRIGHT

Copyright to any commissioned reports and any other project documents will be retained by Nexus Heritage under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act of 1988*; excepting that an exclusive licence will be provided to Edge Hill University, Oxford Archaeology North, Lancashire County Council and the Local Planning Authority for the use of such documents by Edge Hill University, Oxford Archaeology North, Lancashire County Council and the Local Planning Authority in all matters directly relating to the project.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Edge Hill University will provide Nexus Heritage with all relevant certification regarding Health and Safety prior to any site works and confirm arrangements for notification of entering and leaving the site.

Nexus Heritage will be guided by the *Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)*, the *Standing Conference of Archaeology Unit Managers Health and Safety Manual (1991)*, *Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations (2002)*, *Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations (2007)*, *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)*, the *Work at Height Regulations (2005)*, the *Confined Spaces Regulations (1997)*, the *Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations (2002)* and the Council for British Archaeology Handbook No. 6, *Safety in Archaeological Fieldwork (1989)*.

While carrying out the archaeological investigations, Nexus Heritage and Oxford Archaeology North will operate in accordance with all applicable Health and Safety Legislation. Nexus Heritage and Oxford Archaeology North will provide its staff with all necessary protective clothing and equipment. A First-Aid Kit and Accident Book will be kept on site at all times for the duration of the archaeological works.

Edge Hill University will supply to Nexus Heritage any information regarding hazardous contaminants present in surface materials and sub-surface strata at the site. Where contaminated material is present in the surface or sub-surface deposits at the site appropriate measures will be taken to ensure the health and safety of staff which may come into contact with contaminants.

Risk Assessment: OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Company Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.

Services and other constraints: full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the investigation, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. As a matter of course the field team will use a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) and Signal Generator prior to any excavation to test for services. However, this is only an approximate location tool. Any **information regarding services**, i.e. drawings or knowledge of live cables or services, within the study area and held with the client should be made known to the OA North project manager prior to the commencement of the investigation. If the client does not hold any service drawings, OA North can purchase these at cost on behalf of the client, although this may delay the commencement of the site work.

Contamination: any known contamination issues or any specific health and safety requirements on site should be made known to OA North by Nexus Heritage to ensure all procedures can be met, and that the risk is dealt with appropriately. Should any presently unknown contamination be discovered during excavation, it may be necessary to halt the works and reassess the risk assessment. Should it be necessary to supply additional PPE or other contamination avoidance equipment this will be costed as a variation.

Staff issues: all project staff will be CSCS qualified, proof of which can be provided in the form of CSCS cards.

Staff welfare facilities can be provided and positioned on or adjacent to the site, in a location to be agreed with the client. However, the client may wish to arrange alternative facilities and, therefore, the cost has been included as a contingency.

Fencing requirements: it is assumed that there will be no public access to the site during the archaeological investigation. The archaeological groundworks area will be marked by barrier tape if necessary. Any other requirements for fencing, such as Heras-type security fencing, at the client's request will be charged as a variation to include the hire of the fencing and staff time to erect and dismantle accordingly.

Insurance: OA North has professional indemnity to a value of £2,000,000, employer's liability cover to a value of £10,000,000 and public liability to a value of £15,000,000. Written details of insurance cover can be provided if required.

8. RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

FIELDWORK

The evaluation can be undertaken as soon as this document has been approved by Lancashire County Council.

It is estimated that the programme of evaluation trenching will take a seven person team approximately ten days to complete, although this depends on weather conditions and site access.

STAFFING

The archaeological work will be undertaken by a team of demonstrable competence provided by Oxford Archaeology North. The project will be reviewed by Kate Page-Smith and Anthony Martin, both of Nexus Heritage.

The fieldwork will be under the overall charge of Emily Mercer (OA North project manager).

The fieldwork will undertaken under the direction of Caroline Raynor (OA North project officer) who will be a highly experienced field archaeologist, used to working with on-site plant, and capable of running sites of all sizes. Caroline will be accompanied by a team of up to six OA North staff of varying grades, depending on their role within the team. All OA North field staff hold CSCS cards and the vast majority are qualified to degree and often, to post-graduate level.

Health and Safety advice will be provided by Murray Cook (OA North Project Manager) who is NEEBOSH training.

Assessment of any finds from the excavation will be undertaken by OA North's in-house finds specialist Christine Howard-Davis (OA North Finds Manager). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England.

Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken by or under the auspices of Elizabeth Huckerby MSc (OA North project officer). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.

REPORT

Approximately four weeks will be required for the compilation of the report and archive following the completion of the fieldwork, unless more detailed excavation has been undertaken. In which case a programme of post- excavation will be necessary. An interim statement on any salient results can be produced sooner, if required. The archive will submitted within approximately six months.

9. MONITORING

Lancashire County Council will monitor the archaeological works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

Reasonable access to the site works will be provided by Edge Hill University to representatives of Lancashire County Council and the Local Planning Authority in order to monitor the works.

Nexus Heritage will ensure that any significant results recovered during the archaeological investigations are brought to the attention of Edge Hill University and will notify the relevant organisations as soon as is practicably possible, and certainly within 24 hours.

A consultation between the Nexus Heritage, Edge Hill University, Lancashire County Council and the Local Planning Authority will be convened at the conclusion of the evaluation to assess the next stage in the programme of archaeological work.

10. SOURCES

GENERAL

Lancashire Record Office

Lancashire Historic Environment Record

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APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Trench	Description
100	1	Topsoil
101	1	Subsoil
102	1	Mottled black, orange-brown and white-grey, fine sand. Natural geology
103	1	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 2.7m wide, 0.72m deep. Aligned east/west. Cut for field drain
104	1	Brownish-grey, soft and plastic clayey-sand, 0.72m thick. Backfill of field drain 103
105	1	Linear in plan, not excavated to see profile, c0.45m wide. Construction cut for foundation 106
106	1	Yellow sandstone blocks, c 0.5m x 0.3m, plus some rounded cobbles c 0.2m. Some lime mortar bonding. Heavily truncated foundations for a wall.
107	1	Sandstone flags, c 0.5m x 0.5m x 0.1m. Flagstone floor
108	1	Dark grey-brown silt, with 60% crushed lime mortar, sandstone fragments and brick fragments. 0.4m thick. Demolition layer
109	1	Cut of possible post hole
110	1	Fill of 109
200	2	Dark grey-black, coarse and loose sand, with 2% sub-rounded pebbles, 0.5m thick. Topsoil
201	2	Dark brown, fine and compact sand, with 2% pebbles <10mm, 0.37m thick. Subsoil
202	2	Mottled light grey, mid-orange and dark brown, compact sand, with 2% pebbles <10mm, and 1% cobbles 0.1m-0.3m. Natural geology
203	2	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.25m wide and 0.15m deep. Aligned north-west/south-east. Cut for field drain
204	2	Dark grey-black, compact sand, with 10% rounded sandstones 0.1m-0.4m. Fill of 203
205	2	U-shaped profile with near vertical sides. Only seen in section. 0.6m wide and 0.5m deep. Possible drainage gully but its full function is unclear
206	2	Mottled mix of natural and subsoil backfill, friable with 5% roughly hewn sandstone blocks. Fill of 205
300	3	Topsoil, 0.2m thick
301	3	Subsoil, 0.1m thick, subject to bioturbation
302	3	Light grey-brown ashy sand lens, 0.05m thick
303	3	Linear in plan, not seen in profile, 0.6m wide. Cut for field drain network
304	3	Light grey-brown, soft sand. Fill of 303
305	3	Mottled, light yellow-orange and blackish-brown, compact sand. Natural geology
400	4	Topsoil
401	4	Subsoil
402	4	Light orange, plastic clayey-sand. Natural geology
403	4	Linear in plan, profile not fully seen. 1.04m wide, >0.5m deep. Modern, drainage ditch
404	4	Fill of 403
405	4	Cut of modern square pit
406	4	Fill of 405
407	4	Modern active linear ditch (waterlogged)
408	4	Fill of 407
409	4	Cut of sub-circular modern pit
410	4	Fill of 409
500	5	Topsoil
501	5	Light yellow-orange sandy-clay. Natural geology
502	5	Dark blackish-brown, moderately compact sand, with yellow-orange

Context	Trench	Description
		clay patches. Secondary fill of 503 , rapid, waterborn accumulation
503	5	Linear in plan, V-shaped profile with near-vertical sides, 0.5m wide, 0.6m deep. Aligned north-west/south-east. Cut for field drain
504	5	Dark grey-brown, friable clayey-sand, with 5% sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles. Backfill of 505 . Buries and modern ceramic drain
505	5	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 1.56m wide and 1.25m deep. Cut for field drain
506	5	Demolition layer comprising crushed CBM
507	5	Dark blackish-brown, coarse and compact sand, with 2% stones <20mm. Single fill of 508
508	5	Sub-square in plan, squared U-shaped-profile, 0.4m x 0.35m x 0.08m. Cut of pit
509	5	Dark blackish-brown with mid-brown clay patches, coarse sand, with 2% pebbles, and several fragments of wood, 0.28m thick. Backfill of 510
510	5	Sub-oval in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.67m x 0.3m x 0.28m. Cut of posthole
600	6	Topsoil
601	6	Thin clay layer
602	6	Sandstone bedrock
603	6	Linear in plan, shallow, wide U-shaped profile, 0.9m wide and 0.19m deep. Aligned north/south. Cut of gully
604	6	Mid-dark orangey-brown, friable sandy-silt, with 7% sub-rounded stones 0.05m-0.3m. Secondary fill of 603
700	7	Dark orangey-brown, friable sandy-silt, with 10% sub-angular sandstone fragments 10mm-50mm, 0.23m thick. Topsoil
701	7	Mid-light yellow-orange, hard and brittle sandstone bedrock. Natural geology
702	7	Linear in plan, bowl-shaped profile. 1.12m wide and 0.39m deep, aligned north-west/south-east. Cut for gully
703	7	Mid-dark orangey-brown, loose and friable sandy-silt, with 50% sub-angular sandstone fragments 0.02m-0.3m. Secondary fill of 702 , the stones are probably weathered bedrock
800	8	Sub-circular in plan, wide U-shaped profile, 1.1m diameter and 0.55m deep. Cut of pit
801	8	Mid brownish-grey, loose silty-sand, with inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones, fragments of brick and charcoal flecks. Backfill of pit 800
802	8	Dark orangey-brown, friable sandy-silt with 10% sub-angular sandstone fragments, 0.01m-0.1m, 0.42m thick. Topsoil
803	8	Mixed dark grey and orangey-yellow, hard and brittle, sandstone bedrock. Natural geology
804	8	Mottled cream and dark brown, friable and loose sandy-silt, with 20% sub-angular sandstone fragments 0.01m-0.2m. Backfill of field drain 807
805	8	Void
806	8	Light brown, firm sandy-clay, 0.06m thick. Clay lining in pit 800
807	8	Only partially seen in section, majority had been removed during the machining of the trench. Cut for field drain
900	9	Dark orange-brown, friable sandy-silt, with 10% sub-angular stones, 0.34m thick. Topsoil
901	9	Mottled and mixed dark grey and light orange-yellow, hard and brittle sandstone. Natural bedrock
902	9	Mid-dark brown, friable sandy-silt, with <5% sub-angular stones <30mm, 0.4m thick. Subsoil
1000	10	Very dark brown, soft and friable sandy-silt, with 2% sub-angular stones <60mm, 0.28m thick. Topsoil
1001	10	Mid orange, firm and fine sand, with 20% sandstone bedrock

Context	Trench	Description
		projections, 10% sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles, 10mm-0.5m. Natural geology
1100	11	Dark brown, soft and friable sandy-silt, with 10% sub-rounded pebbles 5mm-40mm, 0.64m thick. Topsoil
1101	11	Mottled dark brown and mid orange, firm sandy-silt, with 50% clay lumps and 5% sub-rounded pebbles <30mm, 0.2m thick. Levelling deposit
1102	11	Mid-dark brown, soft sandy-silt, with 5% sand patches, 2% sub-rounded pebbles <20mm, 0.28m thick. Levelling deposit
1103	11	Dark grey-brown, fine and firm sandy-clayey-silt, with 1% sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles <30mm, 0.38m thick. Buried soil horizon
1104	11	Mid-orange, firm clayey-sand, with 2% sub-rounded pebbles 10mm-100mm. Natural geology
1200	12	Topsoil
1201	12	Mid Pinkish-yellow and grey, mottled clay. Natural geology
1300	13	Mid-dark brown loam, 0.4m thick. Topsoil
1301	13	Yellow white sandy-clay. Natural geology
1302	13	Square in plan, squared U-shaped profile. Small modern pit
1303	13	Dark brown silt. Single fill of 1302
1400	14	Topsoil
1401	14	Natural
1402	14	Linear in plan, not excavated to see profile. Cut for field drain network
1403	14	Backfill of 1402
1404	14	Linear in plan, irregular U-shaped profile, 1.5m wide and 0.19m deep. Cut for hedge-line or boundary
1405	14	Single secondary fill of 1404
1500	15	Dark brownish-grey, friable silty-sand, 0.24m thick. Topsoil
1501	15	Very dark grey, friable silty-sand, 0.14m thick. Subsoil
1502	15	Very light brown, firm silty-sand. Natural geology
1600	16	Dark brown, moderately compact silty-clay, with 1% pebbles, 0.35m thick. Topsoil
1601	16	Mid yellow-brown, moderately compact sandy-clay, with some organic content, 0.04m thick. Subsoil
1602	16	Void
1603	16	Pale white-yellow, compact sandy-clay. Natural geology
1604	16	Sub-circular in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.38m diameter and 0.1m deep. Cut of posthole
1605	16	Blackish-grey, soft and friable silty-sand 20/80, with 2% stones. Fill of 1604
1606	16	Circular in plan, wide U-shaped profile, 0.4m diameter and 0.12m deep. Cut of post hole
1607	16	Brownish-grey, soft and friable silty-sand 20/80, with 2% stones. Fill of 1606
1608	16	Sub-circular in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.49m diameter and 0.15m deep. Cut of posthole
1609	16	Blackish-grey, soft and friable silty-sand 20/80, with 2% small stones. Fill of 1608
1610	16	Linear in plan, shallow U-shaped profile, 1.28m wide and 0.11m deep. Aligned east/west. Cut of gully
1611	16	Mid-dark mottled brown, compact sand, with 1% pebbles. Secondary fill of 1610
1612	16	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.55m wide and 0.16m deep. Aligned east/west. Cut of gully
1613	16	Mid-dark mottled brown, moderately compact sand. Secondary fill of 1612
1614	16	Linear in plan, shallow U-shaped profile, 0.62m wide and 0.13m deep. Aligned east/west. Cut of gully

Context	Trench	Description
1615	16	Mid and mottled brown-black, moderately compact sand. Secondary fill of 1614
1700	17	Topsoil, 0.5m thick
1701	17	Mottled greyish-yellow and pinkish-orange clay and sand mix. Natural geology
1800	18	Topsoil, 0.3m thick
1801	18	Reddish-orange sand. Natural geology
16100	16 ext	Circular in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.24m diameter and 0.22m deep. Cut of posthole
16101	16 ext	Dark greyish-brown, fine silty-sand, with 1% charcoal flecks, 1% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm. Secondary fill of 16100
16102	16 ext	Sub-oval in plan, bowl-shaped profile, 0.7m x 0.4m x 0.18m. Cut of posthole
16103	16 ext	Dark, mottled grey and brown, fine silty-sand, with 10% clay patches, 1% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm. Backfill of 16102
16104	16 ext	Sub-oval in plan, U-shaped profile, inclination of axis 45° to the north, 0.4m diameter and 0.3m deep. Cut of posthole
16105	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, fine and soft sandy-silt, with 1% clay patches, 0.22m x 0.3m. Post-pipe in 16104 , either removed and material slumped in, or decayed <i>in situ</i>
16106	16 ext	Sub-rectangular in plan, U-shaped profile with near vertical sides, 0.54m x 0.4m x 0.3m. Cut for posthole
16107	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, loose and friable silty-sand, with 5% pebbles <40mm. Backfill of 16106
16108	16 ext	Sub-oval in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.41m diameter and 0.17m deep. Cut of posthole
16109	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, loose and friable silty-sand, with 10% rounded pebbles <20mm. Secondary fill of 16108 , slumped in when post removed
16110	16 ext	Sub-oval in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.43m diameter and 0.22m deep. Cut of posthole
16111	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, loose and friable silty-sand. Backfill of 16110
16112	16 ext	Mottled mid grey-brown and orange, soft sand, with 10% clay patches, 0.18m thick. Backfill/packing of posthole 16104
16113	16 ext	Linear in plan, V-shaped profile, 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16114	16 ext	Mid-dark grey-brown, fine and firm sandy-silt, with 5% clay patches, 1% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm, 1% charcoal flecks. Secondary fill of 16113
16115	16 ext	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.34m wide and 0.12m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16116	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, soft and fine silty-sand, with 1% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm. Secondary fill of 16115
16117	16 ext	Linear in plan, wide U-shaped profile, 0.58m wide, 0.24m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16118	16 ext	Mid-dark mottled grey and brown, fine and soft silty-sand, with 2% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm, occasional sand lens, 0.24m thick. Upper secondary fill of 16117
16119	16 ext	Mottled light grey-brown, soft sand, 0.08m thick. Lower primary fill of 16117
16120	16 ext	Linear in plan, squared U-shaped profile, 0.32m wide and 0.32m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of field drain
16121	16 ext	Dark brown, fine silty-sand, with 2% sub-rounded pebbles <10mm. Single backfill of 16120 , seals ceramic field drain
16122	16 ext	Linear in plan with a rounded terminus, U-shaped profile with near vertical sides, 0.3m wide and 0.28m deep. Aligned north-west/south-east. Cut of gully
16123	16 ext	Mottled mid orangey-brown, fine and firm silty-sand. Secondary fill of 16122 , signs of leaching

Context	Trench	Description
16124	16 ext	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.67m wide and 0.2m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16125	16 ext	Dark rey-brown, friable silty-sand. Secondary fill of 16124
16126	16 ext	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.5m wide and 0.24m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16127	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, friable silty-sand. Secondary fill of 16126
16128	16 ext	Linear in plan, U-shaped profile, 0.38m wide and 0.1m deep. Aligned north-east/south-west. Cut of gully
16129	16 ext	Dark grey-brown, friable silty-sand. Secondary fill of 16128

APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF FINDS ASSEMBLAGE

Ctxt No	Material	Category	No frags	Description	Period
101	Ceramic	vessel	1	Small over-fired fragment of black-glazed redware.	Nineteenth century?
102	Ceramic	vessel	5	Lid, base, and rim fragments of early black-glazed redware; one base fragment of yellow ware; one rim fragment of ?creamware feather-edged bowl.	Late eighteenth century
104	Ceramic	building material	1	One small featureless fragment.	Not closely dateable
104	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Stem fragment.	Post-medieval
104	Ceramic	vessel	65	One rim fragment of brown-slipped cream fabric, blackware; 24 fragments of black-glazed redware; two fragments of unglazed terracotta; three joining fragments of industrial slipware; one fragment of Nottingham stoneware; two fragments of Staffordshire slip-decorated ware; three fragments of manganese mottled ware; three fragments of Pearlware; one fragment of feather-edged pearlware; three fragments of underglaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware; 14 fragments of plain refined white earthenware; two fragments of creamware; five fragments of cream fabric.	Late eighteenth to nineteenth century
104	Ceramic	vessel	42	Four fragments of early black-glazed redware; 17 fragments of late black-glazed redware; one fragment of over-fired redware; three fragments of Creamware; two fragments of industrial slipwares; one fragment of refined white earthenware, three fragments of creamware with feather-edge; six fragments of underglaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware; six fragments of plain white earthenware.	Mid-seventeenth to nineteenth century
104	Ceramic	vessel	10	Nine fragments of black-glazed redware; one fragment of painted refined white earthenware.	Mid-seventeenth to nineteenth century

104	Ceramic	vessel	20	Thirteen fragments of black-glazed redware (five in early fabrics); three fragments of yellow ware; two fragments of ?Creamware; one fragment of industrial slipware.	Mid-seventeenth to nineteenth century
104	Ceramic	vessel	8	Black-glazed redware, including three joining rim fragments and two over-fired, possibly early fabric.	Seventeenth century?
104	Copper alloy	lamp fitting	1	Complete Art Nouveau gas lamp fitting.	Late nineteenth century
104	Glass		3	Two bases and one neck of narrow cylindrical dark olive green wine bottles.	Early nineteenth century
104	Iron	bar		Large bar.	Not closely dateable
200	Ceramic	tobacco pipe		Stem fragments.	Post-medieval
200	Ceramic	vessel		Four fragments of black-glazed redware; four fragments of Industrial slipware (tankard and dish); three fragments of Pearlware (?transfer printed?); nine fragments of underglaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware, including flow blue and sponge decoration; two fragments of self-glazed redware; one fragment of stoneware.	Nineteenth century
200	Iron			Nail fragment.	Not closely dateable
509	Ceramic	vessel		One fragment of manganese mottled ware; one fragment of underglaze transfer-printed white earthenware.	Nineteenth century
509	Iron			Nail fragments.	Not closely dateable
604	Ceramic	vessel	3	One fragment of creamware; one fragment of Pearlware plate with feathered edge; one fragment of black-glazed redware.	Late eighteenth century or later
802	Glass	window	1	Mid-pane fragment.	Twentieth century?
802	Ceramic	building material	1	Small undiagnostic fragment.	Not closely dateable

802	Ceramic	vessel	3	One small fragment of black-glazed redware; small fragments of recent brown stoneware.	Nineteenth century or later
802	Glass	vessel	1	Base of Hamilton-type mineral water bottle.	Mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century
1600	Ceramic	vessel	3	One fragment of late brown stoneware, one fragment of underglaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware, one fragment of mottled ware.	Late eighteenth century or later
1611	Ceramic	vessel	1	One fragment of underglaze transfer-printed Creamware.	Late eighteenth to early nineteenth century
1613	Ceramic	vessel	1	One rim fragment of refined white earthenware plate.	Nineteenth century or later
10125	Iron	object	25	Probably root fragments coated with iron.	Not closely dateable
16102	Ceramic	vessel	1	One fragment Nottingham-type stoneware.	Eighteenth century?
16107	Ceramic	vessel	1	Small fragment under-glaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware.	Nineteenth century or later
16114	Ceramic	vessel	1	Small fragment of manganese mottled ware.	Mid-late eighteenth century?
16114	Ceramic	building material	2	Small undiagnostic fragment.	Not closely dateable
16116	Iron	nail	1	Shaft fragment.	Not closely dateable
16116	Ceramic	vessel	1	Brown stoneware.	Nineteenth century
16118	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Stem fragment.	Post-medieval
16118	Ceramic	vessel	2	Fragments of blue-painted refined white earthenware.	Nineteenth century or later
16123	Ceramic	vessel	2	Underglaze transfer-printed refined white earthenware.	Nineteenth century or later
16125	Ceramic	vessel	4	One fragment of Pearlware, one fragment Creamware; one fragment black-glazed redware.	Late eighteenth century or later

16129	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Small stem fragment.	Post-medieval
16129	Glass	window	1	Mid-pane fragment of colourless glass.	Modern