



**Land Off Wigan
Road,
Clayton-le-
Woods,
Lancashire**

**Archaeological
Evaluation Report**



Oxford Archaeology North

March 2014

**WSP Environment &
Energy**

Issue No: 2013-14/1511
OA North Job No: L10716
NGR: SD 5582 2288

Document Title: Land Off Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire

Document Type: Archaeological Evaluation Report

Client Name: WSP Environment & Energy

Issue Number: 2013-14/1511

OA Job Number: L10716

Site Code: CLW14

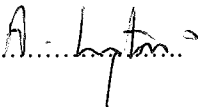
National Grid Reference: SD 5582 2288

Prepared by: Paul Dunn
Position: Project Supervisor
Date: March 2014

Checked by: Ian Miller
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: March 2014

Signed.....

Approved by: Alan Lupton
Position: Operations Manager
Date: March 2014

Signed.....

Oxford Archaeology North

Mill 3, Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

© Oxford Archaeology Ltd (2014)

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology Ltd being obtained. Oxford Archaeology Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology Ltd or all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Background to the Project.....	4
1.2 Location, Topography and Geology	5
1.3 Historical Background	6
2. METHODOLOGY	7
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Evaluation Trenching	7
2.3 Archive.....	7
3. FIELDWORK RESULTS	8
3.1 Introduction.....	8
3.2 Trench 1	8
3.3 Trench 2	10
4. CONCLUSION.....	12
4.1 Conclusion.....	12
BIBLIOGRAPHY	13
APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF/DESIGN.....	14
APPENDIX 2: TABLE OF CONTEXTS	23
ILLUSTRATIONS	24
Figures.....	24
Plates	24

SUMMARY

WSP Environment & Energy is facilitating the enabling works required in advance of a proposed residential development of land off Wigan Road, in Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire (centred on NGR SD 5582 2288). At an early stage in the development process, an archaeological desk-based assessment was compiled to inform the planning process, which concluded that the site had some potential to contain buried remains of archaeological interest pertaining to the projected line of a Roman road between Wigan and Walton-le-Dale.

In the light of the conclusions drawn by the desk-based assessment, it was recommended that a scheme of archaeological investigation of the site was merited in advance of any future development. In the first instance, a geophysical survey was carried out across a large area that incorporated part of the present development site, with the principal objective of identifying any anomalies that could represent the remains of the Roman road. This was carried out in 2013, and identified two anomalies immediately to the south of the development area boundary that coincided broadly with the projected routes of the Roman road. Following further consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeology Service, it was recommended that the projected courses of the Roman road merited intrusive investigation via machine-assisted evaluation trenching.

In February 2014, WSP Environment & Energy commissioned OA North to undertake the programme of evaluation trenching. This comprised the excavation of two trenches, each measuring 40 x 1.60m, which were placed a short distance to the north of the geophysical anomalies across the projected course of the Roman road. The work was carried out in March 2014, although no physical indication for the putative road surface was encountered. A few archaeological features were discovered, including several isolated postholes, and whilst precise dating of these features has not been possible, it is probable that they are of post-medieval or recent origin.

Based on the findings obtained from the evaluation trenching, and specifically the absence of any evidence to support the projected line of the putative Roman road, it is deduced that the study area has little, or no, potential to contain buried remains of archaeological significance. It is thus concluded that further archaeological investigation of the site in advance of development is not merited.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Jim Hunter of WSP Environment & Energy for commissioning and supporting the project. Thanks are also due to Doug Moir, the Planning Officer (Archaeology) for Lancashire County Council, for his advice. OA North is also grateful to Roland Smith, the landowner at Woodcocks Farm, for facilitating the archaeological fieldwork.

The archaeological evaluation was directed by Paul Dunn, who also compiled the report, with the drawings being produced by Mark Tidmarsh. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 WSP Environment & Energy is facilitating the enabling works required in advance of a proposed residential development of land off Wigan Road, in Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire (Fig 1). In June 2008, at an early stage in the development process, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment to support the promotion of the site through the Local Development Framework process. The principal aim of the assessment was to identify the nature and significance of the archaeological resource within the study area, and concluded that the site had some potential to contain buried remains of archaeological interest pertaining to the projected line of a Roman road between Wigan and Walton-le-Dale (OA North 2008).
- 1.1.2 Whilst the principal Roman road in north-west England was that linking Manchester with Carlisle, via Ribchester and Penrith, and a parallel route lay to the west, across the easier landscape nearer the coast (Margary 1957, 91). This secondary route is thought to have passed through Northwich and Warrington, and continued northwards via Wigan to Walton-le-Dale, situated 4.5km to the north of the present study area. This was a significant site during the Romano-British period, and may have functioned as a part of a network of industrial centres and supply bases. The settlement was well situated to exploit the navigable River Ribble, and the overland road network (Philpott 2006, 70; 75).
- 1.1.3 The course of the Roman road in the vicinity of Wigan has been identified in several places via archaeological investigation, although its precise course on the approach to Walton-le-Dale awaits confirmation. The postulated route has been projected to take a course across the present study area, and continues northwards to cross the River Ribble at Walton-le-Dale, close to the position of the current A6 (Philpott 2006, 60). Records held by the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER) actually postulate the route of two road alignments across the study area, and the current project provided an important opportunity to test these projected alignments.
- 1.1.4 In the light of the conclusions drawn by the desk-based assessment, it was recommended that a scheme of archaeological investigation of the site was merited in advance of any future development. In the first instance, a geophysical survey was carried out across a large area that incorporated much of the present development site, with the principal objective of identifying any anomalies that could represent the remains of the Roman road. This was carried out in 2013, and identified two anomalies immediately to the south of the present study area boundary that coincided broadly with the two projected routes of the Roman road shown on the HER (Stratascan 2013).

1.1.5 Following further consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS), in their capacity as archaeological advisor to Chorley Borough Council, it was recommended that the projected courses of the Roman road merited intrusive investigation via machine-assisted evaluation trenching. In February 2014, WSP Environment & Energy commissioned OA North to devise a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the required scheme of evaluation trenching (*Appendix 1*). Following the formal acceptance of the WSI by LCAS, OA North was commissioned to undertake the works, which were carried out in March 2014. This report sets out the results of the evaluation trenching in the form of a short document, outlining the findings and assessing the impact of the proposed development.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 Clayton-le-Woods is a linear village in the borough of Chorley, Lancashire (Fig 1). The study area (centred on NGR SD 5582 2288) comprises a plot bounded to the west by Wigan Road (the A49), by housing to the south, and by agricultural land to the north and east (Plate 1). The western part of the study area lies on relatively flat land lying at a height of approximately 60m above Ordnance Datum, whilst the eastern part rises to a height of 78m, forming the crest of a narrow ridge overlooking the River Lostock (Ordnance Survey 1983).



Plate 1: Indicative position of the evaluation trenches superimposed on a recent aerial view across the study area

- 1.2.2 The development area occupies an area defined as ‘Ancient Enclosure’ by the Lancashire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation programme, that is land that was enclosed by c 1600 (Ede with Darlington 2002, 97). Ancient enclosure is typically characterised by small irregular fields, with sinuous or wavy-edged boundaries and winding lanes or tracks connecting dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets.
- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the region comprises mostly Permo-Triassic sedimentary rocks with the Keuper Marls of the Lostock Hall area to the north-west being disrupted by the Great Haigh Fault, which runs north-west/south-east through Cuerden Gates Farm. The overlying drift geology is essentially post-glacial boulder clay deposits (Countryside Commission 1998). The soils, as mapped by the Ordnance Survey Soil Survey of England and Wales (1983), are predominantly of the Salop series, which are typical stagnogley soils, but there are also areas of the Enborne series along the river valleys, which are typical alluvial gley soils.

1.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 The earliest detailed survey of the study area is provided by the Clayton-le-Woods tithe map of 1838, which provides a relatively accurate view of the area. The farmsteads of Cuerdens and Woodcocks are both marked, and are shown to have been encompassed by small plots of land that are described in the tithe apportionment as orchards, gardens and folds. A similar layout is provided by the Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (Plate 2). However, neither of these maps provide any indication for the line of the putative Roman road,

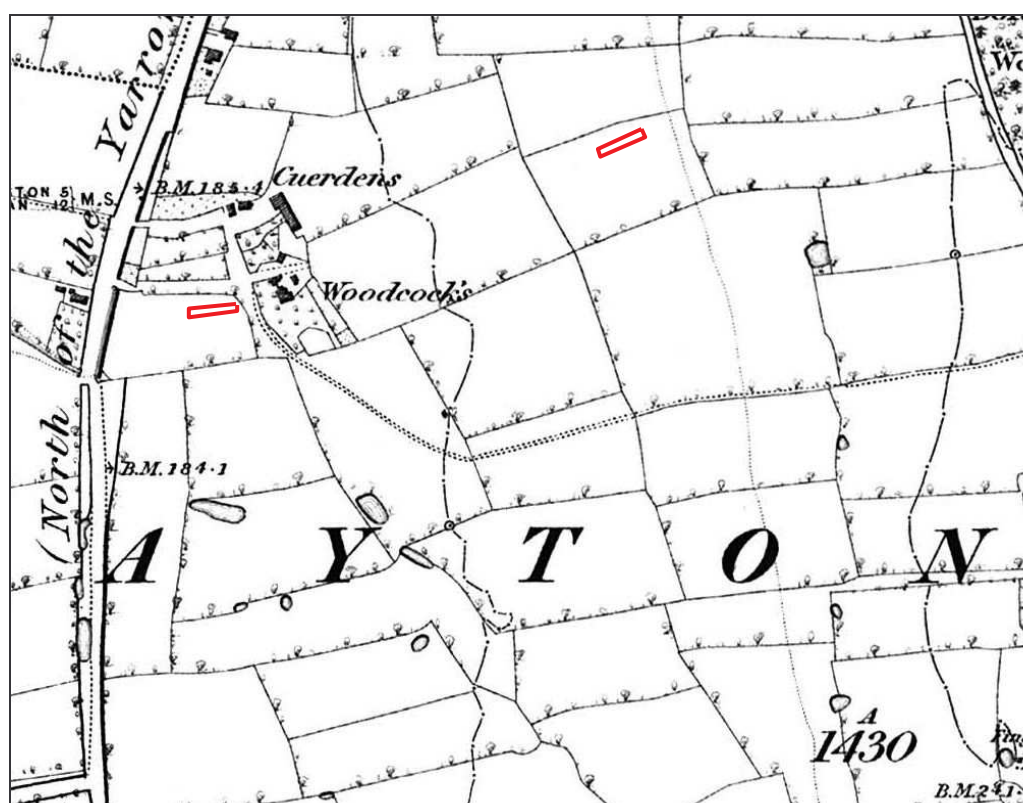


Plate 2: Indicative position of the evaluation trenches superimposed on the OS map of 1848

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (*Appendix I*) was submitted by OA North in response to consultation with Lancashire County Archaeology Service. The Written Scheme of Investigation was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant IfA and English Heritage guidelines (Institute for Archaeologists 2008a, 2008b, 2010; English Heritage 2006).

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

2.2.1 The topsoil was removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. This deposit was 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 were investigated and recorded

2.2.2 All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner. The trenches were measured in by hand from plans as the trenches were targeted on the projected line of the Roman road.

2.2.3 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the former Centre for Archaeology of English Heritage, with an accompanying pictorial record (plans, sections, and digital photographs). Primary records were available for inspection at all times.

2.2.4 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts were recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute for Archaeologists guidelines).

2.3 ARCHIVE

2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the written scheme of investigation (*Appendix I*), and in accordance with current IfA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2006). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the Lancashire County Council Record Office, Preston on completion of the project.

3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Two trenches were excavated during the course of the evaluation (Fig 2). Both of the trenches were targeted on the projected route of the Roman road from Wigan to Walton-le-Dale, and each measured 40m long by 1.60m wide. A summary of the results for each area is presented below, with a context list provided in *Appendix 2*.

3.2 TRENCH 1

3.2.1 Trench 1 was placed broadly east/west across the field immediately to the west of Woodcocks Farm, and to the east of Wigan Road (the A49). The topsoil (**1001**) was removed mechanically to a depth of 0.30m, and the underlying deposits were excavated down to the natural geology **1002** (Plate 3).



Plate 3: General shot of Trench 1 looking east

3.2.2 The natural geology (**1002**) comprised red and orange-yellow firm clay at the western end of the trench, becoming orange-yellow compact sand at the eastern end. A single feature (**1004**) was cut the natural geology in this trench, and was situated c 14m from the western end of the trench (Fig 3). This appeared to be the base of a small pit or a posthole.

- 3.2.3 Feature **1004** was approximately 0.60m in diameter (Fig 3), and survived to a depth of 0.12m (Plate 4). It contained single homogeneous deposit (**1003**), which comprised dark brown, loose, silt with frequent inclusions of rounded stones of various sizes. Excavation of fill **1003** yielded no artefacts to provide any indication of the date of the feature, or its intended purposes, although the numerous stones contained with **1003** may have been packing material around a wooden post.



Plate 4: West-facing-section of feature 1004

- 3.2.4 The pit was sealed by the topsoil (**1001**), with no indication of any other layers in this part of the trench. At the eastern end of the trench, however, the natural geology was overlain by a subsoil deposit (**1005**). Subsoil **1005** comprised a layer of mid-brown, friable, sandy-silt, which had a maximum thickness of 0.3m. Careful excavation of this deposit yielded no artefacts, nor any evidence for human activity. Subsoil **1005** was sealed by the topsoil (**1001**), which similarly had a maximum depth of 0.30m.

3.3 TRENCH 2

- 3.3.1 Trench 2 was located three fields to the east of Woodcocks Farm, and was aligned broadly north-east/south-west (Fig 2). The topsoil (**2001**) was removed mechanically to a depth of 0.30m, and the underlying deposits were reduced to the natural geology (**2003**).



Plate 5: General shot of Trench 2 looking west

- 3.3.2 The natural geology (**2003**) was observed as red and orange-yellow firm clay at the eastern end of the trench, before becoming reddish-yellow compact sand at the western end. It was overlain by subsoil **2002**, which comprised mid- to light brown, friable, sandy-silt. This layer had a uniform depth of 0.20m along the entire trench. Several features cut subsoil **2002** (Fig 4), including three north/south-aligned plough furrows, a shallow north-east/south-west-aligned ditch (**2005**), a small posthole (**2007**). The furrows were all shallow, only surviving to a maximum depth of 0.10m, and almost certainly represented modern agricultural activity.
- 3.3.3 Ditch **2005** was exposed to a length of 1.60m and a width of 0.76m (Fig 4). It survived to a maximum depth of 0.22m, and was filled by a single deposit (**2004**), which comprised mid-brown friable clayey-silt (Plate 6). Excavation of fill **2004** yielded no artefacts, although it probably represented a post-medieval boundary feature or drainage ditch.
- 3.3.4 Posthole **2007** was approximately 0.24m in diameter, and survived to a maximum depth of 0.20m (Fig 4). It was filled by a single deposit (**2006**), which comprised light brown friable clayey-silt. There was no evidence for a post-pipe or other post-packing material, although some charcoal flecking was present towards the base of the feature (Plate 7). The posthole seemed to have been cut through the lower part of the topsoil, implying that it was of recent origin, although this could not be ascertained with complete confidence.



Plate 6: South-west-facing section of ditch 2005

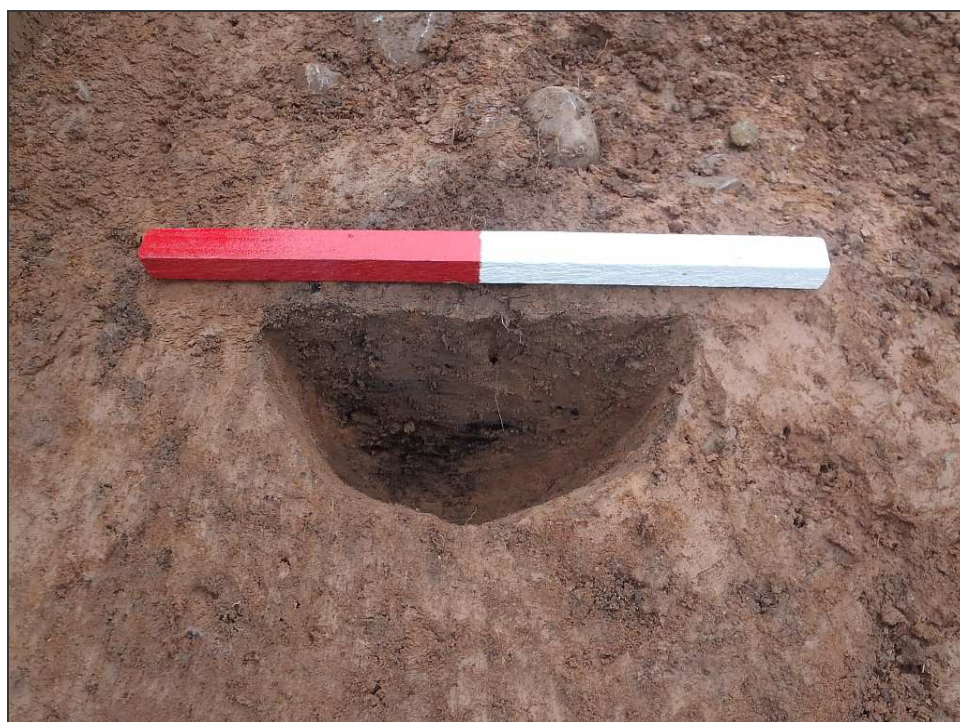


Plate 7: East-facing section of post-hole 2007

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 CONCLUSION

- 4.1.1 The two trenches excavated during the course of the evaluation were positioned across the projected route of the Roman road from Wigan to Walton-le-Dale. The line of the projected route was suggested by the results obtained from a geophysical survey, which identified two anomalies to the south of the development boundary (Stratascan 2013). However, no physical evidence for the existence of the putative Roman road was encountered in either trench, implying that the actual course of the road lay elsewhere, possibly beneath the modern A49. The topsoil and subsoil deposits that were excavated in the trenches were also sterile archaeologically, and yielded no artefactual evidence for any human activity in the area.
- 4.1.2 In total, three features were encountered during the evaluation in both trenches: the base of a probable posthole (**1004**) in Trench 1; a north-east/south-west-aligned ditch (**2005**) and a small posthole (**2007**) in Trench 2. Excavation of these features yielded no artefacts, although it is likely that they all represented post-medieval or modern agricultural activity. As such, these features were considered to be of limited archaeological interest.
- 4.1.3 Based on the findings obtained from the evaluation trenching, and specifically the absence of any evidence to support the projected line of the putative Roman road, it is concluded that the study area has little, or no, potential to contain buried remains of archaeological significance, and that further archaeological investigation in advance of development is not merited.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Clayton-le-Woods tithe map and apportionment 1838 (Lancashire Record Office, DRB 1/49)

Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1848 (6": 1 mile) *Sheet LXIX*

Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1894 (25": 1 mile) *Sheets LXIX.10, LXIX.11, LXIX.14 and LXIX.15*

Ordnance Survey Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983

SECONDARY SOURCES

Countryside Commission, 1998 *Countryside Character: the Character of England's Natural and Manmade Landscape, vol 2: the North West*, Cheltenham

Ede, J, with Darlington, J, 2002 *Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme. A Report on the context, method and results for the Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool areas*, Lancashire County Council with English Heritage (www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/archaeologyandheritage)

English Heritage, 2001 *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology*, 2nd edn, Swindon

English Heritage, 2006 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) Swindon

Institute for Archaeologists, 2008a *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*, Reading

Institute for Archaeologists, 2008b *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Preparation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*, Reading

Institute for Archaeologists, 2010 *Code of Conduct*, Reading

Margary, I, 1957 *Roman Roads in Britain*, 2, London

OA North, 2008 *Land off Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*, unpubl rep

OAU, 2005 *Environmental Guidelines and Manual*, unpubl rep

Philpott, R, 2006 The Romano-British period resource assessment, in M Brennand (ed) *An archaeological research framework for north-west England: volume 1, resource assessment*, Archaeol North West, 8, 59–90

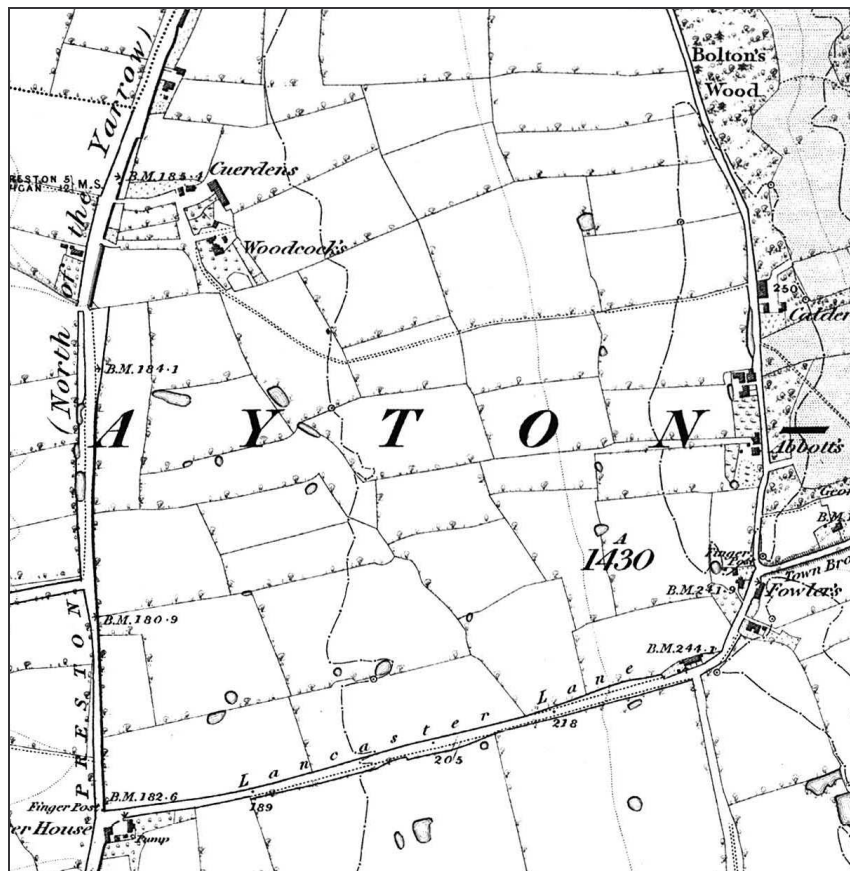
Stratascan, 2013 *Land North of Lancaster Lane, Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire*, unpubl rep

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF/DESIGN

February 2014

Oxford
Archaeology
North

LAND OFF WIGAN ROAD,
CLAYTON-LE-WOODS,
LANCASHIRE



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Proposals

The following Written Scheme of Investigation is offered in response to a request from Jim Hunter of WSP Environment for an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed development of land off Wigan Road in Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 WSP Environment is facilitating the enabling works required in advance of a proposed residential development of land off Wigan Road, in Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire (centred on SD 5582 2288). The application area is bounded to the west by the A49, by housing to the south, and by agricultural land to the north and east.
- 1.1.2 In June 2008, at an early stage in the development process, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment to support the promotion of the site through the Local Development Framework process. The principal aim of the assessment was to identify the nature and significance of the archaeological resource within the study area, and to establish the impact of the development upon this resource. This study concluded that the site has some potential to contain buried remains of archaeological interest pertaining to the projected line of a Roman road between Wigan and Walton-le-Dale and, on the basis of evidence derived from historical mapping, post-medieval field system features (OA North 2008).
- 1.1.3 In the light of the conclusions drawn by the desk-based assessment, it was recommended that a scheme of archaeological investigation of the site was merited in advance of any future development. In the first instance, a geophysical survey was carried out across a large area that incorporated much of the present development site, with the principal objective of identifying any anomalies that could represent the remains of the Roman road. This was carried out in 2013, and identified two anomalies immediately to the south of the present study area boundary that coincided broadly with the projected routes of the Roman road (Plate 1). Following further consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeology Service, it has been recommended that the projected courses of the Roman road merited intrusive investigation via machine-assisted evaluation trenching.
- 1.1.4 This document provides a written scheme of investigation for the required scheme of machine-assisted trenching. It allows for the excavation of two trenches, with a total combined length of *c* 80m, which will be placed across the projected courses of the Roman road (Fig 1). The results obtained from this phase of works will allow an informed decision to be reached regarding the need for further excavation to record buried remains that may be destroyed by the proposed development.

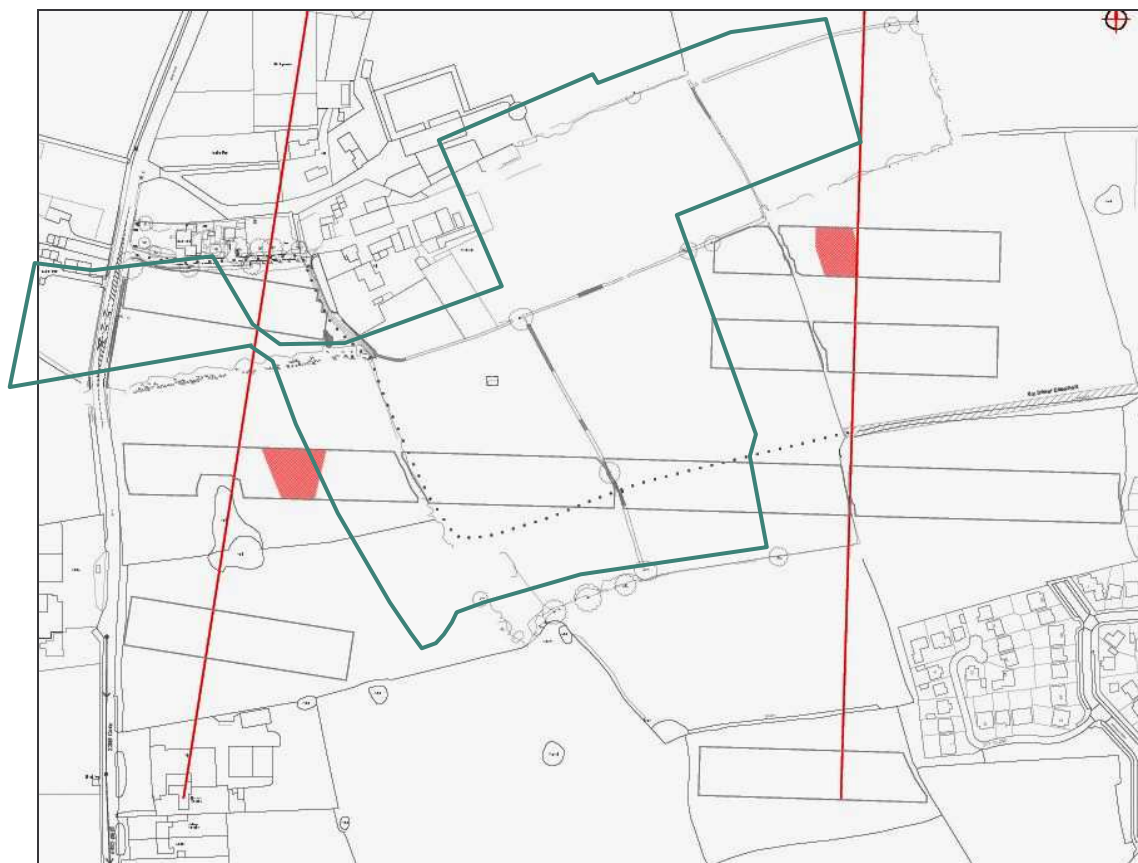


Plate 1: Location of the geophysical survey areas, showing the project routes of the Roman road and the current site boundary

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology is an educational charity under the guidance of a board of trustees with over 35 years of experience in archaeology, and can provide a professional and cost-effective service. We are the largest employer of archaeologists in the country (we currently have more than 300 members of staff), and can thus deploy considerable resources with extensive experience to deal with any archaeological obligations you or your clients may have. OA is an Institute for Archaeologists Registered Organisation (No 17). We have offices in Lancaster and Oxford, trading as Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) and Oxford Archaeology South (OA South) respectively, enabling us to provide a truly nationwide service. All work on the project will be undertaken in accordance with relevant professional standards, including:

- IfA's *Code of Conduct* (2013); *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (2008); *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (2013);
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991;
- The European Association of Archaeologists *Principles of Conduct for Archaeologists Involved in Contract Archaeological Work* (1998).

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 ACADEMIC AIMS

2.1.1 The main research aim of the investigation, given the commercial nature of the development, will be to establish the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains on the site and, if present, characterise the level of preservation and significance, and provide a good understanding of their potential.

2.2 OBJECTIVES

2.2.1 The objectives of the project may be summarised as follows:

- to determine the presence or absence of any buried remains pertaining to the projected line of the Roman road between Wigan and Walton-le-Dale within the proposed development area;
- to inform a decision as to whether further archaeological investigation will be required in advance of development ground works;
- to compile an archival record of any archaeological remains within the development area.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 EVALUATION

- 3.1.1 **Trench Rationale:** it is proposed that a programme of targeted intrusive archaeological evaluation of the site is carried via the excavation of two trenches, placed across the projected line of the Roman road between Wigan and Walton-le-Dale (Figure 1). It is proposed that the excavation of two trenches, each measuring *c* 40 x 1.8m, will provide an adequate sample of the proposed development area, and test the results obtained from the geophysical survey immediately to the south of the present study area. In the event of locating the buried remains of a metallated surface at the end of the excavated trenches, the trenches will be extended to establish the full width of the surface.
- 3.1.2 **General Methodology:** excavation of the modern ground surface will be undertaken by a machine of appropriate power using a toothless ditching bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological level. The work will be supervised closely by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Spoil from the excavation will be stored adjacent to the trench, and will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological works.
- 3.1.3 Thereafter, all archaeological deposits will be cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. It should be noted that no archaeological deposits will be entirely removed from the site. If the excavation is to proceed below a depth of 1.2m, then the trenches will be widened sufficiently to allow the sides to be stepped in.
- 3.1.4 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage. Results of the evaluation will be recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets, and will be accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and high-resolution digital photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 3.1.5 **Context Recording:** all contexts will be recorded using *pro-forma* sheets, and details will be incorporated into a Harris matrix. Similar object record and photographic record *pro-formas* will be used. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts will be cross-referenced from *pro-forma* record sheets using sequential numbering.
- 3.1.6 **Photography:** a full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts will be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation will be generated. Photography will be undertaken high-resolution digital cameras, and all frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records will be maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

- 3.1.7 **Planning:** the precise location of the evaluation trenches will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process will generate scaled plans within AutoCAD, which will then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings will be generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. Sections will be manually drafted as appropriate at a scale of 1:10. All information will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 3.1.8 Human remains are not expected to be present, but if they are found they will, if possible, be left *in situ* covered and protected. If removal is necessary, then the relevant Home Office permission will be sought, and the removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity as required by the *Burials Act 1857*.
- 3.1.9 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.
- 3.1.10 **Finds policy:** finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (following current Institute for Archaeologists' guidelines) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. OA North employs in-house artefact and palaeoecology specialists, with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation, and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Emergency access to conservation facilities is maintained by OA North with the Department of Archaeology, the University of Durham. Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate.

3.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.2.1 Full regard will be given to all constraints during the course of the project. OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a 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.
- 3.2.2 OA North undertakes to safeguard, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of its staff and of others who may be affected by our work. This applies in particular to providing and maintaining suitable premises, ensuring the safety of all equipment supplied by the Company, and providing all reasonable safeguards and precautions against accidents. OA North will also take all reasonable steps to ensure the health and safety of all persons not in their employment, such as volunteers, students, visitors, and members of the public (this includes trespassers). OA North will ensure that no one suffers injury because of dangers arising from the state of the premises, or things done, or omitted to be done, on the premises.
- 3.2.3 OA North is fully familiar with and will comply with all current and relevant legislation, including, but not limited to:

- The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974);
 - Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999);
 - Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended in 2002);
 - The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (2007);
 - The Control of Asbestos Regulations (2006);
 - The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1992);
 - Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1996);
 - The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (2002);
 - The Work at Height Regulations (2005);
 - The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (2002);
 - The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (1981);
 - The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (2005);
 - The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (1995),
 - The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (1998);
 - Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (1998).
- 3.2.4 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.
- 3.2.5 Normal OA North working hours are between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday, though adjustments to hours may be made to maximise daylight working time in winter and to meet travel requirements. It is not normal practice for OA North staff to be asked to work weekends or bank holidays and should the Client require such time to be worked during the course of a project a contract variation to cover additional costs will be necessary.

3.3 OTHER MATTERS

- 3.3.1 Access to the site will be arranged via the Client/main contractor.
- 3.3.2 The trenches will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological works.
- 3.3.3 The Client/main contractor is asked to provide OA North with information relating to the position of live services on the site. OA North will use a cable detecting tool in advance of any machine excavation.

3.4 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION

- 3.4.1 **Archive:** the results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IfA in that organisation's code of conduct. As part of the archiving process, the on-line OASIS (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed.
- 3.4.2 The paper and finds archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site will be deposited with the nearest museum which meets Museums' and Galleries' Commission criteria for the long term storage of archaeological material (MGC 1992). This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on CD (as appropriate). The archive will be deposited with the museum within six months of the completion of the fieldwork. Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to the receiving museum.
- 3.4.3 **Report:** four copies of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. A digital copy will be sent to the Local Planning Authority, the Planning Officer (Archaeology) for Lancashire County Archaeology Service, and the Lancashire Historic Environment Record. The final report will include a copy of this written scheme of investigation, and indications of any agreed departure from that scheme. It will include an historical and archaeological background to the study area, an outline methodology of the investigation, and present, summarise, assess, and interpret the results of the programme of archaeological works detailed above. It will also include an assessment of the finds, which will be accompanied by relevant proposals for detailed finds analysis and conservation with costs. In addition, recommendations for any further mitigation works and details of the final deposition of the project archive will also be made.
- 3.4.4 A summary of the results produced from the archaeological investigation will be published in the CBA North West magazine, although a more detailed article will be provided should the results be of sufficient merit.
- 3.4.5 **Confidentiality:** the final report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 A four-day period should be allowed to excavate, record and backfill the evaluation trenches.
- 4.2 A report will be submitted within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

5. STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The project will be under the overall charge of **Ian Miller BA FSA** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. His role will be to ensure that the project design is implemented within the framework of the Project Objectives. He will be responsible for all aspects of staff and resource logistics, ensuring the smooth running of the project programme. He will liaise with the Client and the Planning Officer (Archaeology) for Lancashire County Archaeology Service with regard to progress, and will maintain relationships with other contractors.
- 5.2 The evaluation is likely to be undertaken by **Jeremy Bradley BA** (OA North Project Officer). Jeremy is an highly experienced field archaeologist. It is not possible to provide details of specific technicians that will be involved with the fieldwork at this stage, but all shall be suitably qualified archaeologists with proven relevant experience. It is anticipated that up to three technicians will be required during the course of the fieldwork.
- 5.3 Assessment of any finds recovered from the evaluation will be undertaken by OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA** (OA North Finds Manager). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England, and is a recognised expert in the analysis of post-medieval artefacts.

6. MONITORING

- 6.1 Monitoring meetings will be established with the Client and the archaeological curator at the outset of the project. Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the Director of Heritage Services for WSP Environment and the Planning Officer (Archaeology) for Lancashire County Archaeology Service, or his representative, who will be afforded access to the site at all times.

APPENDIX 2: TABLE OF CONTEXTS

Context No	Trench No	Description	Depth
1001	1	Topsoil- Dark brown, friable, sandy-silt.	0.00 – 0.30m
1002	1	Natural- Red and orange-yellow, firm, clay to orange-yellow, compact, sand.	0.60m +
1003	1	Fill of Pit 1004	-
1004	1	Cut of Pit	-
1005	1	Subsoil- Mid brown, friable, sandy silt.	0.30 – 0.60m
2001	2	Topsoil- Dark brown, friable, sandy-silt	0.00 – 0.30m
2002	2	Subsoil- Mid to light brown, friable, sandy silt	0.30 – 0.50m
2003	2	Natural- Red and orange yellow, firm, clay to sand	0.50m +
2004	2	Fill of Ditch 2005	-
2005	2	Cut of Ditch	-
2006	2	Fill of Post-hole 2007	-
2007	2	Cut of Post-hole	-

ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Location plan of the evaluation trenches
- Figure 3: Plan of trench 1, and plan and cross-section of **1004**
- Figure 4: Plan of trench 2, and plan and cross-sections of features **2005** and **2007**

PLATES

- Plate 1: Indicative position of the evaluation trenches superimposed on a recent aerial view across the study area
- Plate 2: Indicative position of the evaluation trenches superimposed on the OS map of 1848
- Plate 3: General shot of Trench 1 looking east
- Plate 4: West-facing section of posthole **1004**
- Plate 5: General shot of trench 2 looking west
- Plate 6: South-west-facing section of ditch **2005**
- Plate 7: East-facing section of posthole **2007**

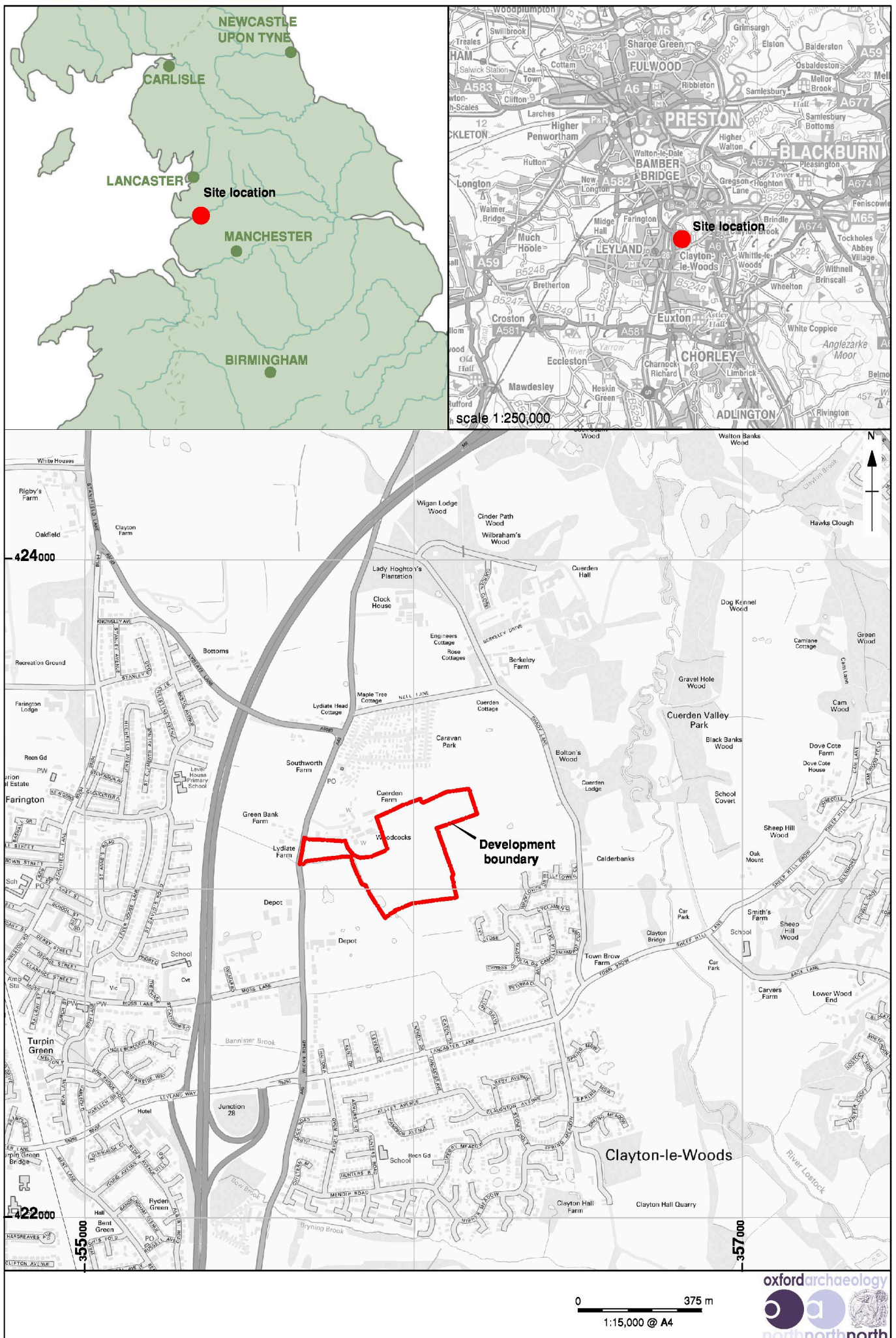


Figure 1: Site location

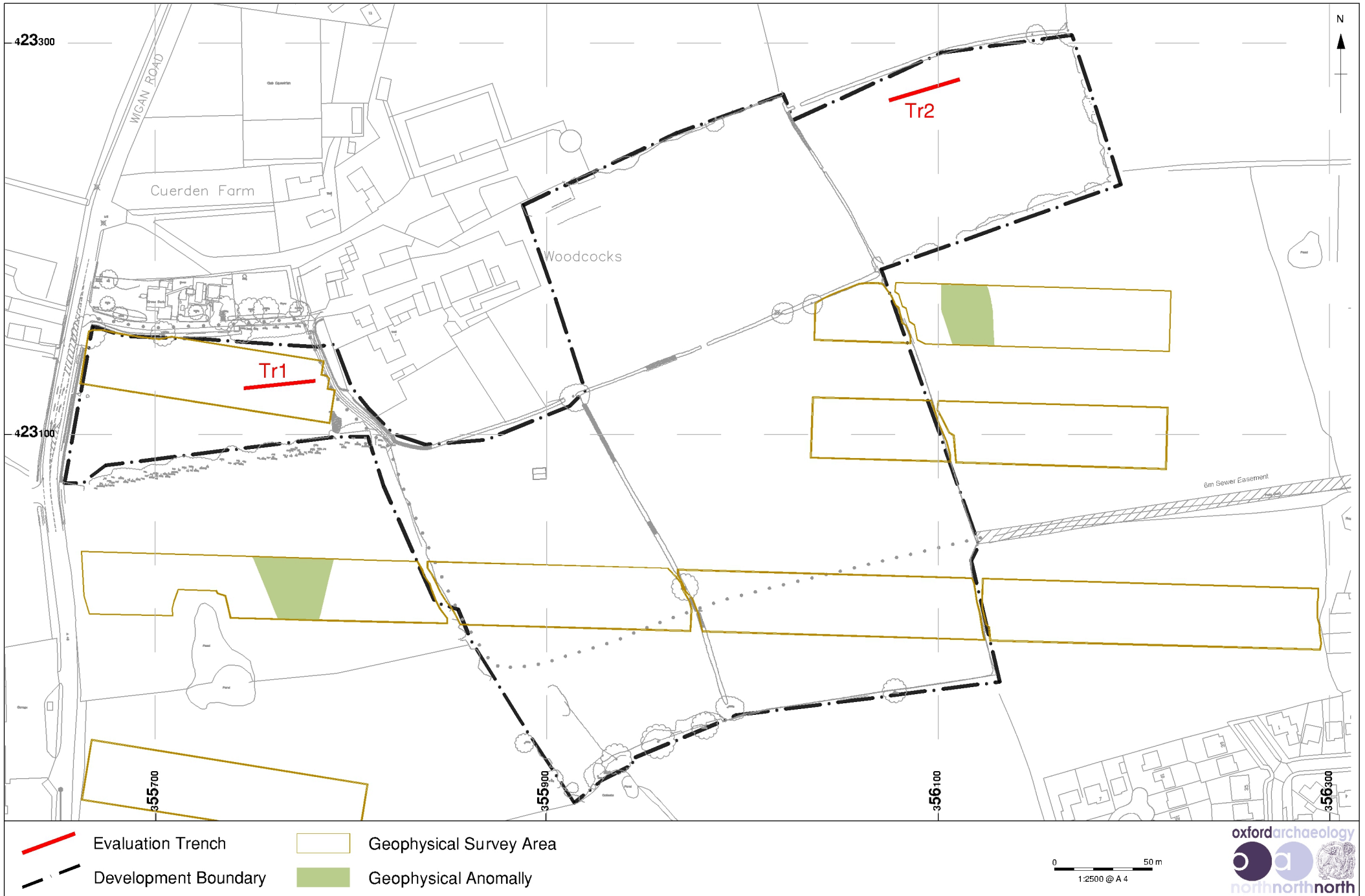


Figure 2: Location plan of evaluation trenches

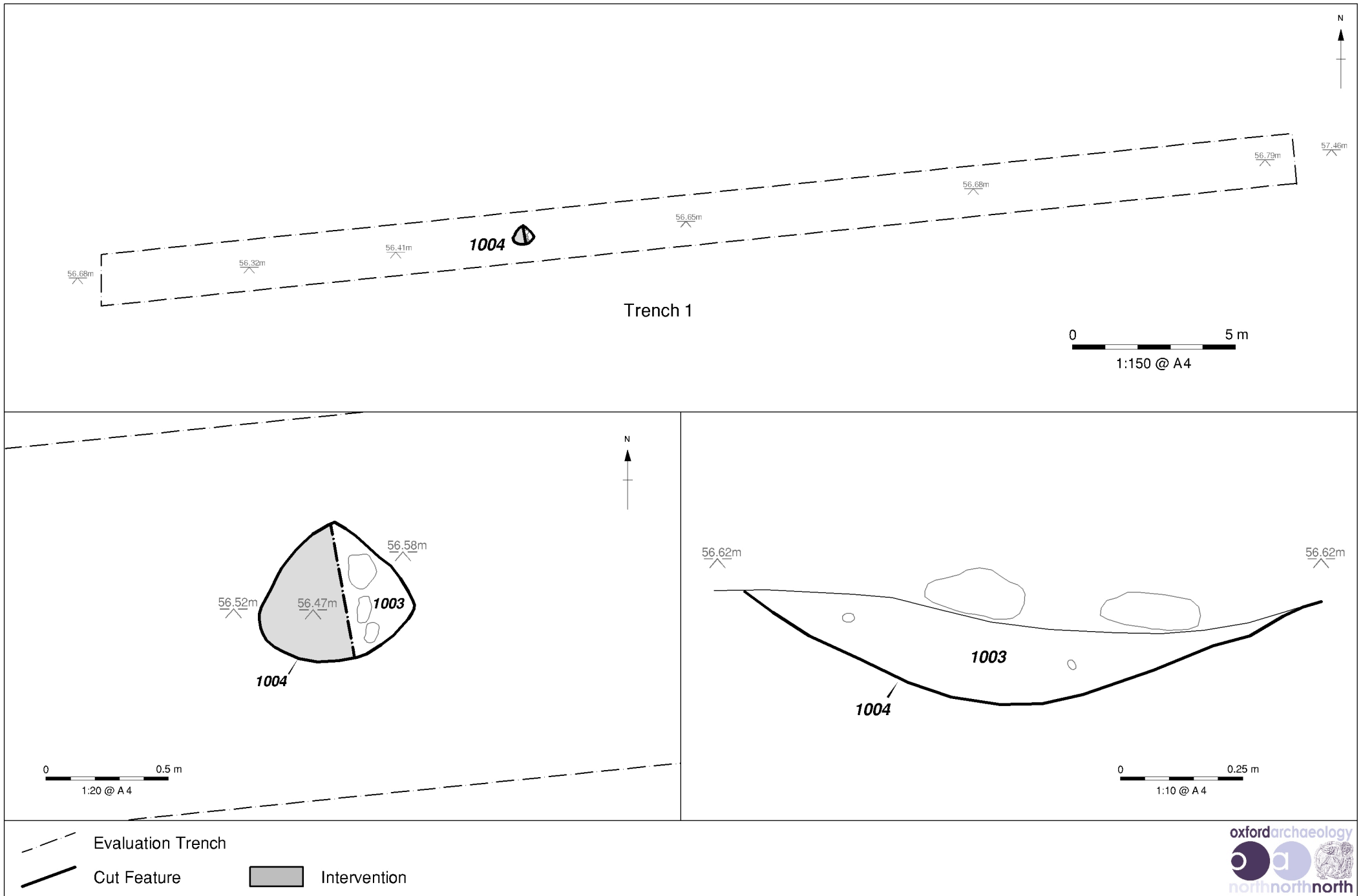


Figure 3: Plan of trench 1, and plan and cross-section of **1004**

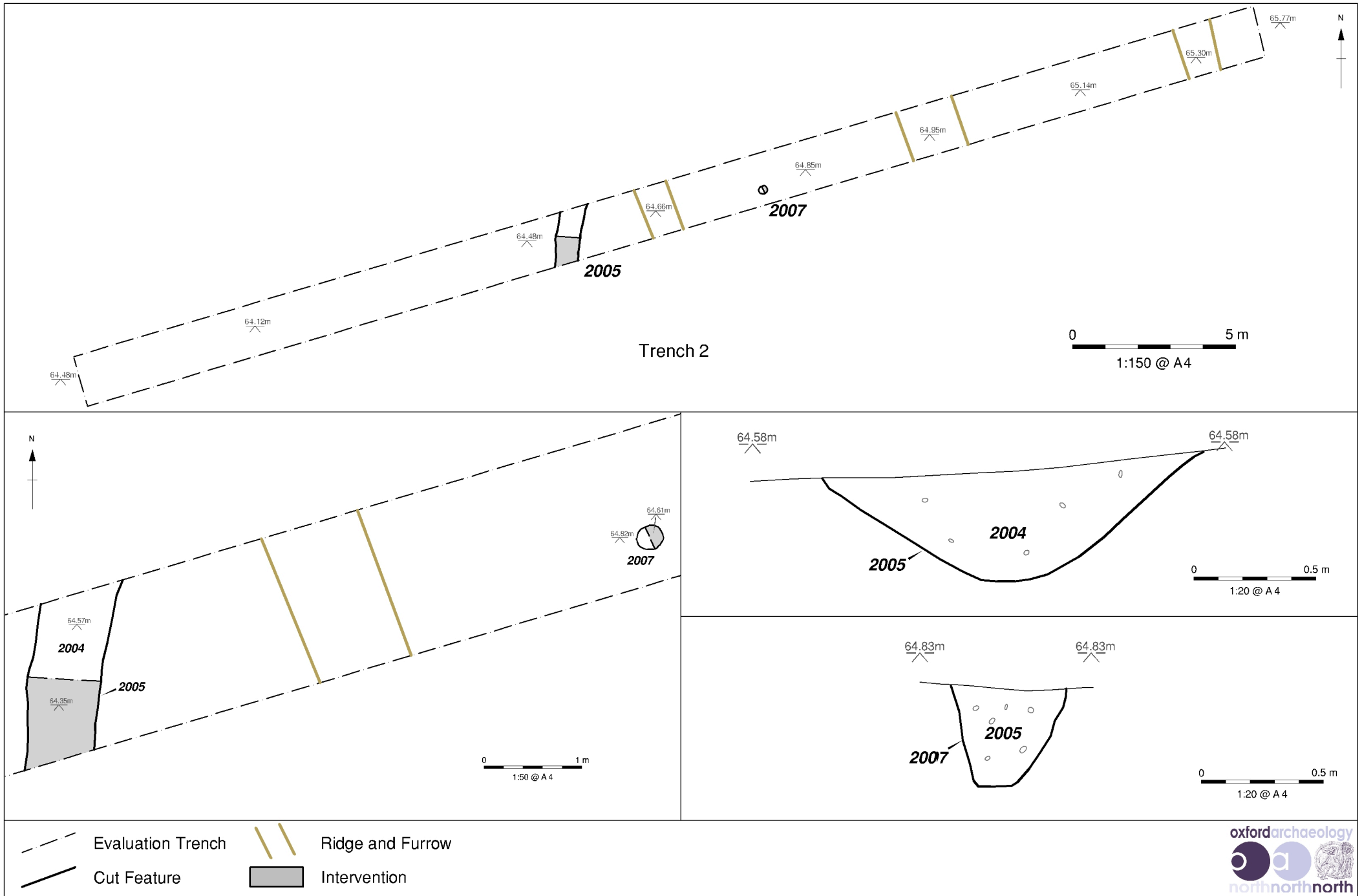


Figure 4: Plan of trench 2, and plan and cross-section of features **2005** and **2007**