



**30 EGERTON ROAD,
MONTON,
ECCLES,
Greater Manchester**

**Archaeological
Watching Brief**



Oxford Archaeology North

March 2010

**Building Health and Safety
Ltd**

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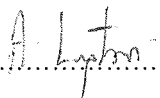
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SUMMARY

In October 2009, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) carried out an archaeological watching brief on behalf of Building Health and Safety Ltd, during foundation trenching for two new build properties at 30 Egerton Road, Monton, Eccles, Greater Manchester (NGR SJ 76806 99953) on the site of a previous one-storey dwelling and its surrounding land. In order to secure archaeological interests, an archaeological condition was attached to the planning consent for the development intended to assess the nature, extent, and significance of buried archaeological remains that may be impacted by the development work. To this effect, a formal brief was prepared by the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester outlining the requirements of the work. A project design was prepared by OA North in accordance with the brief and approved by the Assistant County Archaeologist prior to the commencement of the work.

The proposed development site lay directly on the projected alignment of the Roman road from Manchester to Wigan. Extrapolations from earthworks discovered in the locality suggest that the road may run through the centre of this site. Whilst there was no surface evidence for a Roman road across the site, there was potential for archaeological remains below ground, possibly the truncated remains of the ditches that often flanked Roman roads.

The single-storey dwelling was still upstanding on the site at the commencement of the site work, and was demolished prior to any intrusive groundworks. The footprint of the building and a number of ephemeral garden features were also still visible. No archaeological deposits or features were exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches, but post-medieval ceramic fragments were recovered from the subsoil layer. Although a good geological stratigraphy was observed on the site, no features other than the foundation trenches of the previous dwelling were present.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Siobhan Molloy, of Building Health and Safety Ltd, for commissioning the archaeological watching brief, and to Andy Myers, the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester.

The watching brief was carried out by Jeremy Bradley and Liz Murray. The report was undertaken by Liz Murray and the drawings by Alix Sperr. The report was edited by Emily Mercer, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In October 2009, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by Building Health and Safety Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during foundation trenching for two new build properties at 30 Egerton Road, Monton, Eccles, Greater Manchester. Planning permission was granted with a condition to undertake groundworks on the site with a permanent archaeological presence (planning ref: 08/56742/FUL). This condition was implemented by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on advice from the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester due to a high archaeological potential of the site, which is believed to be positioned directly over the Manchester to Wigan Roman Road (HER no 12589.1.0).
- 1.1.2 Extrapolations made from previous archaeological work and known locations of the road suggested that it was likely to run through, or close to, the development site at the northern end of Egerton Road. Therefore, the potential for intrusive groundworks to destroy any potential archaeological deposits or features was relatively high. Below ground remains associated with the road may have survived in the form of flanking ditches, with significant archaeological evidence within their sedimentary fills. Any intrusive groundworks could adversely affect or destroy such evidence. For this reason, the watching brief was maintained during excavation to enable any archaeological remains disturbed to be recorded, in mitigation of the groundworks. This report summarises the findings of the work undertaken in October 2009.

1.2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The site at 30 Egerton Road (NGR SJ 76806 99953; Fig 1) is located within a larger area of mixed period residential properties and now resides within a residential area of Monton, to the north-east of Eccles, on the west side of Manchester, with a large open area, in the form of Worsley Golf Club, to the west. The site is bordered immediately to the south by a row of residential properties that make up the east side of Egerton Road, and to the east it is bound by an access road to properties to the south and east of the site.
- 1.2.2 Egerton Road is situated close to a geological interface, with Sherwood Sandstone found to the south and Manchester Marls located to the north (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1978). These are both overlain by superficial deposits, which have been classified by Ordnance Survey (OS) geological mapping as Devensian Till. These boulder clay deposits are generally composed of clay, and are often intermixed with sand (OS 1983).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.1.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the methodology outlined in the project design (*Appendix 2*) that had been prepared in accordance with the project brief (*Appendix 1*). A programme of observation was intended to record the location of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits exposed during the course of the machine-excavated foundation trenches. The subsoil horizons exposed during this programme of works were cleaned by hand, then examined, and recorded stratigraphically using a system adopted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage. In addition, a full photographic archive was maintained throughout the period of work. All observations were recorded on OA North *pro-forma* sheets.
- 2.1.2 The work was often delayed by the logistical constraints of using relatively small machines to excavate the trenches and the issue of spoil removal off site, with extensive periods of time being lost whilst skips full of spoil were being loaded and unloaded.

2.2 ARCHIVE

- 2.2.1 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 (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, and a synthesis will be submitted to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (the index to the archive and a copy of the report).
- 2.2.2 OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) with the County Record Office in Manchester, and a full copy of the record archive (microform or microfiche) together with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) with The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 During the Roman period, a road connected the Roman fort at Manchester (Mamucium) with the fort at Wigan (Coccium). It is listed in the Antonine Itinerary X and is designated as Road 702 by Margary (1967, 369). Its course was first described by the Rev J Whitaker (1771, 107-110) in the late eighteenth century, albeit somewhat speculatively running from the fort at Manchester, across the River Irwell, to Hope Hall, Pendleton. Whitaker describes a series of buried remains and earthworks that appear to relate to the course of the road, the most prominent of which was an earthwork, found to the east of Egerton Road, which was later described by Sibson (1836, 583) and also surveyed by the Ordnance Survey in 1848, as part of the six inch to one mile first edition mapping of this area (Fig 2). To the west of this earthwork, Whitaker (1771, 109) comments that the road then ‘points through Chorlton (sic) Fold’. It was also reported that in 1844 Sibson discovered gravel forming part of this road at Calf Hey, near Egerton Road (Watkin 1883, 40).
- 3.1.2 In recent years numerous archaeological attempts have been made to determine the precise course and form of this road in the vicinity of Egerton Road. Presently, the course has been projected in a linear direction from the known or suspected remains to run directly through the site (Fig 2). Immediately to the north of the site at Chorlton Fold, investigations have included archaeological evaluation and open-area excavation undertaken in 1992 and 2006, although in both instances no conclusive evidence for a Roman road was found (WAS 2006; Bell 2007). However, more conclusive evidence for the road was found to the east of Chorlton Fold, where a section of the road was excavated at Ellesmere Park by the Ellesmere Park Residents’ Association (Rabbitt 2005). Here the line of the road was thought to have been found during a geophysical survey within the Three Sisters Field. Archaeological trenches were excavated across the line of the road seen in the survey results, which revealed that it was *c* 7m wide and composed of a compacted metalled surface. Either side of the road, roadside ditches were also discovered, and one of these was found to have been re-cut following its initial filling. More recently, work was undertaken by OA North (2008) on the site of Chorlton Fold Farm to the east of the site (Fig 1), which was also located on the projected route of the Roman road. This, however, revealed no traces of the road or its associated ditches. In addition, the course of the road has been believed to have been discovered by a geophysical survey undertaken by the Ellesmere Park Residents’ Association close to Wentworth Community High School (cf. Gregory 2009) which is to the south-east of this site.
- 3.1.3 Apart from the main Manchester to Wigan Roman road, the nineteenth-century antiquarian Watkin (1883, 49) also speculated that a minor Roman road was located in the vicinity of Chorlton Fold. This, he argued, ran in a north/south direction from Barton, crossed the main Manchester to Wigan road in the vicinity of Egerton Road, and joined with another minor Roman road, which branched off from the main Manchester to Wigan Road at Hope Hall.

4. RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The archaeological watching brief monitored the excavation of machine-dug foundation trenches on land at the northern end of Egerton Road. The trenches were excavated using a mini-mechanical excavator and a mini-dumper to remove all waste materials (Plates 1 and 2).
- 4.1.2 Each house plot measured approximately 12.5m x 10m (Fig 3). The majority of the trenches were excavated to 0.8m in width, although they were occasionally narrower and up to 1.2m in depth. Plot 2 was excavated prior to Plot 1 (Plate 2). All the trenches were excavated into natural geological deposits, comprising of a yellowish-brown clay, **03**.

4.2 PLOT 1

- 4.2.1 A large percentage of the foundation trenches of Plot 1 had to be excavated through the still present footings of the previous dwelling and, therefore, had there been any surviving archaeological remains, it is likely that this previous building work may have destroyed any potential features. A large area, approximately 80%, of the topsoil, **01**, covering Plot 1 had been much disturbed by the movement of the machinery employed in excavating Plot 2 previously. However, it was evident from the trench sections that the topsoil, **01**, was directly overlying the subsoil, **02**, which increased in depth toward the east of the site, from a thickness of 0.3m up to 0.5m. Again, directly underlying this, was natural clay deposit, **03**. There were no features of archaeological value, or finds, observed during the digging of the trenches for Plot 1.
- 4.2.2 It seems likely that the majority of the site was landscaped at the point of construction of the dwelling that previously occupied the site. The comparative depth of the subsoil layer, **02**, rose greatly toward the area upon which the dwelling had been constructed suggesting that this layer had already been truncated outside of its footprint.

4.3 PLOT 2

- 4.3.1 Plot 2 was located at the south-west corner of the site with the southernmost trenches, being parallel to the site boundary (formed by the garden fence of the property to the south, Plates 2 and 3). The trenches were excavated through the topsoil, **01**, up to a depth of 0.1m, and then through the underlying subsoil, **02**, 0.3m in depth, into the underlying natural clay, **03** (Plate 4). No features or finds of any archaeological value were observed.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 CONCLUSION

- 5.1.1 The excavation of the foundation trenches for the two housing plots did not expose any deposits of archaeological interest, there were no finds retained as all finds discovered within the subsoil were modern and definitely post-medieval in date.
- 5.1.2 Any further intrusive works within the site in the future are unlikely to impact upon any archaeological deposits as the potential for such remains would seem to be minimal. No further work of an archaeological nature is deemed to be necessary within the boundary of the existing site.

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ILLUSTRATIONS

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Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Projected line of the Roman Road

Figure 3: Site Plan

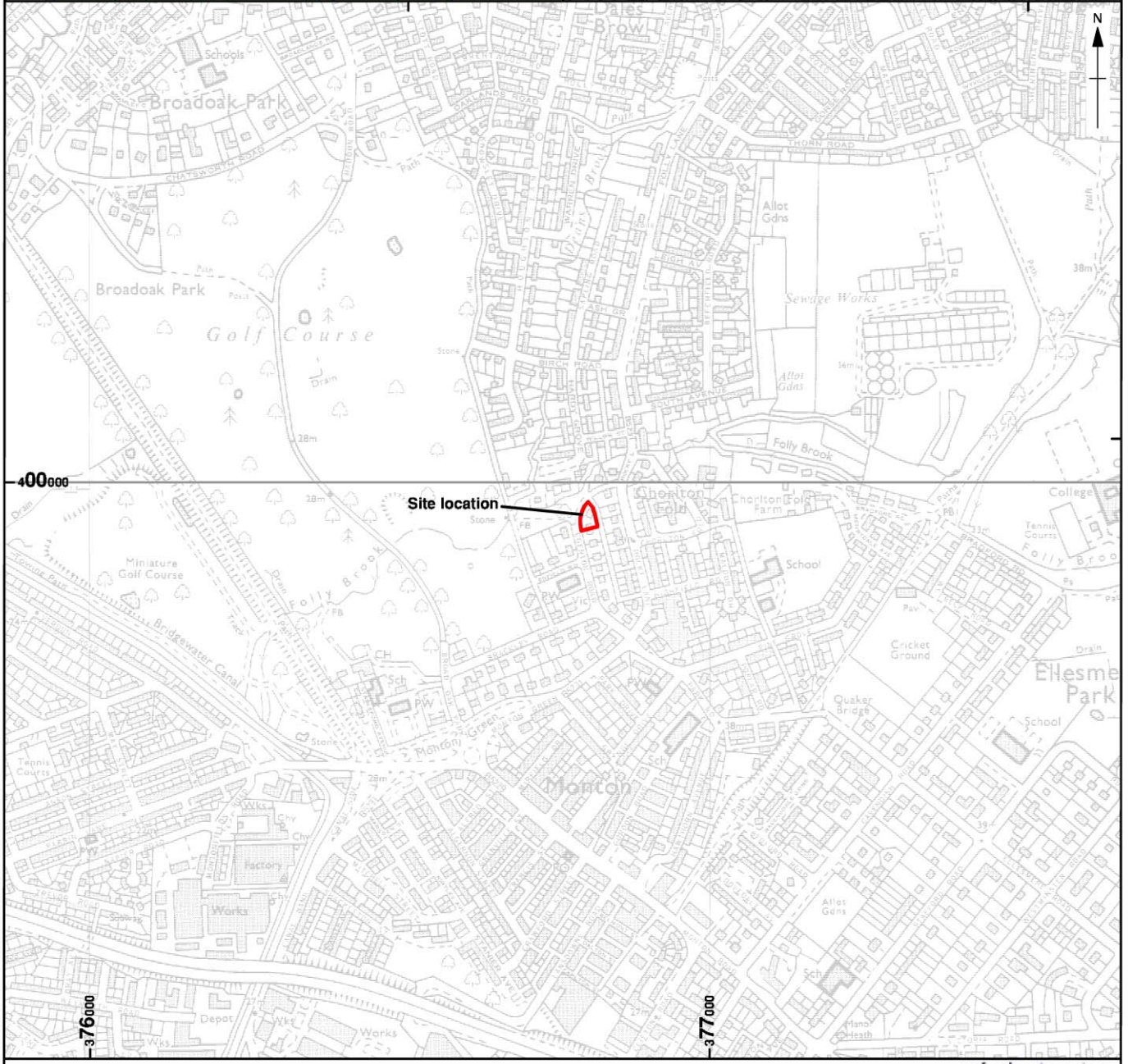
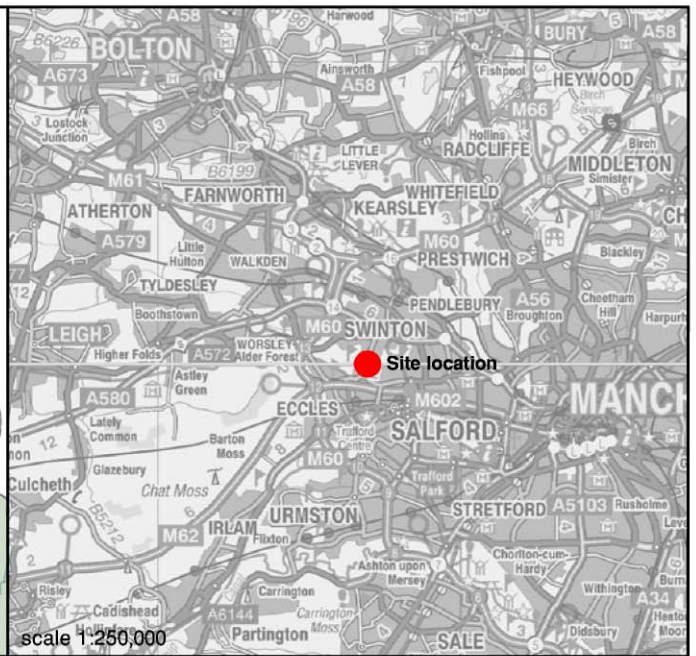
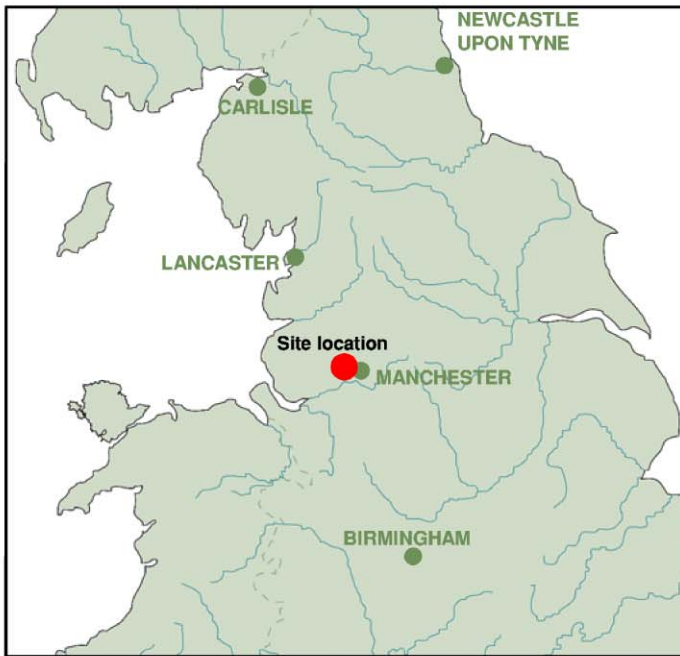
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Plate 1: General south-facing view across the site

Plate 2: View of Plot 2, south-west-facing

Plate 3: Southern east/west aligned footing trench for Plot 2, west-facing

Plate 4: North/south aligned footing trench on eastern side of Plot 2, west-facing, showing typical stratigraphy



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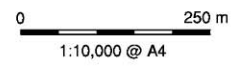


Figure 1: Site Location

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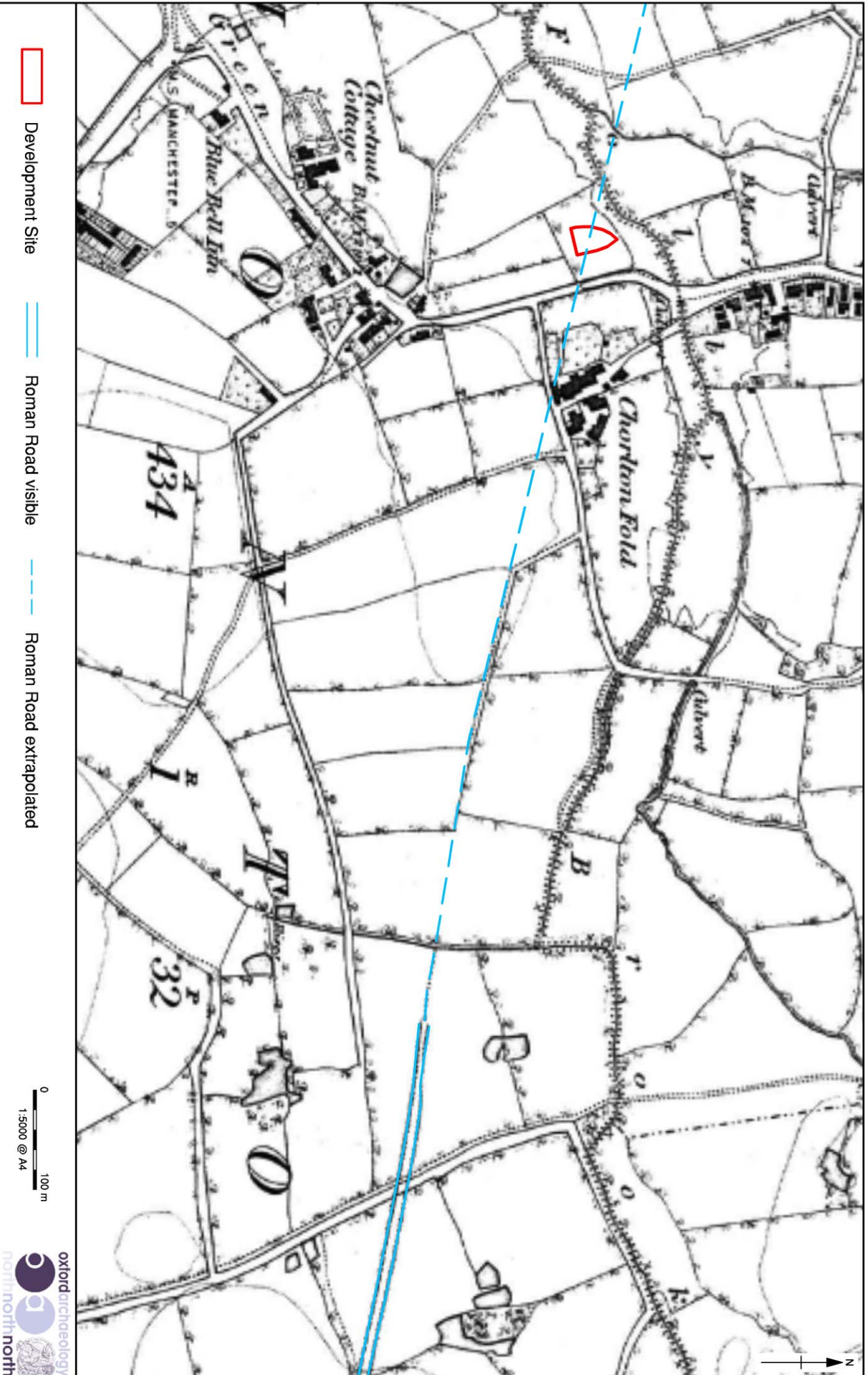


Fig 2: Projected line of the Roman Road through the site based on the Ordnance Survey 6", First Edition, 1848

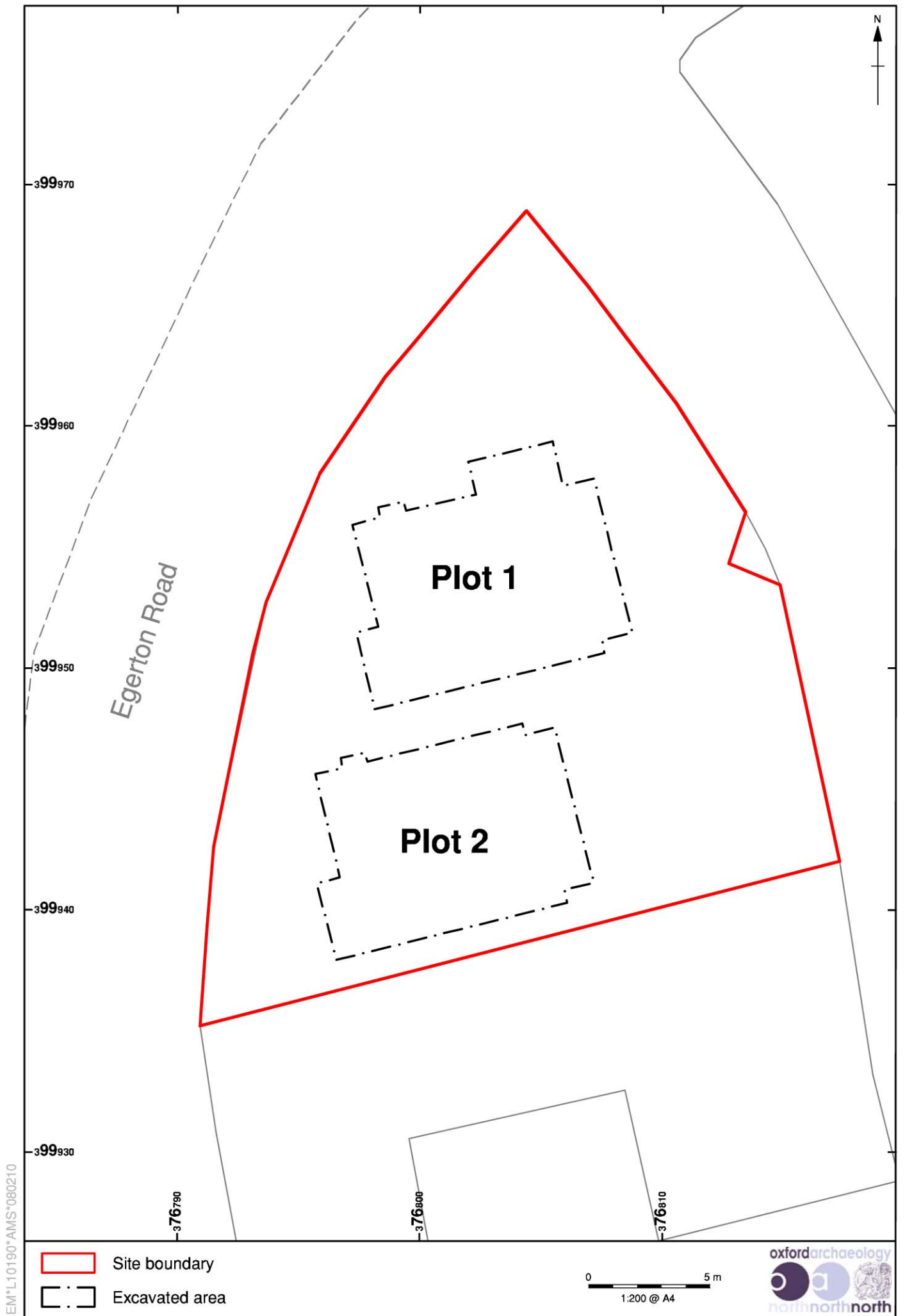


Figure 3: Site plan



Plate 1: General south-facing view across the site



Plate 2: View of Plot 2, south-west-facing



Plate 3: Southern east/west aligned footing trench for Plot 2, west-facing

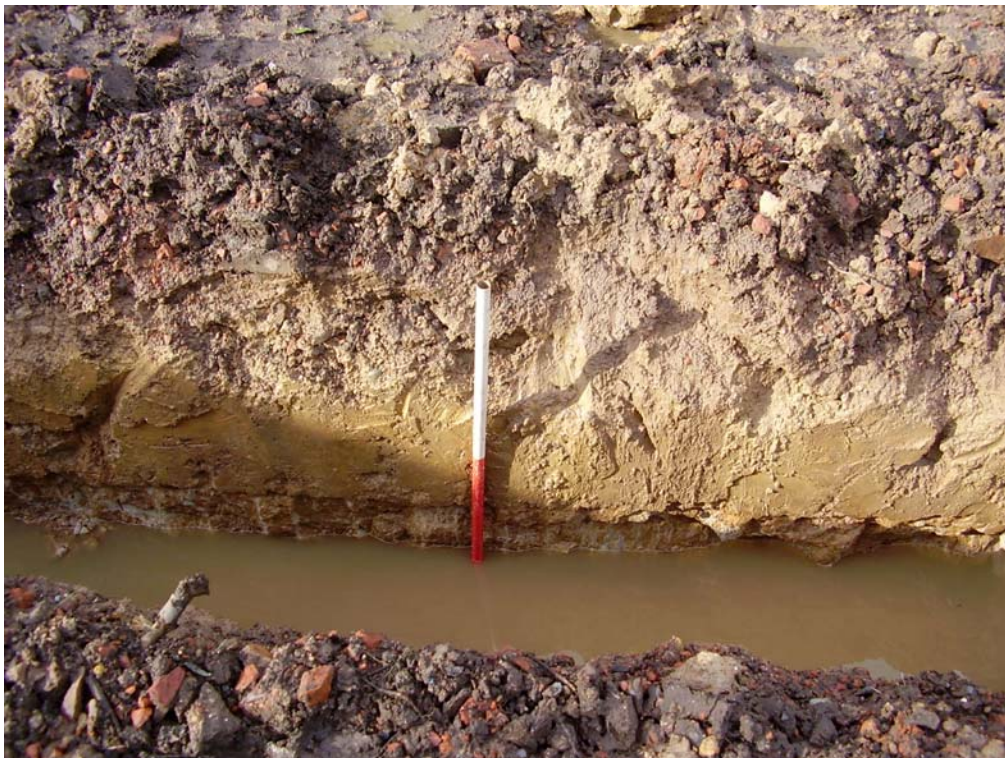


Plate 4: North/south aligned footing trench on eastern side of Plot 2, west-facing, showing typical stratigraphy

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

LOCATION: 30 Egerton Road, Monton, Eccles

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Proposed demolition of existing detached dwelling and replacement with 2 no. 4-bed detached houses in a traditional two storey development, with loft floor as detailed in drawing number 8760/11C; plus associated external works

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: Salford MBC

APPLICATION REFERENCE: 08/56742/FUL

NGR: SJ 76806 99953

ISSUED BY: A. M. MYERS (Assistant County Archaeologist)

ISSUED TO: Emily Mercer (OA North)

DATE: 1st October 2009

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This document is a brief for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken in connection with the groundworks for the proposed development.

1.2 From this brief a written scheme of investigation or specification for the watching brief will be prepared by the appointed archaeological contractor.

1.3 The scheme of investigation will be submitted for approval in advance of the commencement of work.



Fig.1: Site Location (brown boundary)

2.0 Background

2.1 No desk-based assessment is available for this site.

2.3 The proposed development site lies directly on the alignment of the Roman road that ran from Manchester to Wigan and which is entered on the HER (12589.1.0). A linear earthwork is depicted on the Lancashire 6th 1st edition mapping running across fields to the east of the site. Extrapolating westwards from the earthwork, which can be traced to within 350m of the development site, the same

alignment follows a field boundary for some distance. Beyond this the same alignment would result in the road running more-or-less through the centre of the site.

2.4 Although surface evidence for such a feature may have been lost it is possible that evidence will be preserved below ground. Roman roads were often flanked by ditches that can retain important archaeological evidence within their sedimentary fills. It is highly probable that any such evidence will be disturbed and/ or destroyed by the proposed development.

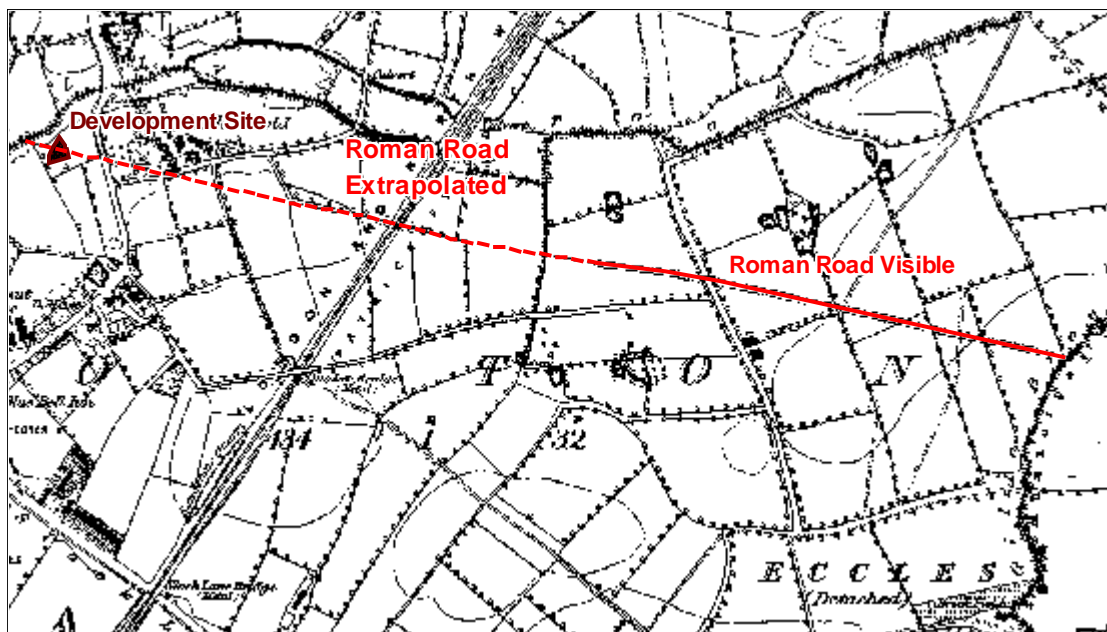


Fig. 2: Lancashire 6" 1st Edition 1848

3.0 Watching Brief: Approach

3.1 The watching brief will be maintained by a qualified and experienced archaeological contractor. **They should be present during all excavation and ground disturbance connected with the development.** To ensure the archaeological contractor is present when required and for the avoidance of unnecessary costs to the developer, it is essential the archaeological contractor, the developer and the building contractor establish early contact with each other and are clear on the dates when the watching brief should be undertaken.

3.2 The archaeological contractor must have the authority to periodically stop development excavations in order to clean and investigate the exposed surfaces/ sections. Should any historic artefacts, features or layers be identified the archaeological contractor must be afforded sufficient time to clean, excavate, sample and record the archaeology.

3.3 The watching brief will not result in excavations beyond the lines of the development-related excavation unless this is done by prior agreement with the developer and the Assistant County Archaeologist. However, it is accepted that in cleaning up features a modest cutting-back and straightening of sections may prove necessary.

3.4 All investigation and recording of archaeological features and deposits should be carried out to acceptable archaeological standards. The contractor will be expected to abide by the Code of Practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

4.0 Monitoring

4.1 During the course of the watching brief it is anticipated the Assistant County Archaeologist may wish to undertake a monitoring visit.

4.2 The appointed archaeological contractor will need to provide at least one week's advanced warning of when the watching brief will commence. A contact name and mobile telephone number for staff on-site will be required.

4.3 In particular, should significant archaeological deposits be encountered they should immediately inform the Assistant County Archaeologist and arrange for a site visit.

5.0 Finds

5.1 Artefact collection policy should be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. Discarded artefactual materials should be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field.

5.2 Analysis of finds will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists.

5.3 Retained finds should be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate, for long term storage.

6.0 Human Remains

6.1 In the unlikely event of human remains being encountered site works will cease and the Coroner's office notified. Such remains will remain *in situ* until authorised to continue by the Coroner and a licence obtained from the Home Office.

6.2 The relevant coroner's contact details are:

Mrs Jennifer Leeming
WEST MANCHESTER CORONER'S DISTRICT
Paderborn House, Civic Centre
Howell Croft North
Bolton
BL1 1JW
Telephone: 01204 338799

6.3 Analysis of any human remains will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists.

7.0 Watching Brief: Outputs

7.1 The preparation of the watching brief report should follow the guidelines published by the Institute of Field Archaeology.

7.2 Upon completion of the watching brief a full report will be produced and copies submitted to the Local Planning Authority, the Assistant County Archaeologist and the HER.

7.3 The report should include as a minimum,

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the watching brief
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusion, including a confidence statement
- Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices, including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data.
- Index to archive and details of archive location
- References
- A copy of this brief

7.4 Arrangements should be made from the outset of the project for the archive, consisting of original drawings, drawn plans, photographs, notes, copies of the final watching brief report along with the finds and an index to the archive to be deposited in the relevant museum.

8.0 Health and Safety

8.1 The archaeologists operating on site will naturally operate with due regard to health and safety regulations.

8.2 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms..All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Building Health and Safety Ltd (hereafter the ‘client’) has commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake a programme of archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with a proposed residential development. The site at 30 Egerton Road, Monton, Eccles (NGR SJ 76806 99953) was previously occupied by a detached dwelling, which has recently been demolished, and is being replaced by two four-bedroom detached houses. Planning permission was granted with a condition to undertake groundworks on the site with a permanent archaeological presence (Planning ref: 08/56742/FUL). This condition was implemented by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on advice from GMAU due to the high archaeological potential of the site, which is believed to lie directly over the Manchester to Wigan Roman Road (HER no 12589.1.0). It is possible that below ground remains associated with the road survive in the form of flanking ditches that may contain significant archaeological evidence within their sedimentary fills. Any intrusive groundworks may adversely disturb or destroy such evidence. Therefore, the watching brief will be maintained during excavation to enable any archaeological remains disturbed to be recorded, in mitigation of the groundworks.

1.1.2 The following proposals have been prepared in accordance with a project brief prepared by the Assistant County Archaeologist (GMAU).

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.2.1 OA North has considerable experience of fieldwork and post-excavation, having undertaken a great number of small and large-scale projects during the past 30 years. Such projects have taken place to fulfil the requirements of the clients to rigorous timetables. OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is **an Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) registered organisation, registration number 17**, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IfA Code of Conduct.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to identify any archaeological deposits or features that may be present during the groundworks. It will be undertaken in order to mitigate the impact by means of preservation by record of any such archaeological features or deposits. The work will be carried out in line with current IfA guidelines and in line with the IfA Code of Conduct (1994, rev 2008).

2.2 **Archaeological Watching Brief:** to maintain a permanent archaeological presence during groundworks associated with the construction of new houses. The purpose is to identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains that may be encountered. Where such remains cannot be adequately recorded under watching brief conditions it will be necessary to undertake consultation with all interested parties to determine and implement the appropriate mitigation.

2.3 **Report:** the results of the fieldwork and any post-excavation assessment will culminate in a final report to be submitted within up to eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork (subject to any specialist reports outstanding).

2.4 **Archive:** a site archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (MAP 2 (1991)). The information will be finally disseminated through the deposition of the archive at a local museum, and report to the Historic Environment Record (HER) Office, LPA and Assistant County Archaeologist.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 HEALTH AND SAFETY

3.1.1 **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). OA North will liaise with the client to ensure all health and safety regulations are met. The outline risk assessment to accompany these proposals will be updated in advance of any on-site works, with continuous monitoring during the fieldwork.

3.1.2 **Contamination:** any contamination issues must also be made known to OA North in order that adequate PPE can be supplied prior to commencement. Should any presently unknown contamination be discovered during excavation, it may be necessary to halt the works and reassess the risk assessment. Any specialist safety requirements may be costed as a variation.

3.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

3.2.1 **Introduction:** a programme of field observation will accurately record the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits during the ground disturbance for the construction of the new houses. These will be carried out under constant archaeological observation unless, with consultation and agreement of the Assistant County Archaeologist (GMAU), the client and other interested parties, it is identified that a more targeted and timetabled archaeological investigation would be more appropriate.

3.2.2 **Methodology:** the work will comprise archaeological observation during the excavation, to include the systematic examination of any subsoil horizons exposed during the course of the groundworks, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, and any artefacts, identified.

3.2.3 Discovery of archaeological remains will require stoppage of the excavation. Areas of potential archaeological remains will require fencing-off from any construction works, preferably with netlon-type fencing, to allow OA North archaeologists sufficient time to undertake adequate recording under safe conditions. This will be carried out as efficiently as possible in order to minimise disruption. Depending on the deposits revealed, it is anticipated that the average time for the suspension of works will be approximately 2-4 hours.

3.2.4 Clearance will be given for construction to proceed once the archaeologist is satisfied that either no remains are present, or that they have been adequately recorded, or that the level of impact will not disturb any deeper remains that can be preserved *in situ*.

3.2.5 **Complex or extensive remains:** should the remains be too complex or extensive to be investigated and recorded under watching brief conditions then the area will be fenced-off and the client will be immediately contacted in order to determine the requirements for further investigation. All further construction works within the marked area will cease until clearance is given to proceed. All further works would be subject to a variation to this project design.

3.2.6 **Investigation and recording:** putative archaeological features and/or deposits identified by the machining process, together with the immediate vicinity of any such features, will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and where appropriate sections will be studied and drawn. Any such features will be sample excavated (i.e. 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).

3.2.7 During this phase of work, recording will comprise a full description and preliminary classification of features or materials revealed, and their accurate location (either on plan and/or section, and as grid co-ordinates where appropriate). Features will be planned accurately at appropriate scales and annotated on to a large-scale digital plan provided by the client. A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously.

- 3.2.8 Levels will be recorded and reduced to their OD heights, with all benchmark and TBMS to be shown. The location of all features excavated will be recorded by Total Station with appropriate spot heights and tied into the OS grid. Altitude information will be established with respect to OS Datum. The location of the remains within the areas of construction will be based on site plans provided by the client containing OS information.
- 3.2.9 A plan will be produced of the areas of groundworks showing the location and extent of the ground disturbance and one or more dimensioned sections will be produced.

3.3 GENERAL PROCEDURES

- 3.3.1 **Environmental Sampling:** 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). These will be returned to OA North's offices for processing. Deposits of particular interest may incur additional sampling, on advice from the appropriate in-house specialist. The location of all samples will be recorded on drawings and sections with heights OD etc.
- 3.3.2 Between 50%-100% of bulk samples shall be selected for processing, based on the advice from OA North's in-house environmental manager. However, the basis of the advice will be agreed with the client prior to processing commences, which will be included in the final report. An assessment of the environmental potential 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.
- 3.3.3 In order to achieve the aims of the programme of work, it may be required to obtain dating evidence through radiocarbon dating, dendrochronological or other such techniques. This would only be undertaken in consultation with the client.
- 3.3.4 **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. The client, Assistant County Archaeologist, 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.
- 3.3.5 **Finds:** all finds recovered during the evaluation investigation (metal detecting and trial trenching) 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.
- 3.3.6 Finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (current IfA guidelines) and subject to expert advice. OA has close contact with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, 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.
- 3.3.7 All material will be collected and identified by hand by stratigraphic unit during the evaluation trenching process. Objects deemed to be of potential significance to the understanding, interpretation and dating of individual features, or of the site as a whole, will be recorded as individual items, and their location plotted in 3-D..
- 3.3.8 All finds will be treated in accordance with OA standard practice, which is cognisant of IfA and UKIC Guidelines. In general this will mean that (where appropriate or safe to do so) finds are washed, dried,

marked, bagged and packed in stable conditions; no attempt at conservation will be made unless special circumstances require prompt action. In such case guidance will be sought from OA North's consultant conservator.

- 3.3.9 All waterlogged finds will be treated as appropriate. In the case of large deposits of waterlogged environmental material (eg unmodified wood), advice will be sought with the OA North consultant with regard to an appropriate sampling strategy.
- 3.3.10 Where possible, spot dates will be obtained on pottery and other finds recovered from the site. Artefacts will be examined and commented upon by OA North in-house specialists. Initial artefact dating shall be integrated into the site matrix.
- 3.3.11 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.

3.4 REPORT

3.4.1 **Final Report:** one bound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the client, together with a copy on CD, within eight weeks of completion of the completion of the survey fieldwork, unless an alternative deadline is agreed with the client beforehand. A copy will also be submitted to the Assistant Archaeologist (GMAU), the LPA, and HER for reference purposes. The report will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed above in order to come to as full an understanding as possible of the archaeology of the development area. The report will include;

- a site location plan related to the national grid
- a front cover to include the planning application number 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, including the sources consulted
- a summary of the historical background of the study area if available
- appropriate plans showing the location and position of features or sites located
- a statement, where appropriate, of the archaeological implications of the proposed development
- illustrative photographs as appropriate
- a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design, and the project brief from GMAU
- 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
- plans and sections showing the positions of deposits and finds
- an index to the project archive

3.4.2 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the Client, 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.

3.5 ARCHIVE

- 3.5.1 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 (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, Appendix 3, 2nd edition, 1991). The archive will contain site matrices, and summary reports of the artefact record, context records, and any other records or materials recovered.
- 3.5.2 This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North will deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media), and a full copy of the record archive (microform or microfiche), together with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) with an appropriate museum.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 **Archaeological Watching Brief:** the duration of the archaeological presence for the watching brief will be dictated by the client's schedule of works and is anticipated to commence on Monday 5th October, 2009.
- 4.2 **Report:** the client report will be completed within approximately eight weeks following completion of the fieldwork, subject to any outstanding specialist reports.
- 4.3 **Archive:** the archive will be deposited within six months.

5. STAFFING

- 5.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Emily Mercer** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 5.2 The fieldwork will be undertaken by Jeremy Bradley (OA North project officer) who is extremely experienced in this type of project, and who will also be responsible for liaison with the site contractors and the client, and other relevant interested parties with regards to on-site work and procedures.
- 5.3 The site teams will be supported by specialist staff based both on site and in the office in Lancaster. Finds management will be undertaken by **Christine Howard-Davis** who will also provide specialist input on certain finds categories. Environmental management will be undertaken by **Elizabeth Huckerby**, who will also provide specialist input on charred remains and pollen. Elizabeth will advise on site sampling procedures and co-ordinate the processing of samples and organise internal and external specialist input as required.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev 2008 *Code of Conduct*

Institute for Archaeologists, 1999, rev 2008 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers), 1997 *Health and Safety Manual*, Poole

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of archives for long-term storage*

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 1998 *First Aid for Finds* London

APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT LIST

CONTEXT NO.	INTERPRETATION	THICKNESS	DESCRIPTION
01	Topsoil	0.1m	Generally humic dark brown soil intermixed with some demolition debris from the previous dwelling
02	Subsoil	0.3-0.5m	Mid-yellow brown sandy-silt
03	Natural soils	0.6m +	Yellow-brown clay