Mill Street, Boothstown, Salford

Greater Manchester

Archaeological Evaluation

Oxford Archaeology North

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SUMMARY

In October 2012, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by CMW Properties to carry out a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of the proposed development of land to the rear of 253-7 Mosley Common Road in Boothstown, Salford (centred on NGR 372100, 400940). The development proposals allow for the erection of 15 dwelling houses, with associated fencing and landscaping, which will necessitate some earth-moving works.

The archaeological investigation was required as a condition attached by Salford City Council to the planning permission (11/59895/FUL), and comprised the excavation of five evaluation trenches. The principal aim of the evaluation trenching was to establish the presence or absence of any buried remains of archaeological interest, and assess the impact of the proposed development on the remains.

The archaeological interest in the site stemmed from previous discoveries in the area. In particular, a hoard of 540 Roman coins was discovered in 1947 at the Delph, which lies *c* 100m to the south-west of the development site. A second coin hoard was discovered in 1989 at Booths Bank, situated short distance to the east, whilst the projected course of the Roman road from Manchester to Wigan passes just to the north of Boothstown. In addition, the site is reputed to have been occupied formerly by a windmill, although this is not marked on any of the historical mapping for the site and its precise location remains uncertain.

The results obtained from the evaluation trenches indicate that there are no buried remains of archaeological interest on the site, and no finds or deposits with palaeo-environmental potential were recovered from the investigation. It is thus concluded that any earth-moving works associated with the proposed development are unlikely to have an archaeological impact, and that the site does not merit any further archaeological investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) is grateful to Cath Whelan of CMW Properties Ltd for commissioning and supporting the project. OA North is also grateful to Dr Andrew Myers, the Senior Planning Archaeologist with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, for his advice and consultation.

The evaluation was undertaken by Graham Mottershead and Phil Cooke. The report was written by Graham Mottershead and Ian Miller, and the drawings were prepared by Graham Mottershead and Mark Tidmarsh. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 Salford City Council has recently granted planning permission (11/59895/FUL) for the development of a plot of land to the rear of 253-7 Mosley Common Road in Boothstown, Salford (Fig 1). The development proposals allow for the erection of 15 dwelling houses, with associated fencing and landscaping.

1.1.2 The sequence of Ordnance Survey mapping from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day show the development site as an enclosed field on the eastern bank of the Stirrup Brook. It lies *c* 100m to the south-west of the Delph, where a hoard of Roman coins was discovered in 1947. The hoard comprised 540 coins, minted between 251 and 275 AD, together with several glass beads, all concealed in two ceramic urns. A second coin hoard was discovered in 1989 at Booths Bank, situated short distance to the east. This hoard included approximately 850 coins, which again all dated to the third century. Whilst there is no known evidence for Roman settlement in the immediate vicinity, the course of the Roman road between Manchester and Wigan passes just to the north of Boothstown (Potts 1973, 23). A section of this road was excavated in 1957, and was found to be some 13ft (3.96m) wide, with drainage ditches on each side.

1.1.3 In order to secure archaeological interests, and in accordance with policy CH5 of the City of Salford Unitary Development Plan, Salford City Council attached a condition to planning consent (Condition 10) that stated:

> 'No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or their successors in title have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The programme is to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.
>
> The WSI shall cover the following: a phased programme and methodology of site investigation and recording to include targeted archaeological evaluation and (pending the results of the evaluation) targeted area excavation; a programme for post-investigation assessment to include analysis of the site investigation records and finds, further historical research into the site, and production of a final report; provision for publication and dissemination; and provision for archive deposition of the report, finds and records of the site investigation.'

1.1.4 In June 2012, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by CMW Properties to produce the required WSI. This allowed for the excavation of four evaluation trenches across the proposed development site. Following the approval of the WSI by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) in their capacity of archaeological advisor to Salford city Council, OA North was commissioned to undertake the specified scheme of trenching. This was carried out in October 2012.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 ***Location:*** the study area comprises a plot of land close to the centre of Boothstown in Salford (centred on NGR 372100, 400940). The site is bounded to the west by Mosley Common Road, to the north by Mill Street, to the east by properties fronting Border Brook Lane, and to the south by Leigh Road (Fig 1). The site is currently undeveloped, and is used informally for car-parking purposes (Plate 1).

1.2.2 ***Geology:*** the solid geology of the area comprises Carboniferous sedimentary material and a series of Permo-Triassic rocks, consisting mainly of New Red Sandstone (Hall *et al* 1995, 8). The overlying drift incorporates Pleistocene boulder clays of glacial origin, and sands, gravels, and clays of fluviatile/lacustrine origin (Ordnance Survey Geological Survey 1970).

Plate 1: Recent aerial view of the study area, looking north

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 EVALUATION TRENCHING

2.1.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), and was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures provided by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.1.2 The WSI allowed for the excavation of four trenches across the proposed development area (*Appendix 1*). However, logistical constraints on site meant that one of the trenches was excavated in two parts, essentially creating two separate trenches. The trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator, and all archaeological deposits were cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.

2.2 ARCHIVE

2.2.1 A full archive of the work has been prepared to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The archive will be deposited with the Greater Manchester County Record Office on completion of the project. In addition, a copy of the report will be forwarded to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 An understanding of the historical background of a site provides the local context within which the excavated remains can be assessed archaeologically. The following section summarises those aspects of the development of the Boothstown area that are pertinent to the present study.

3.2 BACKGROUND

3.2.1 ***Roman Period:*** evidence for Roman activity in the area is provided by chance finds. In particular, a hoard of 540 Roman coins dating to between 251 AD and 275 AD was discovered by workmen digging in The Delph, situated approximately 100m to the north-east of the present study area. The coins were concealed in two ceramic urns, and were discovered together with several glass beads. A second coin hoard was discovered in 1989 at Booths Bank, situated short distance to the east. This hoard included approximately 850 coins, which again all dated to the third century.

3.2.2 Whilst there is no known evidence for Roman settlement in the immediate vicinity, the course of the Roman road between Manchester and Wigan passes just to the north of Boothstown (Margary 1973). On leaving the west gate of the fort at Manchester, this road crossed the River Irwell at Wodensford, described by antiquarians as a paved causeway (Codrington 1903, 103), and continued on the line of what is now Regent Road/Eccles New Road to the high ground at Hope Hall. From there, the line crossed the modern housing estate at Ellesmere Park, where its course was confirmed in 2005 through an archaeological excavation by local residents. The excavated section of the road's surface was approximately 6m wide, with well-defined ditches on both sides (Miller and Aldridge 2011). Continuing from Ellesmere, through Chorlton Fold in Monton, the remains of the road were reportedly exposed near Worsley in the mid-nineteenth century during the construction of the railway line from Eccles to Wigan, and was described as being about seven yards wide (*Gentlemen's Magazine* 1862, 419). From there, the course of the road is projected to continue to Boothstown, and on to Gadbury Fold, to the south-west of Atherton, and then Hindley (Miller and Aldridge 2011).

3.2.3 ***Medieval Period:*** there is little documentary evidence available for Boothstown in the medieval period, and no indication that the present development area was occupied. By 1323, site lay within the estate or manor of Booths, and was held by the de Worsley family. It remained with that family, held of the king by a rent of 2s, until the reign of Elizabeth I. Booths Old Hall was built in *c* 1343, and was eventually replaced by New Booths Hall, which was erected in the early seventeenth century.

3.2.4 ***Post-medieval Period:*** local tradition maintains that the development site was occupied from the mid-eighteenth century by a windmill. This had reputedly been built by Thomas Smith for grinding corn, and remained in use until 1874, when it was demolished. The windmill is referred to in an account of a 'summer ramble', published in the local newspaper in 1871:

'The road continues like this for some time until we come to a sight of such decay as one is unprepared to meet. First of all there is a broken weir which we cross; then a desolate cotton mill minus machinery and with but here and there a pane of glass left, waiting for a stone from the hand of a mischievous marksboy. To add to the dreariness of the scene there is a quarry [the Delph] grown over with brambles with moss and diverted from its original use to a reservoir of water, and as if to give the picture of delapidation a finishing touch there is the tower of an old windmill - a rare sight in this country under any circumstances - whose sails are dismantled and a wreck' (*Eccles Advertiser*, 17 June 1871).

3.2.5 The account places the windmill in the vicinity of the Delph, and describes a cotton mill that lay immediately to the north of the development site. However, the exact location of the windmill is not given, and it is not shown on historical mapping. Indeed, the Ordnance Survey map of 1849 shows the site to have been entirely undeveloped (Plate 2).

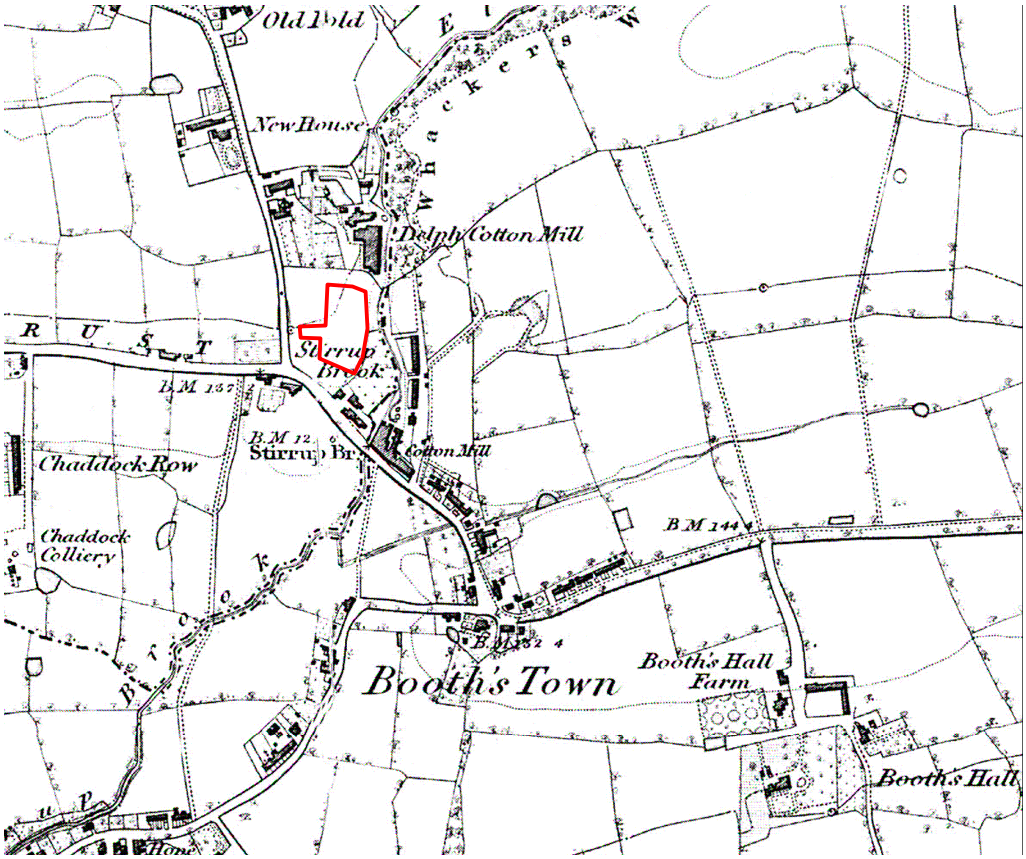

Plate 2: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6": 1 mile map, 1849, marking the present development site

4. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of five trenches of varying lengths (Fig 2). The following section summarises the results obtained from the evaluation trenching.

4.2 TRENCH 1

4.2.1 Trench 1 was placed across the southern part of the proposed development area, and was aligned north-west/south-east (Fig 2). It measured 12 x 1.5m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.9m (Plate 3). A layer of greyish-brown clay (***106***), exposed at the base of the trench, clearly represented the natural geology. This appeared to be dipping to the south-east, representing the natural slope (Fig 4). No archaeological features were seen cutting into the clay.

4.2.2 Natural clay ***106*** was overlain by a thick layer (***105***) of black sandy loam, containing abundant fragments of brick, stone, ash, and modern refuse that included cans and crisp packets. Layer ***105*** was sealed by a 0.3 - 0.6m thick band of crushed sandstone in a matrix of yellowish-brown sand (***104***). This material was capped by a 0.35 - 0.2m thick band of compact grey clay (***103***), which contained occasional fragments of brick. Layers ***103***, ***104*** and ***105*** were all clearly of modern deposition, and presumably represented a levelling of the site. The uppermost horizons in the trench comprised a mixed layer of dark silty loam (***102***), some 0.2m thick, and 0.1m depth of dark loam topsoil (***101***).

*Plate 3: Sondage excavated into natural clay **106** in Trench 1*

4.3 TRENCH 2

4.3.1 Trench 2 was placed across the eastern part of the development site, and was aligned broadly north/south (Fig 2). It was excavated to a length of 15m, and to a maximum depth of 1.2m (Plate 4). A layer of greyish-brown clay (***206***), exposed at the base of the trench, clearly represented the natural geology. No archaeological features were seen cutting into the clay.

4.3.2 The overlying stratigraphic sequence broadly mirrored that exposed in Trench 1 (Fig 6). The natural geology was sealed by a layer of compact black clay (***205***), which contained fragments of machine-pressed bricks and twentieth-century artefacts. This material was overlain by a 0.4m thick layer of crushed sandstone and brick levelling material (***204***), and 0.2-0.4m of mixed ash, cinder, gravel and brick fragments (***203***). The uppermost horizons in the trench comprised a layer of dark gritty loam (***202***), some 0.1m thick, and 0.1m depth of dark loam topsoil (***201***).

Plate 4: View of Trench 2, fully excavated

4.4 TRENCH 3

4.4.1 Trench 3 was aligned north-west/south-east across the northern part of the development site (Fig 2). It was excavated to a length of 20m, and to a maximum depth of 0.65m (Plate 5). A layer of light brown clay (***305***), exposed at the base of the trench, clearly represented the natural geology.

4.4.2 Clay ***305*** had been cut by a sub-rectangular feature (***306***), which was exposed at a distance of *c* 6m from the western end of the trench (Fig 4). Feature ***306*** measured 1.6 x 0.7m, and had a maximum depth of 0.35m. It was filled with dark clay, which contained fragments of machine-pressed bricks, indicative of a late nineteenth- or twentieth-century date.

4.4.3 Feature ***306*** appeared to be sealed by a 0.2 - 0.3m thick deposit of mixed dark compact clay and brick fragments (***304***). This material was overlain by a 0.24 - 0.35m thick deposit of mixed cinder and brick levelling material (***303***). The uppermost horizons in the trench comprised a layer of dark gritty loam (***302***), some 0.1m thick, and 0.1m depth of dark loam topsoil (***201***).

Plate 5: View of Trench 3, fully excavated

4.5 TRENCH 4

4.5.1 Trench 4 was aligned north-east/south-west across the south-western part of the development site (Fig 2). It was excavated to a length of 10m, and to a maximum depth of 1.25m (Plate 6). A layer of mid- to light brown clay (***406***), exposed at the base of the trench, clearly represented the natural geology.

4.5.2 Clay ***406*** had been cut by a circular feature (***407***), which was exposed at a distance of 4.5m from the south-western end of the trench (Fig 4). Feature ***407*** measured 0.85m in diameter, and contained fragments of machine-pressed bricks and modern artefacts that included cans and plastic bottles.

4.5.3 Feature ***407*** was sealed by a 0.15m thick layer of mixed dark clay with ash and bricks (***405***), and a 0.5m thick band of dark cinders, ash and fragments of machine-pressed bricks (***404***). These layers almost certainly represented the modern levelling of the site (Fig 5). Levelling ***404*** was overlain by 0.2m of fine light yellow sand (***403***), and a 0.3m deep layer of mixed light brown sand (***402***) that contained abundant fragments of machine-pressed bricks, demolition rubble, plaster and cinders. The surface of the trench comprised 0.1m of mixed topsoil, rotting vegetation and refuse (***401***).

Plate 6: View of Trench 4, fully excavated

4.6 TRENCH 5

4.6.1 Trench 5 was aligned north/south across the western part of the development site (Fig 2). It was excavated to a length of 18m, and to a maximum depth of 0.85m (Plate 7). A layer of light yellowish-brown clay (***504***), exposed at the base of the trench, clearly represented the natural geology (Fig 6).

4.6.2 Natural clay 504 was overlain by 0.35 - 0.6m of mixed yellowish-brown stony clay (***503***), which contained fragments of machine-pressed bricks and other modern materials. This was sealed by a 0.05m thick bedding layer of gravel (***502***) for the modern tarmac surface (***501***).

Plate 7: View of Trench 5, fully excavated

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 EVALUATION TRENCHES

5.1.1 The results obtained from the evaluation trenching have indicated that the proposed development site contains no buried archaeological remains of interest. The majority of the layers excavated in the trenches comprised modern levelling material, capping for the levelling material, and dumps of refuse. All of the fragments of bricks contained within these deposits were machine-pressed, and no finds that predated the twentieth century were observed.

5.1.2 Only two features were encountered during the evaluation: pit ***306*** in Trench 3; and pit ***407*** in Trench 4. Both were exposed at the base of the trenches, cut directly into natural clay, and represented the earliest features encountered. However, both features contained fragments of machine-pressed bricks of a late nineteenth- or twentieth-century date, together with plastic objects.

5.1.3 No evidence of a windmill was present within any of the trenches, nor was any demolition material that could reasonably be attributed a date earlier than the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Although suggested that a raised bank that runs in a semi-circle at the south-western side of the site was built from the stone foundations of the windmill, it was found on investigation that it actually comprised a mixture of loam topsoil, rotting vegetation and twentieth-century refuse.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 CONCLUSION

6.1.1 The results obtained from the evaluation trench indicate that the site has little or no potential to contain buried remains of archaeological interest. It is not envisaged that any further archaeological investigation of the site will be required in advance of the proposed development.

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APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

MOSLEY COMMON ROAD, BOOTHSTOWN, SALFORD

GREATER MANCHESTER

Archaeological Evaluation

Written Scheme of Investigation

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

June 2012

OA North Job No: L10500

NGR: 372100, 400940

Planning Reference: 11/59895/FUL

Proposals

The following Written Scheme of Investigation is offered in response to a request from Cath Whelan, of CMW Properties, for an archaeological investigation in advance of a proposed residential development of land off Mosley Common Road in Boothstown, Salford.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Salford City Council has granted planning permission (11/59895/FUL) for the development of a plot of land to the rear of 253-7 Mosley Common Road in Boothstown, Salford (centred on NGR 372100, 400940). The development proposals allow for the erection of 15 dwelling houses, with associated fencing and landscaping.

1.1.2 The sequence of Ordnance Survey mapping from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day show the development site as an enclosed field on the eastern bank of the Stirrup Brook (Figs 1 and 2). It lies *c* 100m to the south-west of the Delph, where a hoard of Roman coins was discovered in 1947. The hoard comprised 540 coins, minted between 251 and 275 AD, and several glass beads, all concealed in two ceramic urns. A second coin hoard was discovered in 1989 at Booths Bank, situated short distance to the east. This hoard included approximately 850 coins, which again all dated to the third century. Whilst there is no known evidence for Roman settlement in the immediate vicinity, the course of the Roman road between Manchester and Wigan passes just to the north of Boothstown. A section of this road was excavated in 1957, and was found to be some 13ft (3.96m) wide, with drainage ditches on each side.

1.1.3 In order to secure archaeological interests, and in accordance with policy CH5 of the City of Salford Unitary Development Plan, Salford City Council has attached a condition to planning consent (Condition 10) that states:

‘No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or their successors in title have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The programme is to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The WSI shall cover the following:

- A phased programme and methodology of site investigation and recording to include targeted archaeological evaluation and (pending the results of the evaluation) targeted area excavation;
- A programme for post-investigation assessment to include analysis of the site investigation records and finds, further historical research into the site, and production of a final report;
- Provision for publication and dissemination;
- Provision for archive deposition of the report, finds and records of the site investigation;
- Nomination of a competent person/organisation to undertake the programme set out within the WSI.’

1.1.4 This document provides the required Written Scheme of Investigation for an initial scheme of archaeological evaluation. It has been produced by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) at the request of Cath Whelan of CMW Properties, and has been devised in consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS).

1.2 Oxford Archaeology North

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) is an educational charity under the guidance of a board of trustees, and has over 30 years of experience in professional archaeology. We have offices in Lancaster, Oxford and Cambridge, trading as Oxford Archaeology North (OA North), Oxford Archaeology South (OA South) and Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) respectively, enabling us to provide a truly nationwide service. OA is an Institute for Archaeologists' Registered Organisation (No 17). All work on the project will be undertaken in accordance with relevant professional standards, including:

- IfA's *Code of Conduct*, (1999); *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, (1999); *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*, (1999); *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, (1999);
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, 1991;
- *The European Association of Archaeologists Principles of Conduct for Archaeologists Involved in Contract Archaeological Work* (1998).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

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

- the principal objective of the archaeological investigation will be to determine the presence or absence of any buried remains of archaeological interest within the development area;
- to determine the significance of any buried remains that do survive;
- to determine the presence or absence of physical evidence for Roman activity within the development area;
- to determine the survival of palaeo-environmental evidence for medieval settlement or agriculture within the development area;
- to allow an informed decision as to whether any further archaeological investigation is required in advance of or during the construction works required by the development;
- to compile an archival record of any archaeological remains within the development area.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 Evaluation Trenching

3.1.1 The development area will be investigated initially via the excavation of a series of evaluation trenches. In the event of significant archaeological remains being discovered in the trenches, it is likely that further archaeological investigation will be required. Any such additional works will be carried out in accordance with an Updated WSI, which will be devised in consultation with GMAAS.

3.1.2 The initial evaluation will comprise the excavation of four trenches, each measuring 20 x 1.8m. The trenches will be located to provide a sample of each part of the development area, whilst avoiding the public surface water sewer that runs from the approximate centre of the site westwards to Mosley Common Road. The proposed location of the trenches is shown on Ordnance Survey mapping of 1849 and 1893, and a recent aerial view of the site (Figs 1 - 3).

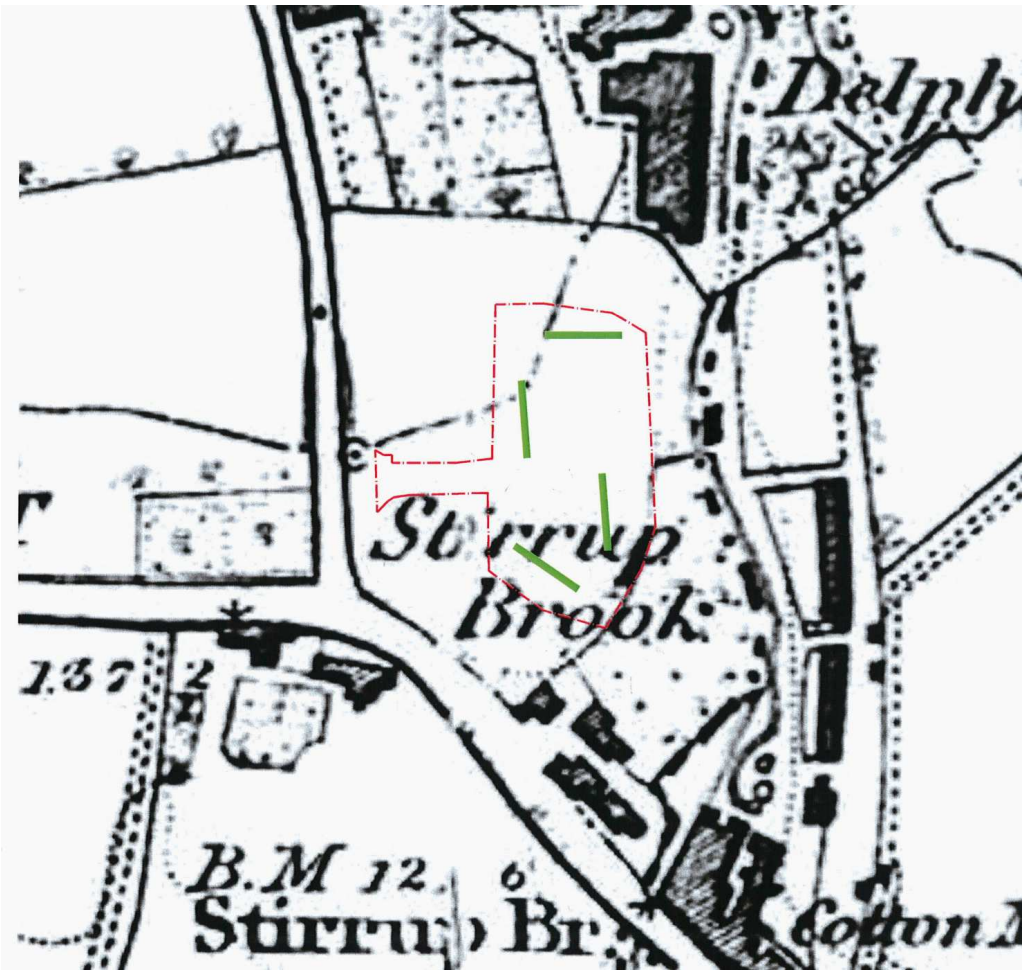


Figure 1: Proposed trench location plan, superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1849

Figure 2: Proposed trench location plan, superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1893

Figure 3: Proposed trench location plan, superimposed on a recent aerial view

3.1.3 ***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 stored adjacent to the trench, and will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological works. 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 both black and white and colour 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 using high-resolution digital cameras (minimum 10 megapixel), and all frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographic records will be maintained on special *pro-forma* sheets.

3.1.7 ***Planning:*** the location of the evaluation trenches will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a 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. Sections will be manually drawn as appropriate at a scale of 1:10. All information will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

3.1.8 ***Environmental Sampling:*** the strategy for palaeo-environmental sampling will be developed on site, in consultation with appropriate specialists, as necessary. The environmental sampling strategy will therefore evolve from as discussion between those specialists and the field team and will be in accordance with current best practice.

3.1.9 In broad terms, however, the sampling strategy will be aimed at recovering palaeo-botanical, palaeo-zoological and pedological evidence. It is anticipated that environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target any negative features that are revealed.

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.

3.1.11 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*.

3.1.12 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.

3.2 Report and Archive

3.2.1 ***Report:*** a report will be produced within four working weeks of the completion of the fieldwork, and will include:

- a summary statement of the findings;
- the background to the evaluation, including location details;
- an outline of the methodology of the survey;
- a description of the site's setting, including topography and geology;
- an account of the documented historical background to the site;
- a summary, assessment, and interpretation of the results of the evaluation;
- an assessment of any finds and samples recovered from the trenches;
- a description of the significance of the site in its local and regional context;
- recommendations for any further archaeological investigation that is considered merited to mitigate the impact of the development works;
- a catalogue of archive items, including a list of photographs, and details of the final deposition of the project archive.

3.4.1 ***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 (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project.

3.4.2 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. OA North conforms to best practice in the preparation of project archives for long-term storage. OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the appropriate repository, which in this instance will be Salford Heritage Service.

3.4.3 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database project *Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.

3.4.4 ***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.

4. OTHER MATTERS

4.1 ***Health and Safety:*** archaeological staff and visitors will respect Health and Safety provisions and site-specific safety regulations. It is the policy of OA North ('the Employer') to conform fully with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974), and all site procedures will be in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). Attention will also be paid to the requirements of more recent legislation, including the provision and use of Work Equipment Regulations (1992), the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1992), and the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (1994).

4.2 In furtherance of the duty of care imposed by the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974), the Employer shall make available to his employees whatever reasonable facilities are required by particular circumstances, *eg* appropriate protective clothing, safety equipment, rest breaks for specialised tasks, etc. A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement, and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.

4.3 ***Insurance:*** evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £5m, and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £2m, will be provided prior to the commencement of the archaeological works.

4.4 ***Project Monitoring:*** the aims of monitoring are to ensure that the archaeological works are undertaken within the limits set by the Written Scheme of Investigation, and to the satisfaction of the curatorial archaeologist at the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS). The curatorial archaeologist will be given at least five days' notice of when work is due to commence, and will be free to visit the site by prior arrangement with the project director.

4.5 ***Contingencies:*** if there are more complex or generally deeper deposits than can be anticipated from the evidence available, there may need to be a corresponding increase in costs, which will be subject to agreement with the Client and the archaeological curator. Similarly, there will be recourse to a contingency if there is any requirement to fully excavate any human remains that may be present. These contingency costs are in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' guidance.

4.6 ***Confidentiality:*** the report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project design, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project design, or for any other explicit purpose can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

5 WORK TIMETABLE

5.1 A five-day period should be allowed to excavate, record and backfill the evaluation trenches.

5.2 A report will be submitted within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

5.3 In the event of significant archaeological remains being discovered in the evaluation trenches, a programme of further investigation may be anticipated. The time required for any additional investigation cannot be determined until the results of the evaluation are known.

6 STAFFING

6.1 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 Written Scheme of Investigation is implemented within the framework of the Project Objectives.

6.2 The fieldwork is likely to be undertaken by **Graham Mottershead BA** (OA North Project Supervisor). Graham is an highly experienced field archaeologist, with over 20 years continuous experience of field archaeology. 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 two technician will be required for the initial stage of the fieldwork.

6.3 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 medieval and post-medieval artefacts.

ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench location plan

Figure 3: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 6": 1 mile map, 1849

Figure 4: Plans of Trenches 3 and 4

Figure 5: Sections in Trenches 1 and 4

Figure 6 Sections in Trenches 2,3 and 5

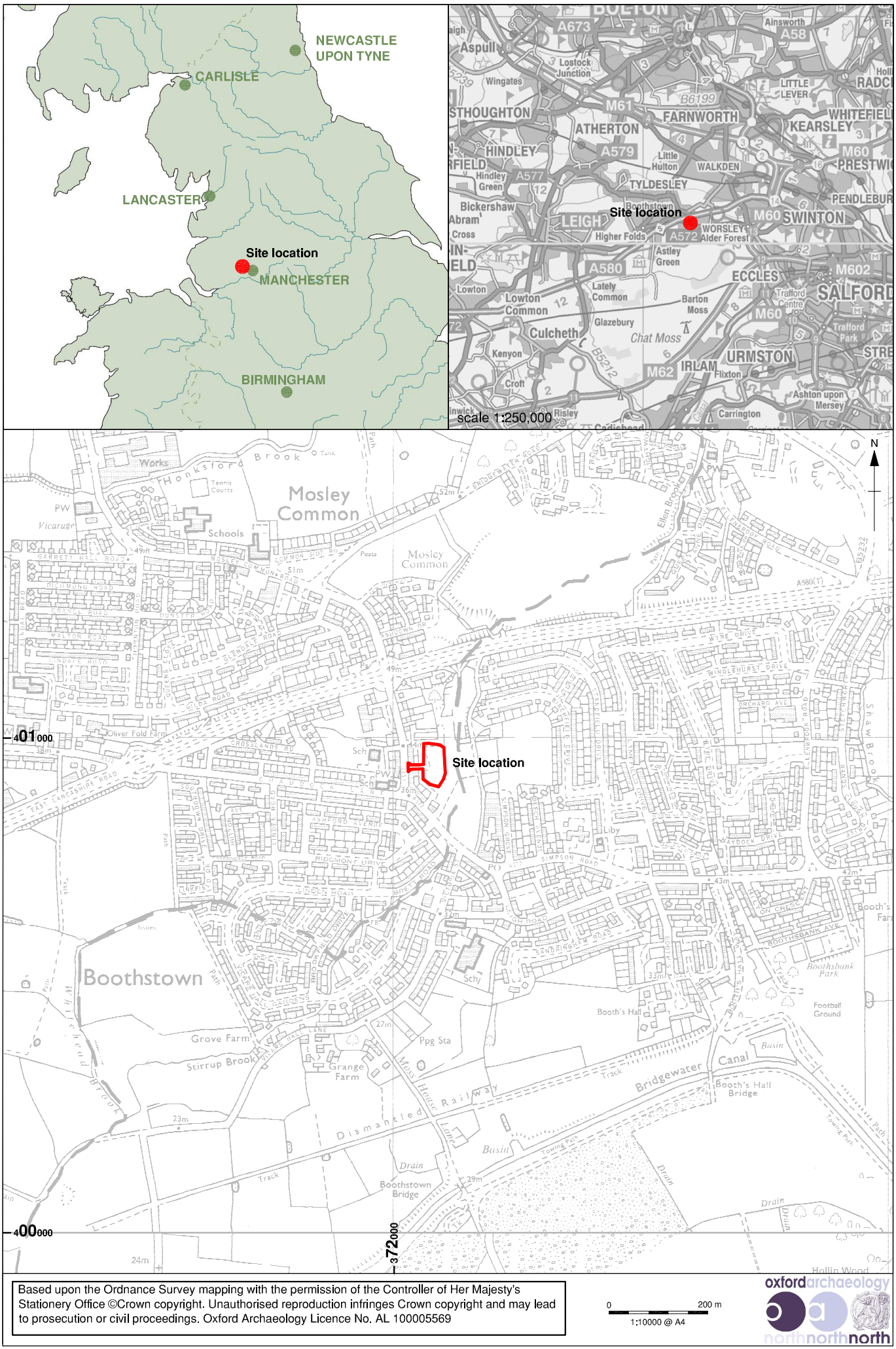


Figure 1: Site location

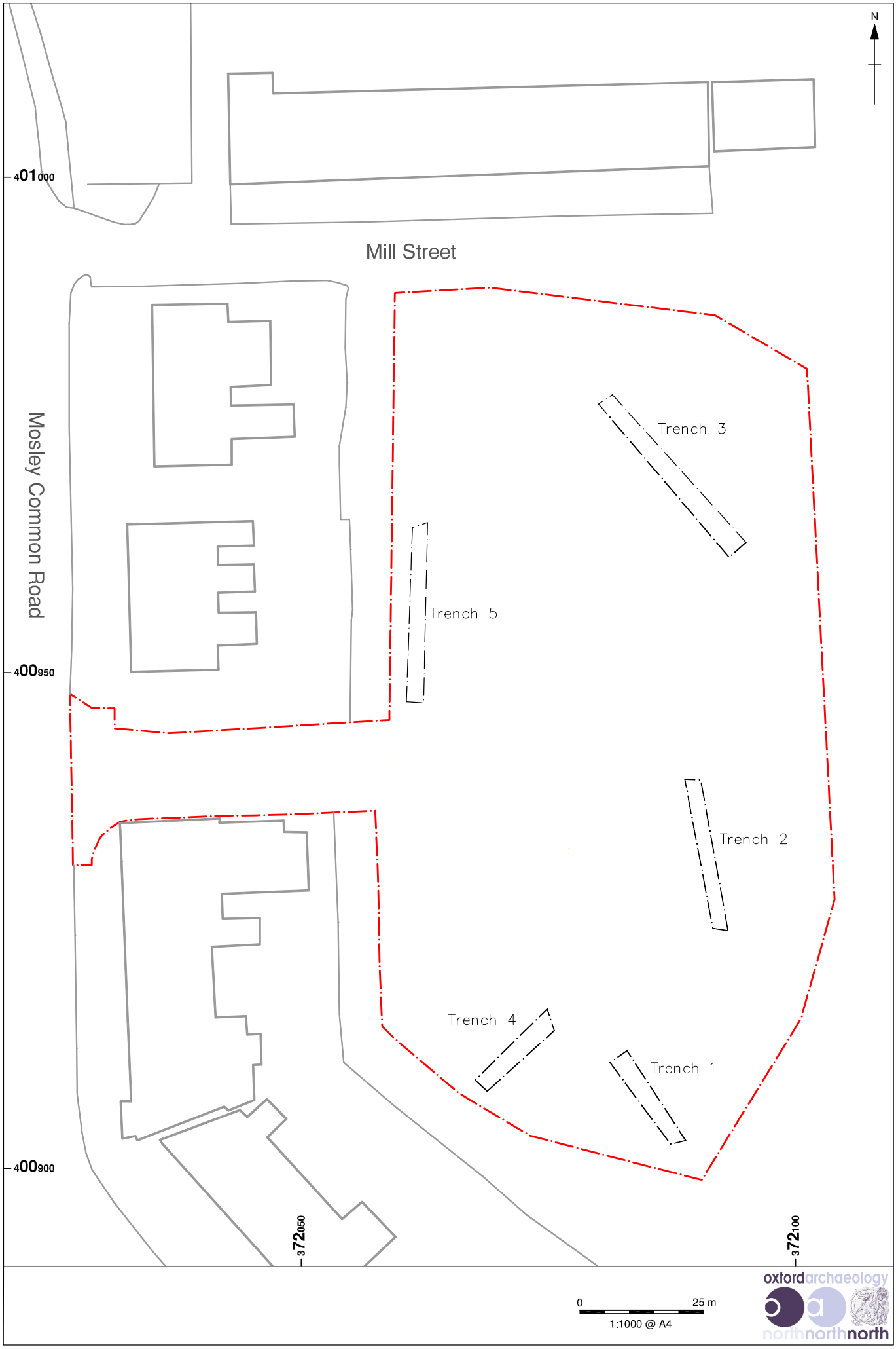


Figure 2: Trench location plan

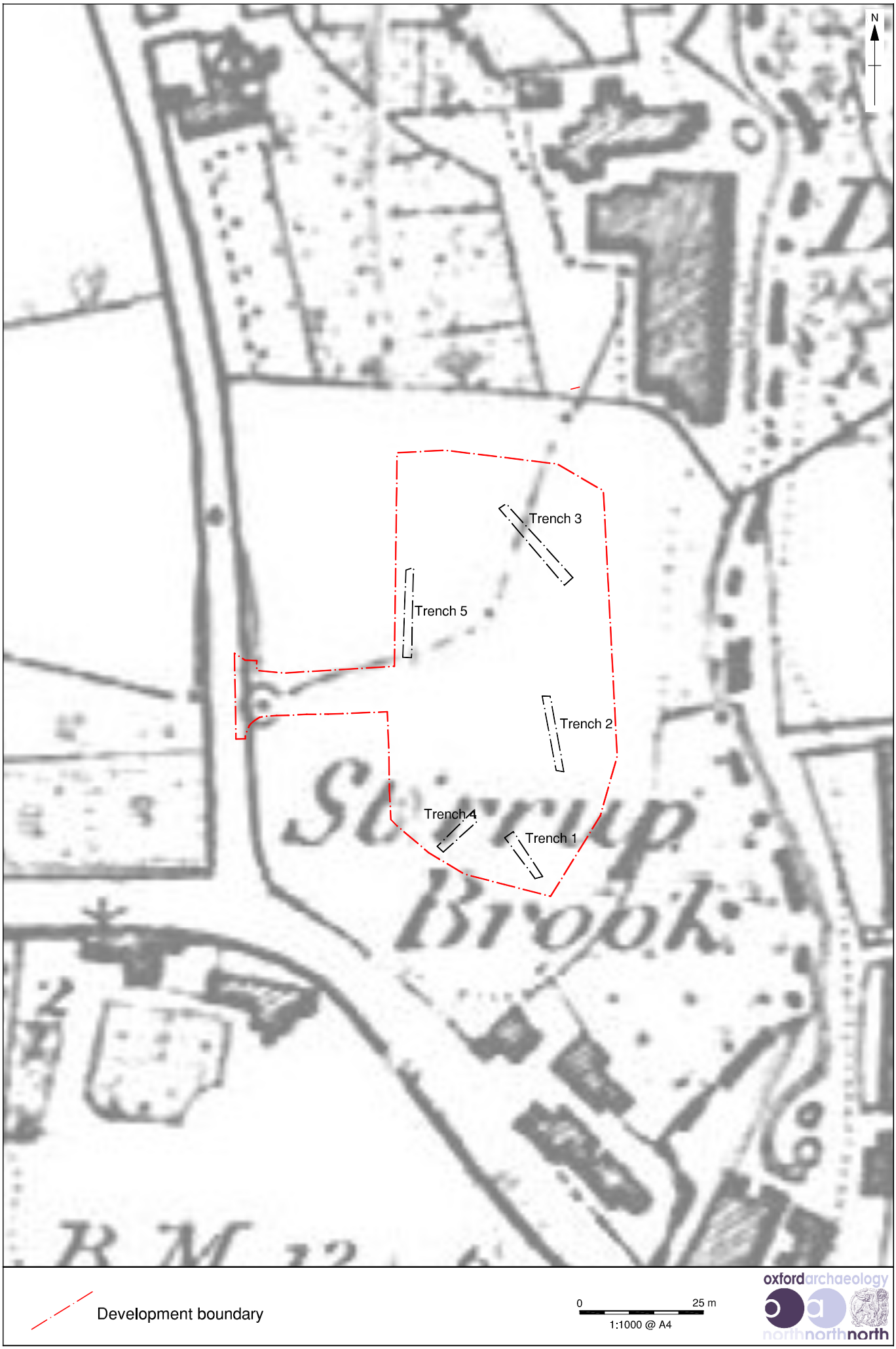
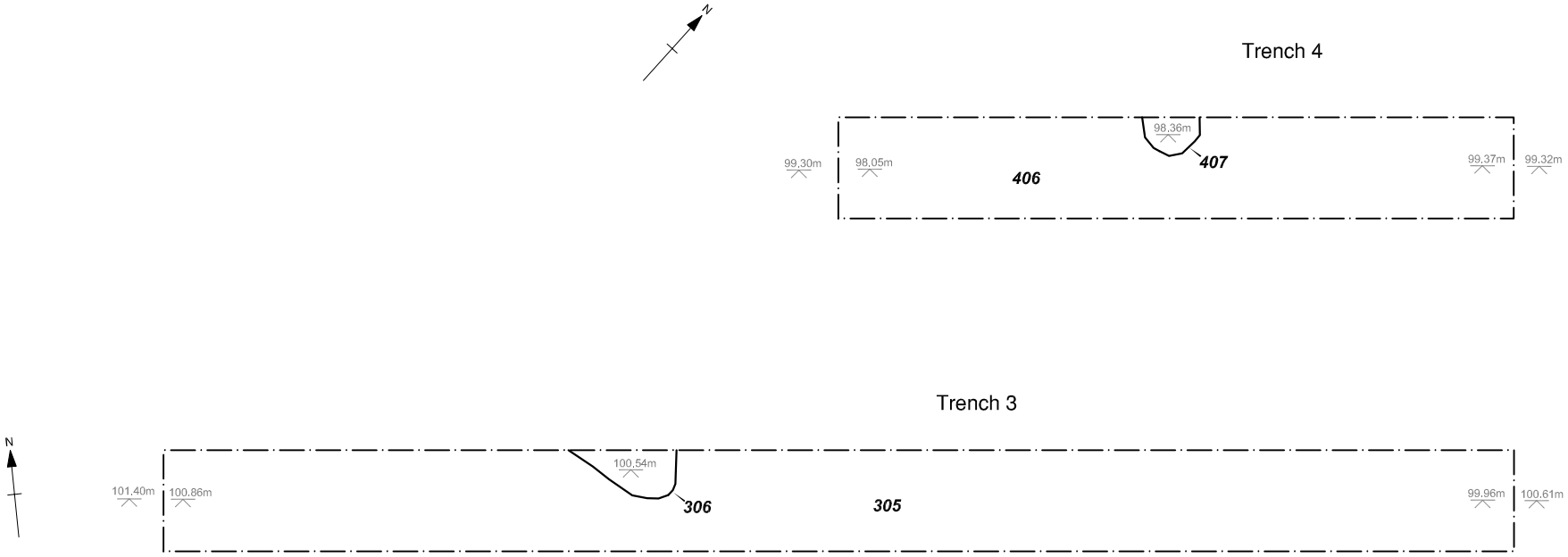


Figure 3: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 6":1 mile map, 1849



Trench

Feature

0 2.5 m

1:100 @ A4

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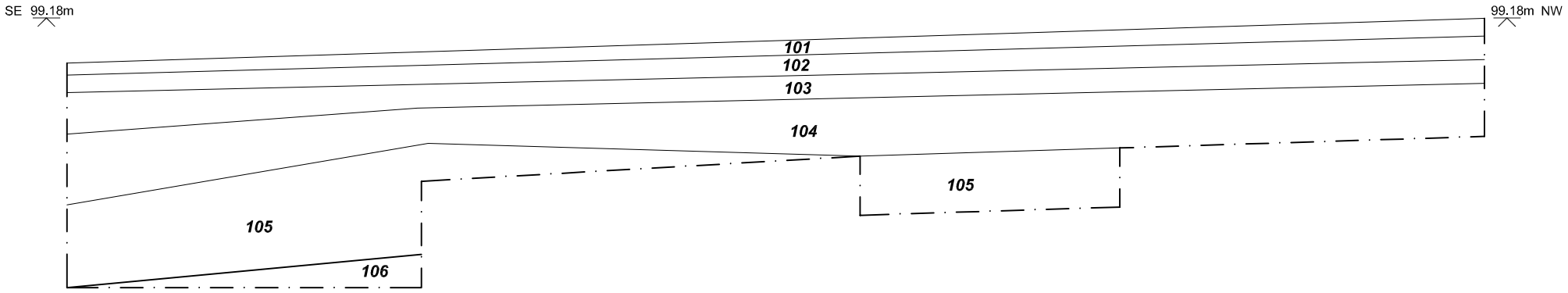
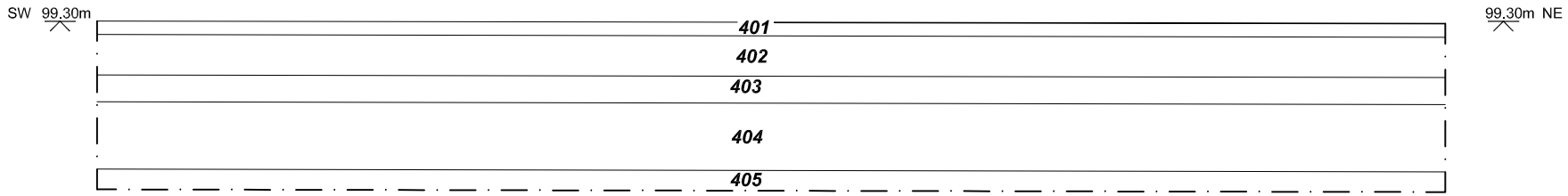
Figure 4: Plans of Trenches 3 and 4



Trench 1 - north-east-facing section



Trench 4 - north-west-facing section

Limit of excavation

Layer/ Deposit

0 1 m

1:50 @ A4

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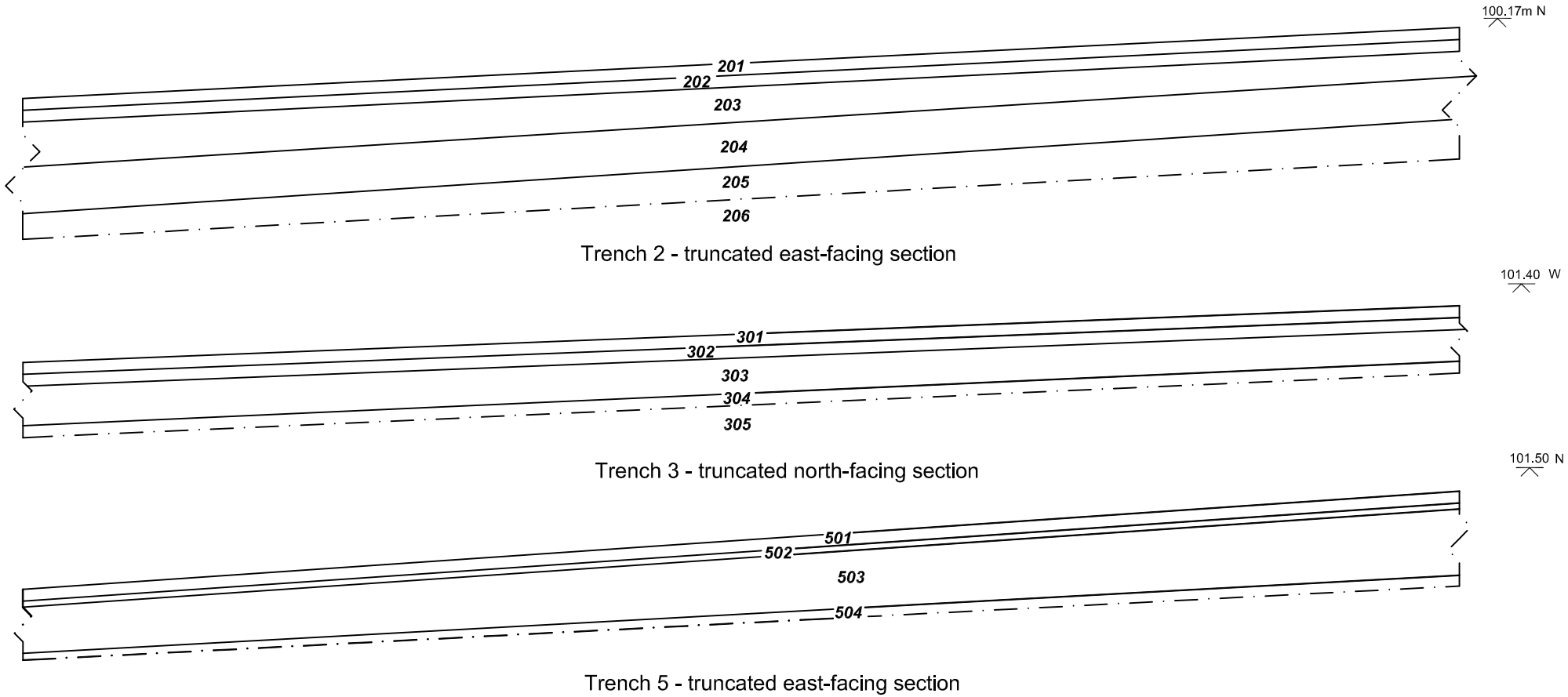
Figure 5: Sections in Trenches 1 and 4



Limit of excavation

Layer/ Deposit

0 1 m

1:50 @ A4

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Figure 6: Sections in Trenches 2, 3 and 5