

STEETLEY QUARRY, Worksop, Nottinghamshire

Watching Brief Report



Oxford Archaeology North

September 2011

**Waterman Energy,
Environment & Design Ltd and
Laing O'Rourke**

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STEETLEY QUARRY, WORKSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF.
SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

SUMMARY

Laing O'Rourke has recently constructed a pre-cast concrete moulding manufacturing complex at Steetley Quarry, Nottinghamshire (SK 5530 7891). Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by Waterman Energy, Environment & Design Ltd on behalf of Laing O'Rourke, to undertake a series of archaeological watching briefs, evaluations and an excavation on the site which has resulted in the production of a post-excavation assessment in 2008 and a watching brief report in January 2011.

A small watching brief was undertaken in August 2011, focused on the three trenches, in order to evaluate the presence and condition of possible nineteenth century housing in an area being considered for further development.

Five walls relating to the former nineteenth century workers' cottages were recorded in Trench 1, each showing evidence of two phases of construction. These belonged to the former Steetley Row cottages. Trench 2 revealed two walls that had formed the corner of the southern-most building of Ten Row cottages, as shown on the 1898 Ordnance Survey map. An area of stone paving appeared to be an outside yard.

No structures were evident in Trench 3, over the area of the former Four Row cottages, although much demolition debris was present. This trench was small and severely restricted by the presence of woodland and overhead power cables.

This report on August's work has been issued as a supplement to the watching brief document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Waterman Energy, Environment & Design Ltd for commissioning the project on behalf of Laing O'Rourke. Particular thanks go to Dan Evans, James Stokes and Ben Stephenson.

Vickie Jamieson undertook the site work for OA North and wrote the report. Jamie Quartermaine produced the drawings. Gill Hey managed the project and edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Laing O'Rourke has constructed a pre-cast concrete moulding manufacturing complex at Steetley Quarry, Nottinghamshire (SK 5530 7891). Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by Waterman Energy, Environment & Design Ltd, on behalf of Laing O'Rourke, to undertake an archaeological watching brief in the vicinity of the former Ten Row and Four Row terraced houses in association with potential further ground works.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.2 The watching brief was undertaken by Vickie Jamieson on behalf of Oxford Archaeology North on 25th and 26th August 2011. The groundworks undertaken on these dates consisted of the opening of three trial trenches to the west of the manufacturing plant in advance of further development of the site. Two trenches were excavated in zone 3B and one in zone 4A of the Waterman zone layout plan, to determine the location of the former nineteenth century workers' cottages called Steetley Row, Ten Row and Four Row.

3. RESULTS

- 3.1 Trench 1 was located to the north-west of zone 3B (Fig. 1), in a small clearing of woodland, south-east of a previous watching brief undertaken in October 2010 which located the Steetley Row cottages. The trench measured 13m by 2m and was approximately 0.9m deep. Five wall structures were recorded (contexts 003-007) relating to the former nineteenth century workers' cottages (Plate 1). The survey indicates that these relate to the end of the former Steetley Row cottages. The trench showed modern disturbance in the form of a recent electric cable trench that had truncated wall 007. The structures themselves show evidence of two phases of building construction.
- 3.2 Trench 2 was located in a clearing at the south-eastern edge of the woodland area of zone 3B (Fig. 1). The trench measured 4.2m by 4m and was approximately 0.4m deep (Plate 2). Two wall structures were recorded (009 and 010). These walls form the corner of the southern-most building of Ten Row cottages that is present on the 1898 Ordnance Survey map. Context 010 comprised a stone paved floor surface that appeared to part of an outside yard area.



Plate 1: Trench 1, with 19th century structures.



Plate 2: Trench 2, stone paved floor surface.

- 3.3 Trench 3 was located in the north-west corner of zone 4A next to the main road into the compound (Fig. 1). The aim of this trench was to locate the former Four Row cottages. The trench measured 8m by 2m and was of a maximum depth of 0.95m (plate 3). It contained large deposits of demolition material, extending beyond the excavated depth, but no evidence of the former nineteenth century buildings. It is possible that the trench was not placed directly over the buildings, or they may no longer survive as suggested by the demolition deposits. The trench could not be extended due to woodland and overhead power cables.



Plate 3: Trench 3 showing demolition deposits.

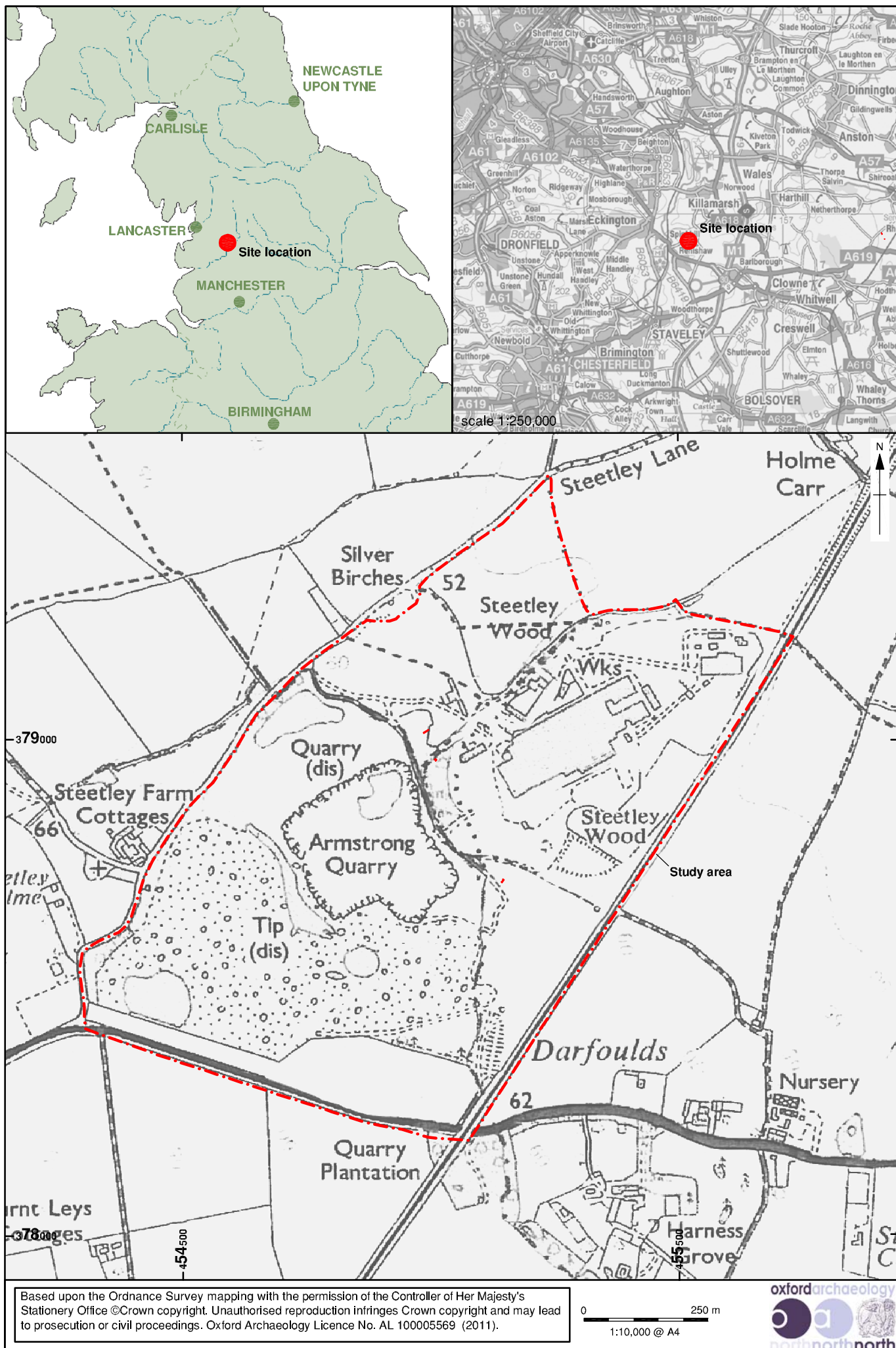


Figure 1: Site location

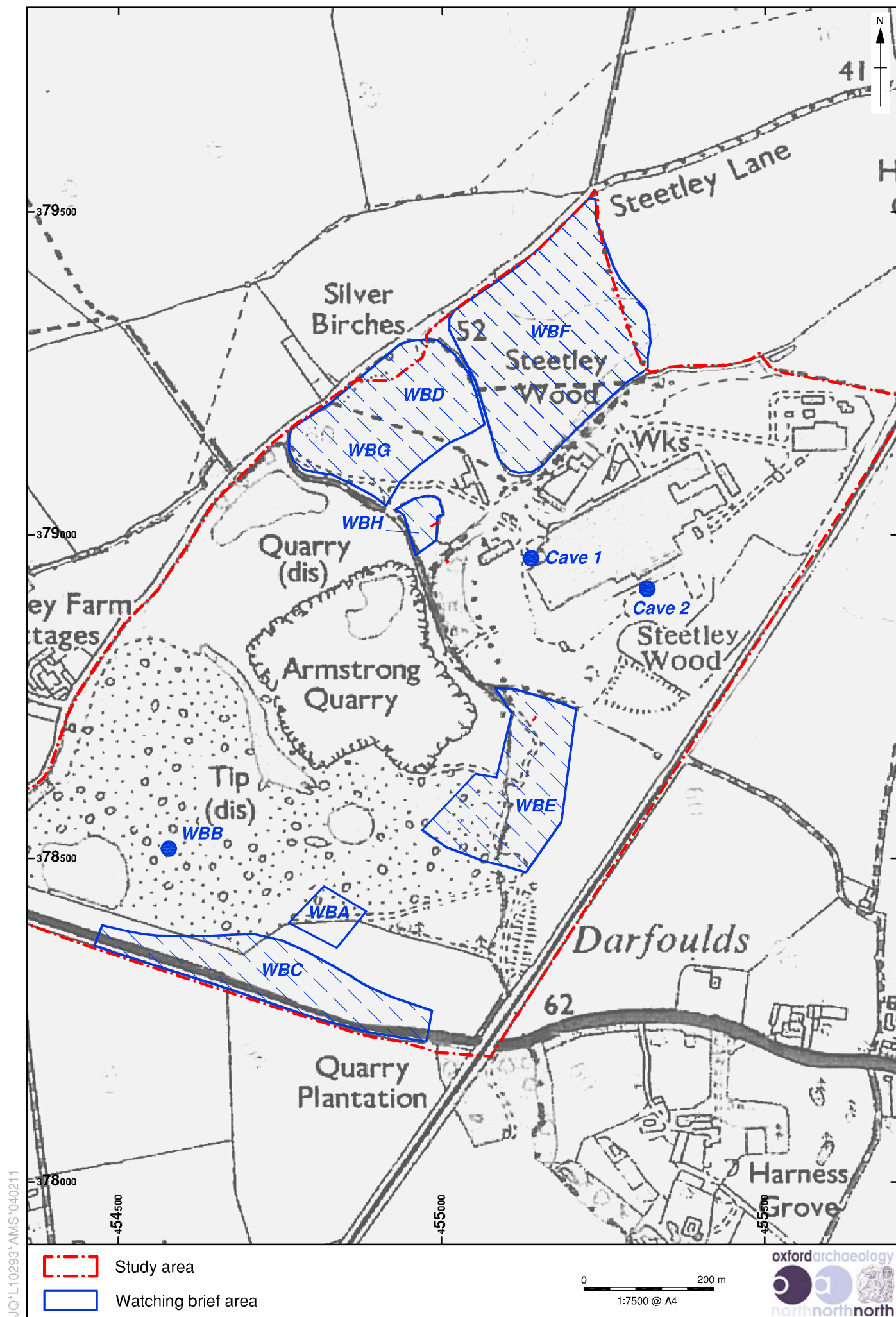


Figure 2: Plan of watching brief locations A-H

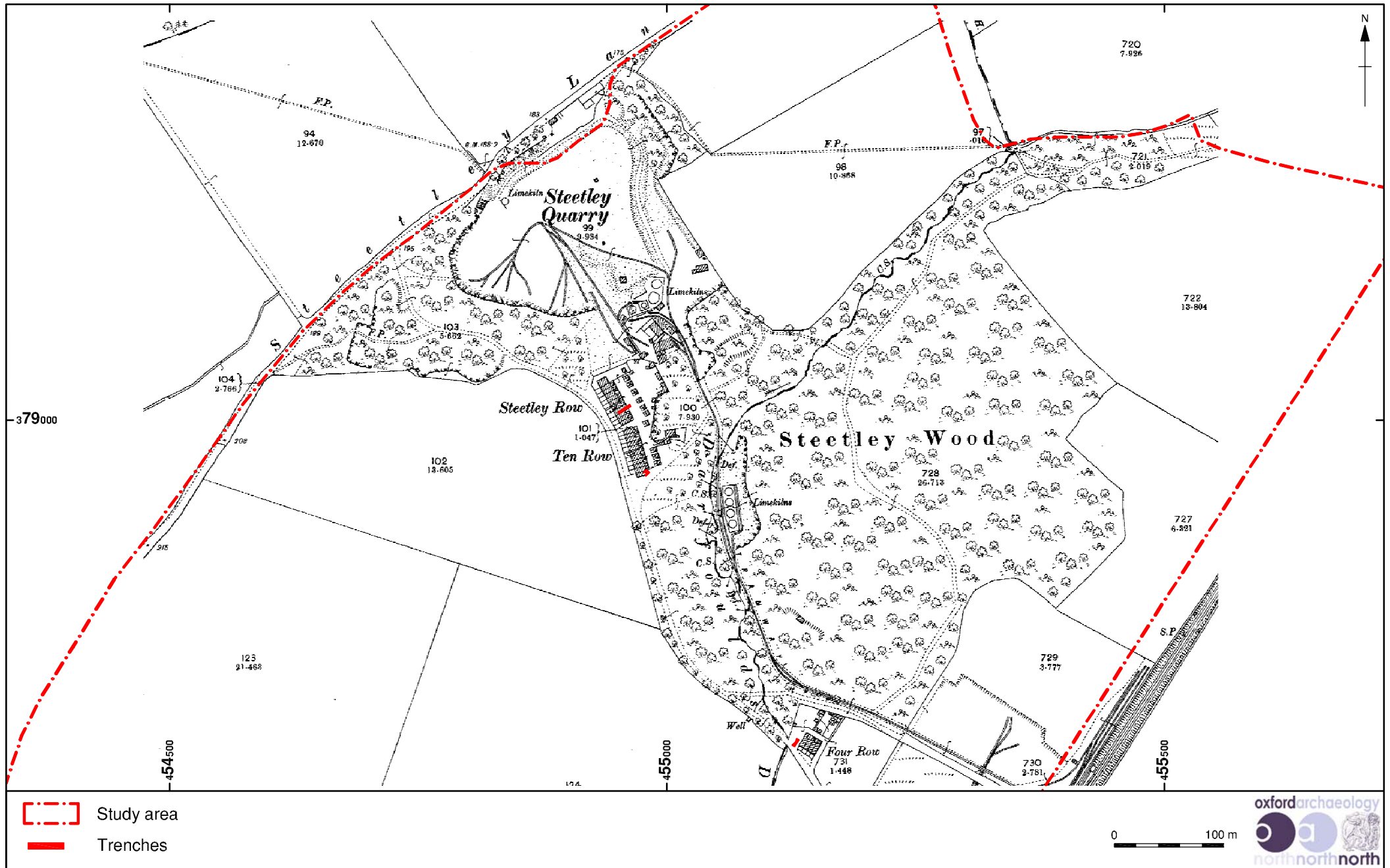


Figure 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map, 25" to 1 mile, 1898



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