



# **STRANDS FARM, HORNBY Lancashire**

## **Evaluation Report**



**Oxford Archaeology North**

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**Dalesmoor Homes**

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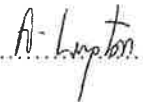
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## SUMMARY

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation by Dalesmoor Homes prior to the proposed development of land at Strands Farm, Lancaster Road, Hornby (SD 5850 6815); the site lies at the south-western end of the village of Hornby. The work was undertaken between 9th and 13th September 2002, and consisted of the excavation of five 15m long trenches. The trenches were positioned in order to trace any occupation across the area affected by the groundworks.

Hornby was one of the medieval towns of Lancashire. The evaluation revealed two north/south ditches, dated to between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries, thought to be the rear boundary ditches of burgage plots that may have had their frontage during the medieval period on, or close to, present day Station Road. Cartographic evidence suggests the medieval boundary may have been maintained throughout the post-medieval period, until the development of Strands Farm during the twentieth century. Several features, comprising dog and sheep/goat burials, gullies, and a layer of horticultural soil, represent activity in the rear gardens of the post-medieval properties that fronted onto Station Road.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thanks are due to the Nick Paxman and Stephen Howard of Dalesmoor Homes, for providing access to the site and for assistance during the project. In addition, OA North would like to thank Peter McCrone of Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) for providing information from the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

The excavation was undertaken by Mark Bagwell, Peter Schofield and Tony Platt, with illustrations by Adam Parsons. Comments on the finds were provided by Ian Miller and Andy Bates. The report was compiled by Mark Bagwell and the project managed by Alan Lupton, who also edited this report.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 An application for planning permission has been submitted to Lancaster City Council by Dalesmoor Homes (hereafter the 'client') for a new residential development on land at Strands Farm, Hornby (SD 5850 6815). Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) recommended that an archaeological evaluation be carried out on the site prior to the determination of the planning application. A verbal brief for the evaluation was outlined by the Development Control Officer (DCO) of LCAS.
- 1.1.2 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was contacted by the client to undertake the evaluation. Following submission of a project design for the task (*Appendix 1*) to LCAS, OA North was commissioned to undertake the work. The evaluation took place between 9th and 13th September 2002.
- 1.1.3 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document which outlines the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area, an assessment of the impact of the proposed development, and recommendations for further work.

### 1.2 SITE LOCATION

- 1.2.1 The site lies at the south-western end of the village of Hornby (Fig 1), bound to the north by Lancaster Road, to the east by residential housing and former Strands Farm buildings along Station Road, and to the west by open pasture land.
- 1.2.2 The main area of the study site comprises open, fairly flat land measuring 115m east/west x 80m north/south, set back from Lancaster Road to the north and Station Road to the east. Access is via Lancaster Road. At the time of the evaluation, the site was covered with crushed concrete derived from the demolition of agricultural buildings belonging to the former Strands Farm.
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology of the Bowland fringe is mainly Millstone grit, overlain by a complex of unconsolidated glacial deposits comprising mainly thick tills but with extensive areas of sand and gravel deposited from glacial melt water (Countryside Commission 1998, 91-96). The natural deposits at the base of each of the evaluation trenches, at a general depth of 1m below ground level, consisted of brownish orange clayey sand with c 10% small subrounded stones, with the exception of Trench 5, which had a stone content of approximately 40%. In Trench 4, natural sand was revealed in the base of a sondage at 1.40m below ground level.

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## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

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### 2.1 PREHISTORIC

- 2.1.1 Little is known of early prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of Hornby. It has been suggested by Haselgrove that some of the settlement and associated field system sites at Eller Beck, near Tunstall, may date to the Iron Age, as may the enigmatic curvilinear site on Castle Hill, Leck (Haselgrove 1996, 64-5). In addition, Forde-Johnston (1962) has suggested that Castlestede overlooking a crossing point over the River Lune, was originally a small 'hillfort' which was reused to construct a medieval motte and bailey castle.

### 2.2 ROMAN

- 2.2.1 A road between the Roman forts at Lancaster and Burrow ran along the east side of the River Lune, passing through Caton, Hornby and Tunstall (Shotter and White 1995, 59-60). No Romano-British rural sites are known from the Hornby area but sites of probable Romano-British date have been identified at nearby Claughton, Whittington and Eller Beck (*op cit*, 71-4).

### 2.3 MEDIEVAL

- 2.3.1 Two fragments of Anglian crosses in the churchyard of the later medieval St Margaret's church are thought to derive from the site of the twelfth century Premonstratensian priory, which lay to the north-west of the medieval borough, overlooking the Lune (Collingwood 1927, 57). These and the dedication of the priory to St Wilfred suggest that the priory was in fact a refoundation of an earlier Anglian monastery.
- 2.3.2 At some time after 1279 the lords of Hornby, the Nevilles, moved a pre-existing settlement from the vicinity of Castlestede, an earthwork castle that they had inherited, to a more favourable site beside the River Wenning (White 1996). The new borough of Hornby had a castle, a chapel, a market place, a tollbooth, and a grammar school. In 1319 the borough had more than 47 burgesses, but the town did not flourish and by the later medieval period was in decay (*ibid*). The area of Strands Farm is thought to lie within the area of the medieval borough of Hornby and there was considerable potential for remains relating to this period on the site.

### 2.4 POST-MEDIEVAL

- 2.4.1 In the late sixteenth century, a comprehensive survey was undertaken by the Hornby Castle Estates, which documented the landholdings within the estate (Chippendale 1939). The pattern of settlement has remained relatively

unchanged until the present day. The establishment of Strands Farm dates to the post-medieval period.



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### 3. METHODOLOGY

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#### 3.1 THE EVALUATION

- 3.1.1 The work undertaken followed the method statement detailed in the project design (*Appendix 1*) and complied with current legislation and accepted best practice, including the Code of Conduct and the relevant professional standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).
- 3.1.2 The programme of evaluation accurately recorded the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features. The work consisted of the excavation of five 15m long trenches, the examination of any horizons exposed, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features, horizons and any artefacts found during the excavation. The trenches were excavated initially by machine, but thereafter all excavation was by hand. All spoil was scanned for finds during the excavation. A list of contexts from the three trenches, 1-3, which produced archaeological features is presented in *Appendix 2*. No context numbers were used for Trench 4 and Trench 5, which did not contain any archaeological features.
- 3.1.3 The recording comprised a full description and preliminary classification of features or structures revealed, on *pro-forma* sheets, and their accurate location in plan. A plan was produced of the area excavated (Fig 2) and a photographic record in colour slide and monochrome formats was also compiled.

#### 3.2 ARCHIVE

- 3.2.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*) and with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The archive will be deposited in the Lancashire Record Office.

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## 4. RESULTS

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### 4.1 TRENCH 1

- 4.1.1 Trench 1, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and oriented north/south, was situated in the north-east corner of the site (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.9m to the level of the natural deposits.
- 4.1.2 The natural subsoil, **18**, exposed at the northern end of the trench, sloped gently northwards; it comprised orangey brown sandy clay and contained *c* 30% small-medium subrounded stones. In the southern half of the trench it was overlain by 0.25m thick natural subsoil, **17**, which consisted of orangey brown clay silt with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones.
- 4.1.3 Subsoil **17** was truncated by five features, all of probable post-medieval date (Figs 3 and 4). Two parallel linear east/west aligned gullies, **25** and **27**, were located in the south of the trench. Both gullies ran across the trench for a length of 1.8m, were 0.45m wide x 0.10m deep and 0.46m wide x 0.05m deep respectively, and lay 3m apart. Both were filled with soft orangey brown clayey silt with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones. Gully **27** produced a piece of clay tobacco pipe stem. Just the very base of both features survived, suggesting they had been truncated, probably by later horticultural activity represented by deposit **16** (see below 4.1.4). An oval pit with a rounded profile, **19**, located in the north of the trench, measured 1.14m north/south x 0.72m wide x 0.18m deep. It was filled with mid brown clayey silt, **20**, with occasional small subrounded stones, charcoal and coal fragments, and produced a clay tobacco pipe bowl. A complete articulated sheep/goat skeleton (Andy Bates *pers comm*) was found at the base of the cut. Two smaller pits to its south, **21** and **23**, containing disarticulated dog skeletons, may represent dog burials. One of them at least, from pit **23**, represents a complete individual (Andy Bates *pers comm*).
- 4.1.4 All of these features were overlain by a dark brown clayey silty sand deposit, **16**, up to 0.70m thick, interpreted as post-medieval horticultural, or garden, soil. This deposit was buried beneath 0.30m thick crushed rubble, forming made ground, **15**, derived from the demolished agricultural buildings of the former Strands Farm. One of its concrete stanchions survived *in-situ* in the centre of the trench to a depth of 0.30m below the base of the trench.

### 4.2 TRENCH 2

- 4.2.1 Trench 2, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and oriented east/west, was situated in the north-east of the site (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m to the level of the natural deposits.

- 4.2.2 The natural subsoil, **7**, at the base of the trench consisted of soft brownish orange clayey sand with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones. It was truncated by two north/south orientated ditches, **3** and **5** (Figs 3 and 4). Ditch **3** was observed running across the western end of the trench for a length of 1.8m. It was 0.96m wide x 0.39m deep, with a steep concave profile. Its fill, **4**, comprised soft grey brown clayey sand which produced three medieval pottery sherds dated to the twelfth to thirteenth centuries. This ditch is probably the same as ditch **13** in Trench 3 (see below 4.3.2), with which it was directly in line. Ditch **5**, located 2m to its east, was 0.75m wide x 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with greyish brown clayey sand, **6**, with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones, which produced one pottery sherd dated to the fourteenth/fifteenth century. Its orientation was difficult to discern due to its shallow nature, but it appeared to be curvilinear in plan, curving towards the north-east.
- 4.2.3 Ditches **3** and **5** were sealed by a layer of orangey brown clayey sand, **2**, interpreted as 'ploughsoil', with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded and subangular stones (Fig 4). It was *c* 0.50m thick at the western end of the trench, sloping down gradually towards the east and becoming gradually thinner until petering out at the eastern end of the trench. It produced a clay tobacco pipe bowl suggesting it was post-medieval in date, and was sealed by a 0.67m thick dark brown clayey sand deposit, **1**, along the length of the trench, interpreted as post-medieval horticultural soil. This was in turn overlaid by 0.40m thick modern made ground, **15**, consisting of crushed concrete derived from the demolished agricultural buildings of the former Strands Farm.

### 4.3 TRENCH 3

- 4.3.1 Trench 3, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and oriented east/west, was situated in the centre of the site (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m to the level of the natural deposits.
- 4.3.2 The natural subsoil, **7**, at the base of the trench consisted of soft brownish orangey clayey sand with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones. It was truncated by a linear north/south ditch, **13**, running across the centre of the trench, which was 1.7m wide x 0.55m deep with straight sides and a rounded base. The ditch was filled with orangey brown clayey sand, **14**, with *c* 10% small-medium subrounded stones (Figs 3 and 4), which produced a sherd of medieval pottery dated to the twelfth to thirteenth centuries. Ditch **13** is probably the same as ditch **3** in Trench 2, with which it was directly in line.
- 4.3.3 Ditch **13** was sealed by a 0.40m thick layer of brownish orange clayey sand, **11**, interpreted as 'ploughsoil', containing *c* 10% small subrounded stones. Deposit **11** in turn was overlain by a dark brownish grey clayey silty sand layer, **8**, containing *c* 10% small subrounded and subangular stones, interpreted as post-medieval horticultural, or garden, soil (Fig 4). Layer **8** was truncated by a linear north/south orientated drain, **10**, recorded to a depth of 0.85m, running across the centre of the trench for a length of 2m x 0.30m wide. It was filled

with grey brown clayey sand and medium subangular stones, and contained an orange ceramic drain pipe at its base. This was in turn overlain by 0.60m thick crushed rubble, forming made ground, 15, derived from the demolished agricultural buildings of the former Strands Farm.

#### 4.4 TRENCH 4

4.4.1 Trench 4, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and oriented east/west, was situated in the south-east of the site (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a general depth of 1.20m, to the level of the natural deposits, and to a maximum depth of 1.40m at the eastern end of the trench in order to examine the natural deposits.

4.4.2 Orange natural sand with *c* 10% small subrounded stones was revealed in the base of the sondage at the eastern end of the trench at 1.40m below the ground level. This was sealed by a 0.20m thick brownish orange clayey sand subsoil in the base of the trench at 1.20m below ground level, which in turn was overlaid by 0.40m thick orangey brown clayey sand subsoil with *c* 10% small subrounded stones and occasional charcoal and coal fragments. A 0.40m thick layer of dark brownish grey silty sand horticultural soil, similar to that recorded in the other trenches, was observed above the subsoil, overlaid by modern made ground consisting of crushed concrete derived from the demolished agricultural buildings of the former Strands Farm. No archaeological features or deposits were observed in Trench 4.

#### 4.5 TRENCH 5

4.5.1 Trench 5, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and oriented east/west, was situated in the north-west of the site (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.80m, to the level of the natural deposits.

4.5.2 The natural deposit at the base of the trench comprised orangey grey sand and small-medium subrounded and subangular stones. This deposit was sealed by a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey silty sand subsoil, which contained *c* 10% small subrounded stones and charcoal and coal fragments, and was in turn overlaid by modern made ground consisting of crushed concrete derived from the demolished agricultural buildings of the former Strands Farm. No archaeological features or deposits were observed in Trench 5.

#### 4.6 THE FINDS

4.6.1 In total, 16 fragments of artefacts were recovered from the evaluation. The bulk of the assemblage comprised animal bones (2.214kg), but it also included ceramic vessel fragments (11 sherds) and clay tobacco pipe (five sherds). Other finds classes, such as glass and ceramic building material, were absent from the assemblage. Catalogues of the artefacts have been included in *Appendix 3* in Context Number order. All finds were treated in accordance with standard OA North practice.

- 4.6.2 The finds assemblage was dominated by animal bones retrieved from Trench 1, which included the remains of a sheep/goat, and two dogs. These almost certainly represent domestic animal burials, and whilst they cannot be dated with precision, were probably interred during the post-medieval period.
- 4.6.3 In total, 11 sherds of pottery were retrieved from the evaluation, of which five were medieval and six were post-medieval in date. Analysis of the pottery was based solely on visual inspection of individual sherds, and has been described using the terminology developed by Orton *et al* (1993). In general terms, the material was in poor condition, and most fragments were clearly abraded and rolled. The date ranges suggested for these fabrics are approximate, and are based on parallels from excavations in Carlisle (McCarthy 1990) and Lancaster (White and Miller forthcoming). The absence of rims or other diagnostic sherds, however, has precluded the confident identification of vessel forms.
- 4.6.4 The earliest material produced from the evaluation was a single body sherd of a coarse, gritty fabric retrieved from ditch 3 (Trench 2). This fabric type may be closely paralleled with the Red Gritty ware which has been found in excavations in Carlisle (eg McCarthy 1990), and believed to have been manufactured from the twelfth century until the early thirteenth century. Two sherds of Partially Reduced Grey ware were also retrieved from ditch 3, and these fabric types may be ascribed a thirteenth century date. A single body sherd of similar fabric was produced from ditch 13 (Trench 3), to which a thirteenth/fourteenth-century date may be ascribed. Ditch 5 (Trench 2) produced a single body sherd of a sandy, oxidised fabric, which bore an orange-brown lead glaze on the exterior surface. Traces of rilling on the internal surface suggested this sherd to have been part of a jug neck. This sherd is likely to date to the fourteenth/fifteenth centuries. The absence of any post-medieval pottery within these ditch groups is of note, indicating that they were sealed, with little, if any, disturbance during the post-medieval or modern periods. Similarly, the absence of Late Medieval Fully Reduced wares is of interest, as these fabrics tend to become dominant during the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries (McCarthy and Brooks 1988), and their absence from the Strands Farm assemblage hints at a cessation of activity prior to the seventeenth century.
- 4.6.5 The likely sources of pottery used in north Lancashire during the medieval period are as yet not well known, and the fabrics present in the Strands Farm assemblage cannot be ascribed to a specific source. It is likely, however, that they are the product of a local source, although a single sherd from ditch 3 may have been produced in Carlisle.
- 4.6.6 The six sherds of post-medieval pottery retrieved from the evaluation were produced from soil horizon 16 (Trench 1). This small group comprised kitchen and table wares, and included earthenware likely to have been manufactured at Burton-in-Lonsdale, which flourished as a production centre throughout the eighteenth century. A single fragment of mottled ware is also likely to be of an

eighteenth century date, whilst the remainder of the group may only be ascribed a broad eighteenth/nineteenth-century date.

- 4.6.7 Five fragments of clay tobacco pipes were retrieved from the evaluation. The earliest of these was produced from subsoil **2** (Trench 2), and may be ascribed a seventeenth century date. This fragment comprised a complete bowl with a rouletted decoration, and a short section of stem. A fragment of bowl retrieved from pit **19** is likely to be of an eighteenth century date, providing an indication of date for the sheep/goat burial. A clay tobacco pipe bowl retrieved from unstratified deposits may also be ascribed an eighteenth century date, whilst the fragment of pipe stem produced from gully **27** (Trench 1) was not closely datable.
- 4.6.8 In conclusion, the small finds assemblage is of limited archaeological significance, although it does provide broad dating for certain features exposed during the evaluation. In all probability, the finds represent the dumping of domestic refuse and suggest an occupation of the site since the late twelfth century, although the absence of sixteenth century material is interesting.

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## 5. DISCUSSION

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### 5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 The archaeological evaluation demonstrated that medieval archaeology, comprising two ditches, survived in the north-eastern quarter of the study site, together with several post-medieval features. These are of considerable local archaeological importance.
- 5.1.2 **Medieval:** the earliest medieval feature identified at the site was a north/south aligned ditch which ran parallel with present day Station Road to the east of the site. Sections of it were recorded in the western end of Trench 2 (3) and in the centre of Trench 3 (13), both producing pottery sherds dated to the twelfth to thirteenth centuries. The ditch may have been the rear boundary of burgage plots that may have fronted onto to the former medieval main street that would have existed close to the line of present day Station Road, suggesting that these plots may have extended as far back as 75m from the street frontage (White 1986, 3). The rear of medieval burgage plots served a number of functions, including areas for small craft industries, stables, storage of materials, and the disposal of household rubbish and waste materials; no evidence of such activities was observed in the evaluation trenches.
- 5.1.3 Medieval ditch 5 appeared to be curvilinear and was identified in Trench 2 only. Thus it remains unclear at present if it ran across the whole of the site. It may have represented a re-alignment of the rear plot boundary of properties during the fourteenth century.
- 5.1.4 **Post-medieval:** cartographic evidence suggests the medieval boundary was maintained, possibly for the same function, during the post-medieval period (as shown on the 1919, 1956, and 1972 Ordnance Survey maps), although archaeologically no trace of the post-medieval boundary survived, possibly due to truncation by the development of the former Strands Farm.
- 5.1.5 The medieval features were sealed by 'ploughsoil', which probably developed between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This deposit was observed in the central eastern half of the site, thickest in Trenches 2 and 3, and appeared to be absent in the west of the site (Trench 5). Trench 2 demonstrated that it became thinner and eventually petered out towards the east of the trench, and it was totally absent towards the eastern boundary of the site (Trench 1), where it had been truncated by later horticultural activity.
- 5.1.6 Five features dated to between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were recorded in Trench 1. Two were pits that contained dog burials, one of them a complete, though disarticulated, skeleton, and a further pit contained an articulated sheep burial. The trench also revealed two gullies of approximately the same date, truncated by later horticultural activity.

- 5.1.7 The latest phase of post-medieval activity was represented by a layer of late eighteenth-mid nineteenth century horticultural soil, which probably lay within the garden plots of the post-medieval buildings that fronted onto Station Road. In Trench 1, where it was up to 0.70m thick, it seems to have had quite a severe impact on underlying archaeological deposits.

## **5.2 IMPACT**

- 5.2.1 Although the study site lay towards the edge of the main focus of medieval Hornby, the eastern side of the site probably lay within the area of the medieval borough, containing the tails of burgage plots that had their frontage on, or close to, present day Station Road. Apart from the western boundary ditch, which survives to a depth of 0.55m at 1m below ground level, no medieval features associated with typical burgage plot activity were identified within the evaluation trenches. However, the evaluation has demonstrated that the archaeological resource has not been completely destroyed by the development of the former Strands Farm, and that there is potential for the survival of medieval and post-medieval features and/or deposits in the central/eastern area of the site around Trenches 2 and 3.

## **5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.3.1 In order to gain a fuller understanding of the development and decline of medieval and early post-medieval Hornby, it is recommended that those areas of the site with greatest archaeological potential should be investigated further. A programme of open area excavation, centred on the area of Trenches 2 and 3 should record any surviving information relating to use of the rear of the burgage plots fronting onto Station Road, as mitigation of the impact of the proposed development.



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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

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**June 2002**

**Oxford  
Archaeology  
North**

**STRANDS FARM, HORNBY,  
LANCASHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

***Proposals***

*The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr Nick Paxman, of Dalesmoor Homes, for an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land at Strands Farm, Hornby, Lancashire.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An application for planning permission has been submitted to Lancaster City Council to erect a new residential development on land at Strands Farm, Hornby. Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) have recommended that an archaeological evaluation be carried out on the site prior to the determination of the planning application. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) has been contacted by Dalesmoor Homes to undertake the work. The following document represents a project design to carry out the evaluation of the site.
- 1.2 At some time after 1279 the lords of Hornby, the Nevilles, moved a pre-existing settlement from the vicinity of Castlestede, an earthwork castle that they had inherited, to a more favourable site beside the River Wenning. The new borough of Hornby had a castle, a chapel, a market place, a tollbooth, a grammar school. In 1319 the borough had more than 47 burgesses, but the town did not flourish and by the later medieval period was in decay. The area of Strands Farm is thought to lie within the area of the medieval borough of Hornby and remains relating to this period may still exist on the site.
- 1.3 OA North has considerable experience of excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 20 years, including work in most towns and rural areas of Lancashire and Cumbria. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency; it is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.
- 1.4 OA North has particular experience of the archaeology of the Hornby area having undertaken work at Priory Farm, Hornby, Hornby Castle, and in most of the towns, villages and surrounding areas in this part of Lancashire, including *inter alia* Lancaster, Arkholme, Claughton, Melling and Tunstall. In addition, OA North is currently about to undertake an evaluation at nearby Castlestede, the site of a probable late eleventh/early twelfth century motte and bailey castle defending a crossing point over the River Lune.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The following programme has been designed to evaluate the archaeological deposits affected by the proposed development of the site. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:
- 2.2 ***Archaeological Evaluation***  
To undertake evaluation trenching of the area to be affected by the groundworks for the proposed residential development to determine the quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site.

### 2.3 **Post-Excavation and Report Production**

An evaluation report will be produced for the client within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork. A site archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (MAP 2) and in accordance with the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (UKIC 1990).

## 3. METHODS STATEMENT

3.1 The following work programme is submitted in line with the stages and objectives of the archaeological work summarised above.

### 3.2 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

3.2.1 Following demolition of farm buildings and the removal of concrete hardstanding, five 15m x 1.6m evaluation trenches will be excavated across the area of the proposed development. The uppermost modern surface will be removed by machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions.

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

3.2.3 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology of English Heritage, 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.

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

- 3.2.5 The deposition and disposal of any artefacts recovered in the evaluation will be agreed with the legal owner prior to the work taking place. Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to an appropriate receiving museum.
- 3.2.6 Environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from suitable deposits (i.e. the deposits are reasonably well dated and are from contexts the derivation of which can be understood with a degree of confidence). Where such deposits are encountered, an appropriate sampling strategy will be agreed with the DCO.
- 3.2.7 Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate. If necessary, access to conservation advice and facilities can be made available. OA North maintains close relationships with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, employs 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.
- 3.2.8 **Health and Safety:** OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
- 3.2.9 The client is requested to provide information relating to services in the vicinity of the trenches, though OA North will undertake a Cat scan in advance of site commencement.
- 3.2.10 If necessary the trenches will be excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m. Following completion of the evaluation, the trenches will be backfilled with the material removed in their excavation. Any other form of land reinstatement will be the responsibility of the client.
- 3.2.11 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.
- 3.2.12 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 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION

- 3.3.1 **Archive:** The results of Stage 3.2.1-3.2.12 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.
- 3.3.2 This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files (as appropriate). The paper archive will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office within six months of the completion of the fieldwork. The material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) will be deposited with an appropriate museum following agreement with the client.
- 3.3.3 **Report:** one copy of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client and one copy to the County SMR within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. The final report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed above, and will include recommendations for any further mitigation works and details of the final deposition of the project archive.
- 3.3.4 **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. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

## 4. WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 **Archaeological Evaluation**  
A five day period is required to excavate five evaluation trenches.
- 4.2 **Post-Excavation and Report Production**  
An evaluation report will be submitted within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.
- 4.3 OA North can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client. One weeks notice should be sufficient to allow the necessary arrangements to be made to commence the task.

## 5. STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Present timetabling constraints preclude detailing exactly who will be supervising the evaluation trenching, but all OA North project officers and supervisors are suitably experienced field archaeologists who have undertaken numerous evaluation and excavation work throughout northern England.
- 5.2 Assessment of the finds from the evaluation will be undertaken by **Christine Howard-Davis BA MIFA** (OA North project officer). Christine acts as OA North's in-house finds specialist and has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England. However, she has specialist knowledge regarding Roman glass, metalwork, and leather, the recording and management of waterlogged wood, and most aspects of wetland and environmental archaeology.
- 5.3 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples which may be taken will be undertaken by **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (OA North project officer). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.
- 5.4 The project will be managed by **Alan Lupton, PhD** (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

## 6. MONITORING

- 6.1 Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the DCO.
- 6.2 Access to the site for monitoring purposes will be afforded to the DCO at all times.



## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Context Number	Trench	Description
<i>1</i>	2	Buried horticultural soil
<i>2</i>	2	Subsoil
<i>3</i>	2	North/south medieval ditch cut
<i>4</i>	2	Fill of <i>3</i>
<i>5</i>	2	North/south medieval ditch cut
<i>6</i>	2	Fill of <i>5</i>
<i>7</i>	2	Natural deposit
<i>8</i>	3	Buried horticultural soil
<i>9</i>	3	Fill of <i>10</i>
<i>10</i>	3	Post-medieval drain cut
<i>11</i>	3	Subsoil
<i>12</i>	3	Fill of <i>13</i>
<i>13</i>	3	North/south medieval ditch
<i>14</i>	3	Natural deposit
<i>15</i>	1,2,3	Modern made ground
<i>16</i>	1	Buried horticultural soil
<i>17</i>	1	Natural subsoil
<i>18</i>	1	Natural deposit
<i>19</i>	1	Pit cut
<i>20</i>	1	Fill of <i>19</i> (dog burial)
<i>21</i>	1	Pit cut

22	1	Fill of 21
23	1	Pit cut
24	1	Fill of 23
25	1	East/west gully cut
26	1	Fill of 25
27	1	East/west gully cut
28	1	Fill of 27

## APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY FINDS LIST

Context	Trench	Quantity	Material	Date Range
02	2	1	Clay tobacco pipe bowl	Seventeenth century
04	4	3	Ceramic vessel body sherds	Late twelfth-thirteenth
06	2	1	Ceramic vessel body sherd	Fourteenth-fifteenth
12	3	1	Ceramic vessel body sherd	Thirteenth-fourteenth
13	3	36g	Animal bone (sheep/goat)	-
16	1	6	Ceramic vessel sherds	Eighteenth century
20	1	1	Clay tobacco pipe bowl	Eighteenth century
20	1	1606g	Animal bone (dog)	-
22	1	572g	Animal bone (dog)	-
28	1	1	Clay tobacco pipe stem	Eighteenth-
U/S	5	2	Clay tobacco pipe fragments	C18th-C19th

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

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### LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1      Location Map
- Figure 2      Trench Location Plan
- Figure 3      Plans of Trenches 1, 2, and 3
- Figure 4      Sections through Trenches 1, 2, and 3

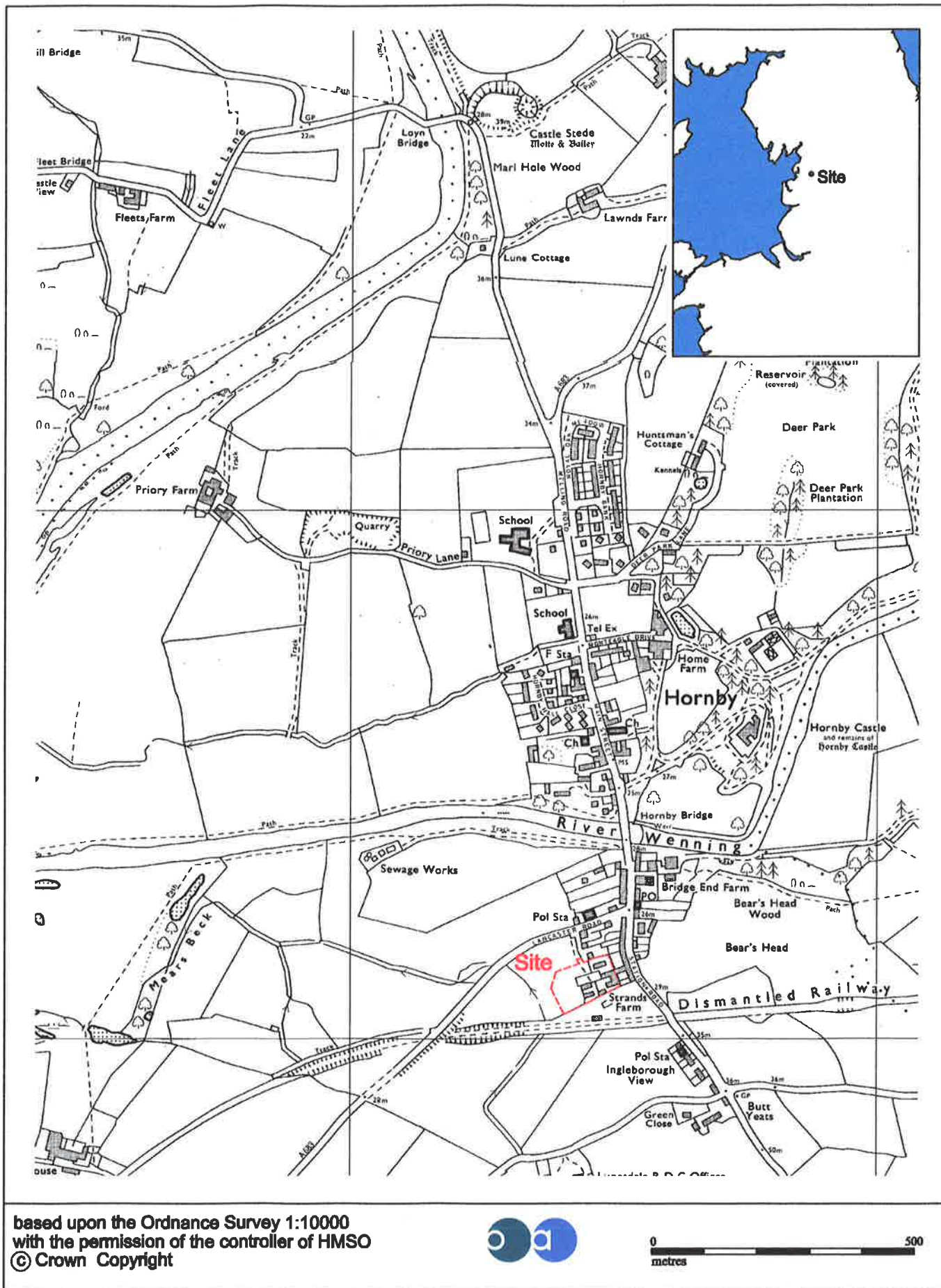
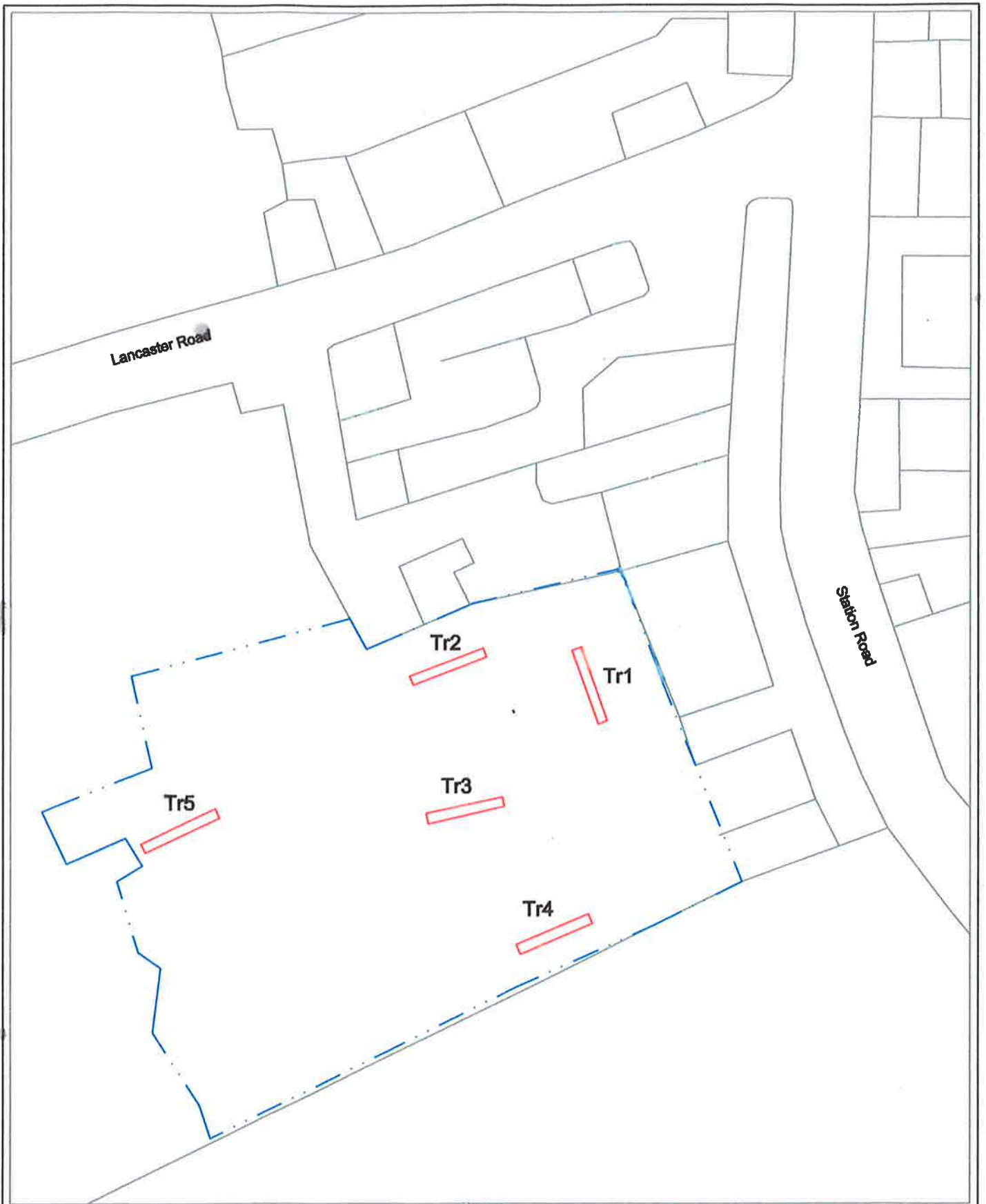


Figure 1: Location Map



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**PROJECT:** Strands Farm, Hornby  
**DRAWING No:** 2  
**SCALE:** 1:1000  
**TITLE:** Trench Location Plan  
**CLIENT:** Dalemoor Homes  
**DRAWN BY:** AJP  
**DATE:** 16/08/02

**LOCATION:**

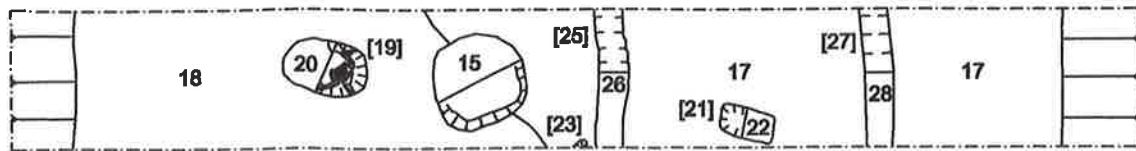


**KEY**

 Site extents  
 Trenches

 0 25m

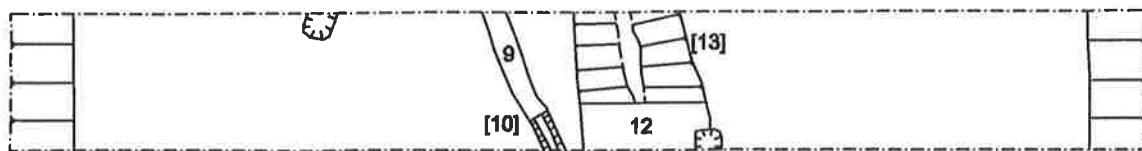
Figure 2: Trench Location Plan



Plan of Trench 1



Plan of Trench 2



Plan of Trench 3



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PROJECT: Strands Farm, Hornby  
 DRAWING No: 03  
 SCALE: 1:100  
 TITLE: Plans of trenches 1, 2 and 3  
 CLIENT: Dalemoor Homes  
 DRAWN BY: AJP  
 DATE: 16/09/02

LOCATION:



KEY

--- Trench  
 ——— Features

Figure 3: Plans of Trenches 1, 2 and 3



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PROJECT:

Strands Farm, Hornby

DRAWING No:

Figure 4

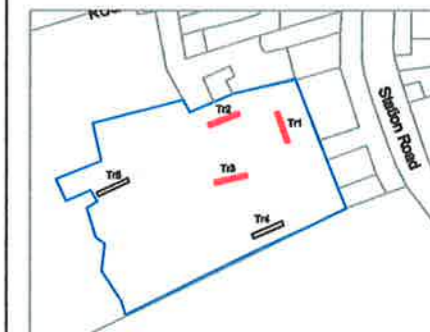


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DRAWN BY: AJP

DATE: 16/09/02

LOCATION



KEY

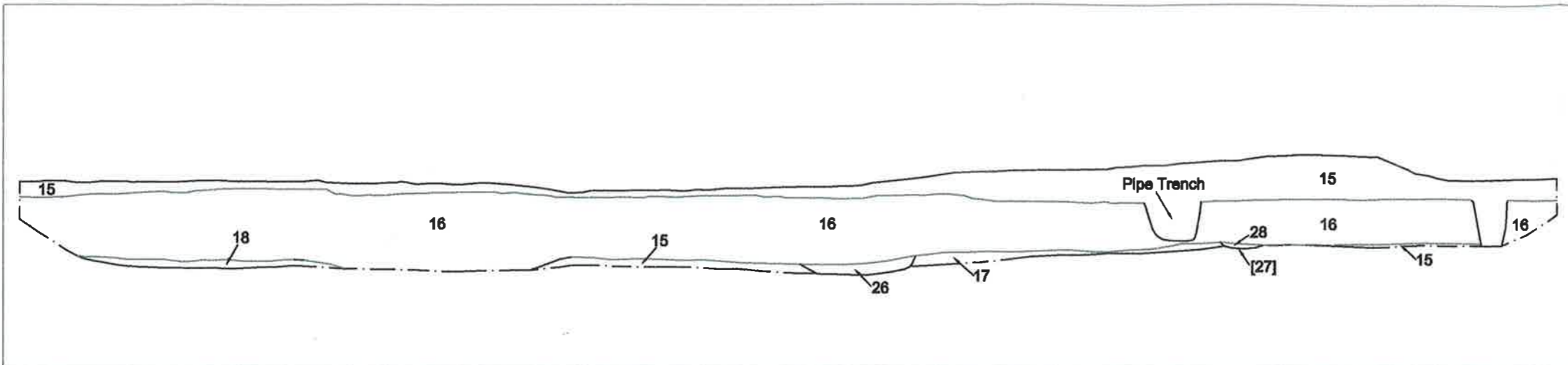
- Features
- - - Trench

TITLE:

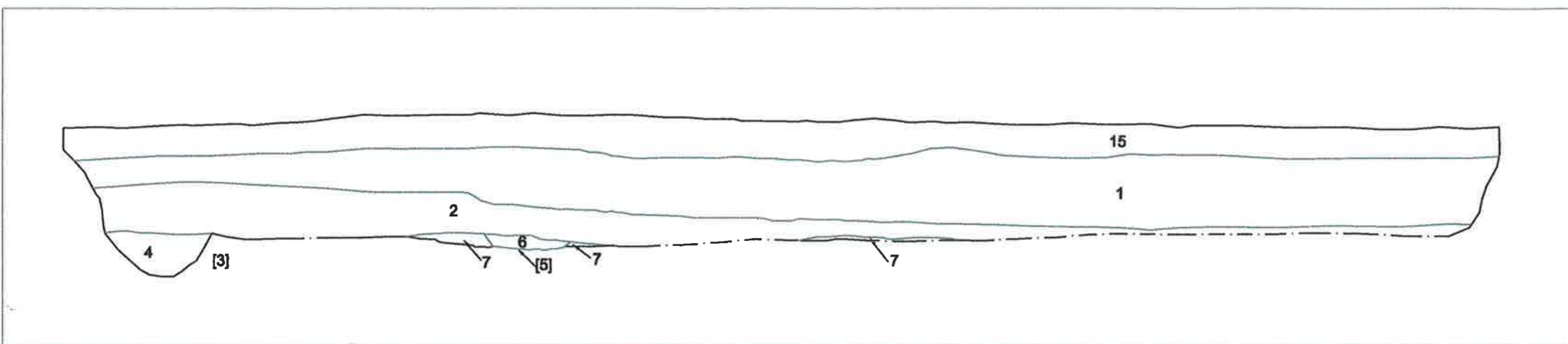
Sections of Trenches 1, 2 and 3

COMMISSIONED BY:

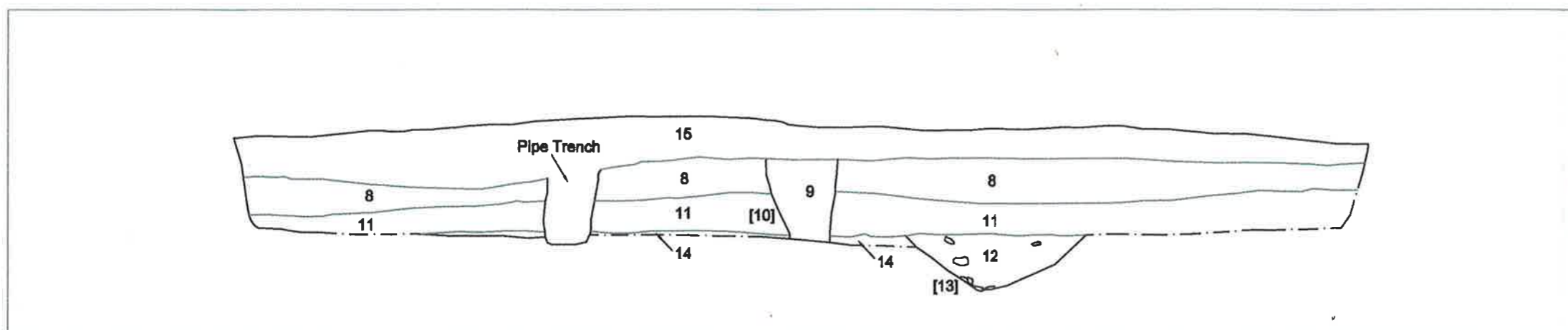
Dalesmoor Homes



Trench 1



Trench 2



Trench 3

Figure 4: Sections through Trenches 1, 2 and 3





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