CLAYTON HALL
Lancashire

Archaeological Evaluation and Fabric Survey

Oxford Archaeology North

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SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN), formerly Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, at Clayton Hall, Chorley, Lancashire (NGR SD 5646 2205), in September 2001. The site contains a moat, moated platform, feeder channels, and two fishponds, all of which are components of a Scheduled Monument (SM 13409). Within the moat is the ruined remains of the former Clayton Hall, which was constructed in the late sixteenth or seventeenth century and was demolished in 1976. The work was commissioned by The Environment Partnership on behalf of English Partnerships, and followed an earlier archaeological feasibility study, including topographical and geophysical surveys, by West Yorkshire Archaeological Services, and an earlier programme of archaeological evaluation, by OAN, in August 2000. The earlier evaluation furnished important details of the site, but a number of questions remained, particularly with respect to the southern side of the moat. In order to address these questions, four evaluation trenches were excavated by OAN during September 2001, placed across the projected line of the moat. Trenches were excavated by machine down to the top of significant archaeological deposits, with manual excavation thereafter. The moat was identified in three of the trenches, and the evaluation was able to establish the course of the moat in this southern sector. In the fourth trench, in the south-eastern section of the course of the moat, no moat or ditch was identified; the trench was, however, approximately adjacent to a tree-lined avenue leading towards the moat, and it is believed that this was the location of an original causeway across the moat.

A programme of clearance, fabric recording, and consolidation of the demolished hall was undertaken. The clearance excavation concentrated on the eastern and southern sides of the building, and only exposed the floor level in the central hallway, being otherwise required to expose the tops of internal walls, thus protecting the potentially fragile surfaces.

A fabric survey of the exposed plan of Clayton Hall was undertaken after site clearance. The building plan and exposed elevations were recorded and the results were subject to basic analysis. Following the fabric recording, a programme of consolidation was undertaken, which was intended to stabilise the masonry exposed by the clearance, to make the structure safe, and to protect the ruins from damage resulting from visitor pressure.

During the latter part of the consolidation programme, a further two trenches were excavated during October 2001, extending from the east wall of Clayton Hall. These were positioned in order to investigate the foundations of the building and the potential for earlier structures on the site. They revealed the foundation of an earlier structure, against the southern section of the east wall, but no earlier structural remains were found beneath or adjacent to the northern section of the same wall.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North would like to thank English Partnerships for commissioning the project, and Cath Neve and Tracy Purcell, from the client's consultant, The Environment Partnership, for their help and support. Andrew Davison (English Heritage) discussed the proposed programme and gave advice on the application for Scheduled Monument Consent to enable the works. The programme was monitored by Peter McCrone of the Lancashire County Archaeology Service.

The excavation was conducted by Sean McPhillips, Ian Miller, and Neil Wearing. Emma Carter and Neil Wearing compiled the drawings and the finds assessment was by Sean McPhillips. The fabric survey was carried out by Daniel Elsworth. The programme of consolidation was undertaken by Alan Andrews, and architectural support was provided by Ken Humphreys of Carr Humphreys Architecture. The report was written by Sean McPhillips, and edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Rachel Newman. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OAN), formerly Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation and consolidation programme of Clayton Hall by the Environment Partnership, on behalf of English Partnerships, in advance of a programme of landscaping of the site to improve access and ensure public safety. Clayton Hall was a seventeenth century house, demolished in contentious circumstances in 1976 after a period of neglect, standing on a medieval moated platform (WYAS 1998, 2, 4). The site is listed on the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record, and was designated a Scheduled Monument in 1978 (SM 13409).

1.1.2 The present programme follows on from an evaluation of the moat, undertaken by OAN (as LUAU) in August 2000 (LUAU 2000), which revealed surviving remains of the moat around the northern part of the site, but only insubstantial ditches around the southern part of the site. The present programme was required to clarify the character of the moat in the southern sector, to record and expose the surviving remains of the hall, to consolidate the extant structural remains, and to undertake evaluation trenching within the centre of the moated platform.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY, AND TOPOGRAPHY

1.2.1 The site lies 2km east of the centre of Leyland, Lancashire, and is centred at NGR SD 5646 2205 (Fig 1). It is ringed by housing estates to the north and west, with pasture surviving to the east and south. The land to the north is largely flat, but the ground slopes away progressively to the south-west across the site, towards Bryning Brook. Most of the platform lies at a height of 69.5m OD.

1.2.2 The solid geology of the area consists of red and green mudstones, but this is obscured by a thick covering of glacial drift (WYAS 1998, 11-12). The drift is known to consist of boulder clay to the west of the site (*ibid*) but, in the area of the platform and moat, consists of deposits of relatively stone-free clay overlying reddish brown sand.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been thoroughly reviewed in the earlier archaeological feasibility study (WYAS 1998), which describes and assesses the available documentary and historical sources in some detail. A summary of the background history of the site is presented below.

1.3.2 ***Roman:*** the site of Clayton Hall is *c*500m to the east of the Wigan to Preston Roman road, which seems to have continued in use through until the thirteenth century, when it was called Waingate (Hallam 1985, 49).

1.3.3 ***Medieval:*** the earliest mention of Clayton was in *c*1160, when the *mesne* including Clayton was granted to Richard Fitton by Richard de Bussel, Baron of Penwortham (Lumby 1936). Moated sites such as Clayton Hall typically date from the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries, and fourteenth century pottery has been found on site (Lewis 1978, 54-5), which would tend to suggest that the moated site was in place by that date. In the thirteenth century Clayton-le-Woods was on the western periphery of the Penwortham demesne forest, and it is probable that the moated site was one of the forest assarts (*ibid*).

1.3.4 ***Post-medieval:*** in 1557 the moiety of the Clayton manor was sold to Hugh Anderton of Euxton, comprising 50 messuages, a dovecote, a watermill and 800 acres of land (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). The fortunes of the family suffered from backing the wrong side in the Civil War; the estate lands were sequestered by Parliament and sold to Richard Bell, and this included Clayton Hall, Bardsea Hall, Urswick (now in Cumbria) and the tithes of Euxton (*ibid*). By 1661, the Andertons had succeeded in recovering much of the estate, but at considerable cost of sales elsewhere and by mortgages (WYAS 1998, 17). The house was subsequently sold to Lord Molyneux in 1683, after the death of William Anderton; then in 1717 Lord Molyneux sold the house to John Wright, a linen draper from London (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 31).

1.3.5 At some time in the later sixteenth or seventeenth century Clayton Hall was rebuilt, to judge by the character of the fabric depicted in photographs taken in 1975 prior to its demolition (Hallam *c*1983); however, no rebuilding is documented at that time. In 1666 it was recorded as having 14 hearths (Bolton 1985, 41), and James Anderton II's *inquisition post mortem*, dated 1658-1660, records the house and possibly also the home farm, as having 31 chambers inclusive of out-buildings (*op cit*, 42); of these the following were definitely within the main house:

the clock house chamber
the highe chamber
the school house chamber
the entry
Mrs Anderson's closett
the maiden's chambers
the little chamber
the chamber over the hall
the chamber over the parlour
the cellar chamber
the gallery
the dineing (*sic*) room
Mrs Anderton's chamber
the inner chamber
the new chamber
the seeled chamber.

1.3.6 The arrangement of chambers broadly accords with the layout of the building shown on plans dating from 1910. In the period following the end of the Civil Wars (1642-1651), the crippling debts of the Anderton family meant that they were unlikely to have been in a position to rebuild the house. Following its acquisition by the Molyneux family in 1683, there are records of considerable

repairs to the house and estate (1689) but none of these accounts relate to rebuilding or alterations (Hallam *c*1983), and it is evident that the house had become considerably rundown by this date. It can therefore be concluded that the building was probably rebuilt at some date prior to the Civil Wars.

1.3.7 From 1683 the house was, for the most part, occupied by tenants, and changed ownership on numerous occasions (*ibid*). The land was separated from the hall in the 1960s and the hall ceased to be occupied in 1968. The house was demolished in 1976 despite being at that time a grade II* listed building (*ibid*).

1.4 PREVIOUS WORK

1.4.1 A small archaeological excavation, consisting of a trench across the western arm of the moat, and possibly also a trench at the southern terminus of the east arm, was carried out by Mr B Edwards, former Lancashire County Archaeologist, in 1973. The surviving archive consists only of photographs in colour slide format (WYAS 1998, 33).

1.4.2 An archaeological feasibility study (Phase 1) was undertaken by West Yorkshire Archaeological Services (WYAS 1998), which involved the implementation of a desk-based study, an earthwork survey of the moat and platform, and a geophysical survey of the platform and environs. The documentary study established the basic history of the site (*Section 1.3*), whilst the earthwork survey recorded the character of the extant moat sections and associated ponds. It also recorded a series of lynchets and ditches to the south-west of the moated site, which were potentially part of a medieval agricultural landscape. The geophysical survey examined the areas around the moated site and identified a rectilinear anomaly to the east of the eastern arm of the moat which it was suggested may have been a building or an enclosure wall.

1.4.3 This element was followed by a programme of evaluation of the moat, which was undertaken by OAN (formerly LUAU) in August 2000 (LUAU 2000). Fourteen trenches were placed across the moat, feeder channels, and the fish ponds. Whilst these clarified certain aspects of the layout of the site, several important questions remained unanswered. In particular, only shallow and narrow ditches were identified around the southern part of the site and there was some uncertainty as to whether these related to the moat or if the moat lay beyond the extent of the trenching. As a consequence there was a need to undertake further trenching to clarify the form and alignment of the moat in this southern part of the site.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with a project design prepared by OAN (*Appendix 1)* which was prepared following discussions with the Environment Partnership, English Partnerships, English Heritage, and the Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS). This phase of the programme comprised the excavation of four additional evaluation trenches across the southern line of the moat; a programme of clearance, recording and consolidation to expose the extant fabric of the hall; and a further two evaluation trenches in the centre of the moated platform at the eastern frontage of the house.

2.1.2 The trench positions defined in the project design were subject to limited adjustment in order to minimise disturbance to trees, and to the archaeological features; the final layout of the trenches is defined in Figure 3. The project design indicated that a mini-digger should be used, but in the event it was evident that this would have insufficient reach to undertake the work efficiently, and would have caused more disturbance to the features than a larger machine. Subject to an agreement with the client and English Heritage, a 12 ton 360º tracked machine was used, which was able to excavate cleanly without unnecessary damage to the site.

2.1.3 In the project design it was envisaged that only the south and east sides of Clayton Hall would be consolidated, but in the event localised vandalism caused dangerous instabilities to elements of the structure on the west side of the building. It was therefore necessary to undertake additional consolidation works in order to stabilise this part of the structure. In all other respects, the work was undertaken in accordance with the project design.

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of six trenches, of varied size, in locations agreed by OAN, LCAS, the Environment Partnership, and English Heritage. Four trenches (between 7m and 13m long) examined the southern section of the moat and two 5m long trenches were excavated adjacent to the walls of the building within the moated platform (Figs 3 and 4). A 12 ton 360º tracked excavator was used to remove topsoil to the top of significant archaeological deposits, or, if no stratigraphy existed, down to the surface of the natural subsoil. The trenches were then cleaned by hand, and manual excavation to sample features was carried out where appropriate.

2.2.2 All excavation was undertaken in a stratigraphic manner, and features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* context sheets based on those designed by MoLAS and English Heritage's Centre for Archaeology (CFA). Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and a photographic record was created in colour slide and black and white print formats. Planning was carried out using a total station and data logger, allowing digital plans to be produced, which were

superimposed on a digital topographic plan of the site provided by the Environment Partnership (Figs 4 and 9).

2.2.3 ***Palaeoenvironmental Evaluation:*** although allowed for in the project design, in the event no environmental samples were taken since the nature of the exposed deposits did not produce good preservation. Indeed, the potential for the survival of significant macrobotanical evidence appeared limited, because the majority of the cut features had been infilled in the post-medieval or modern periods.

2.3 SITE CLEARANCE

2.3.1 A site clearance operation was undertaken, involving the removal of demolition rubble from both the inside and outside of the walls of the sixteenth / seventeenth century house. The work concentrated on the eastern and southern exterior sides of the building to a depth of 0.90m, and the internal area was levelled by no more than 0.30m to expose the tops of the partition walls. The rubble was removed mechanically, using a five ton tracked mini-excavator under archaeological supervision. Manual clearance and cleaning was subsequently undertaken to clarify the structural detail and also in the vicinity of structural components which were unstable and could not be safely excavated by machine.

2.4 FABRIC SURVEY

2.4.1 A survey to Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments (England) (RCHM(E)) Level 3 standard was undertaken of the building, consisting of written descriptive records and photographs of the fully exposed elevations (south and east), a detailed plan of the site, and drawings of the principal elevations of the southern and eastern sides of the building. A ground plan of the building was created by means of a reflectorless total station, which is capable of measuring distances to architectural detail by reflection from the surface of that element (without need of a prism). The survey was undertaken with respect to a series of accurately surveyed control stations established by traverse around the building. The survey recorded all significant, extant structural elements, inclusive of blocked apertures, masonry joints, and changes in internal levels; it was enhanced by manual survey techniques onto a film base. The graphic results of the survey were digitised into an industry-standard Computer Aided Draughting (AutoCAD 14) system to enhance the manipulation and presentation of the results.

2.4.2 ***Photographic Survey:*** a general oblique photographic survey was undertaken of the building, comprising a conventional monochrome medium format record of the building, including external elevations and appropriate architectural detail. A record was also made in 35mm colour slide and black and white formats of the interiors of the rooms, which showed similar detail to the medium format record, as well as a broad range of generalised views.

2.4.3 Rectified photography was undertaken in monochrome medium format of the external eastern and southern elevations. Survey control was applied to the photography by means of the reflectorless total station. The photographic images were digitally calibrated using Archis software and incorporated as raster

images into the CAD system (Autocad 14); elevation drawings were produced with respect to these images (Fig 9).

2.4.4 ***Descriptive Record:*** a visual inspection of the site was carried out and a basic level of descriptive record was created in accordance with the RCHM(E) Level 3 standard. This involved the internal and external examination of the extant fabric, and generated a summary assessment of the period and significance of the building (*Section 4*).

2.5 FINDS STRATEGY

2.5.1 All artefacts and ecofacts were recorded using the same system as the contextual information, and were handled and stored according to standard practice, following current Institute of Field Archaeologists' guidelines. The assemblage was subject to analysis by an OAN in-house finds specialist and the results are presented in *Section 3.4*. Analysis of the pottery was based on visual inspection of individual sherds, and has been described using the terminology developed by Orton *et al* (1993) and the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG 1998).

2.6 ARCHIVE

2.6.1 A full archive to professional standards, following current English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991), has been compiled in accordance with the project design. The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project, and includes *pro forma* recording sheets, the photographic archive, and accurate digital plans and sections.

2.6.2 Following discussion with the client, the material archive will be deposited with the Lancashire County Museum Service. Arrangements will be made for the paper archive to be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office (Preston).

3. EVALUATION RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Summary results of the evaluation trenching are presented below. The context list is presented in *Appendix 2*, and the trench locations and features are shown graphically in Figure 3. The trench numbers continue on from the sequence of Trenches from the earlier phase of evaluation (LUAU 2000).

3.2 SOUTHERN HALF OF THE MOAT

3.2.1 ***Trench 15:*** Trench 15 was positioned to the south of the southern boundary around the site, and was aligned north/south, in order to reveal any evidence for the southern corner of the moat. The trench measured 13.35m long by 1.7m wide, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8m (Fig 5).

3.2.2 A natural sandy subsoil, ***13***, presumably of glacial origin, was revealed at a depth of 1.7m below the ground surface at the northern end of the trench. This was overlain by a layer of natural boulder clay, ***7***, encountered in the southern part of the trench, and was truncated by a linear cut in the northern part of the trench, which was clearly the southern side of the moat.

3.2.3 The moat, ***14,*** was located on an approximately east/west alignment, but only the southern side of the moat was revealed within the trench. To judge by the position of the deepest part, the northern edge was some distance beyond the edge of the trench, and probably corresponded to the edge revealed in Trench 5 (LUAU 2000). On the basis of the section observed within Trench 15, the ditch was at least 3.5m in width. The sides of the cut had a gradual slope, although the edges were not clearly defined due to subsequent disturbance. The base of the moat was revealed at a depth of 1.7m below the ground surface and had a flat profile. The depth of the excavation precluded a detailed examination of the fills, but three distinct deposits were encountered. The primary fill, ***12***, had a maximum thickness of 0.5m and had a dark grey appearance with a sticky clay texture; although excavated in dry conditions, fragments of unworked wood were revealed at the base of the fill, suggesting a degree of waterlogging. Iron panning was exposed at the interface of the fill and the underlying sandy subsoil, ***13***, confirming the percolation of water. This deposit probably indicates the original silting event of the moat. The deposits overlying this fill, ***11*** and ***10***, were not organic in nature and did not appear to have been deposited in a wet environment. Fill ***11*** was a reddish grey clay, which was 0.52m thick, and, extending across the entire width of the moat, appeared to have been horizontally bedded, with no indication of disturbance. The upper fill of the moat, ***10***, consisted of a dark grey sandy clay, 0.24m thick, and was partially disturbed by the cut for a later stone structure, ***6***. These clays probably represented deliberate backfill, although they could have been an accumulation of material as a result of abandonment.

3.2.4 The cut for a stone culvert, ***6***, was identified in the northern part of the trench, and measured 1.7m in length and 0.7m wide, with a maximum height of 0.38m. It had an asymmetrical profile with near vertical sides and a flat base. The

culvert, ***5***, consisted of large flat worked sandstones forming the top and bottom, with smaller, angular side stones. This was sealed by a silty sandy clay material, ***9***, which extended 2.25m north across the trench; this appeared to be a levelling horizon had been deposited following the abandonment of the moat, but was potentially contemporary with the stone culvert.

3.2.5 The deposits recorded in Trench 15 suggest that part of the southern arm of the moat existed to the south of the current field boundary. The line of the moat was located in the northern part of the trench and its projection would seem to continue beyond the northern edge of the excavated area, and may correspond to the edge identified in Trench 5 (LUAU 2000).

3.2.6 ***Trench 16:*** Trench 16 was positioned across the anticipated line of the southern arm of the moat in order to reveal the existence, character and alignment of the moat. The trench measured 8.0m long by 1.7m wide, and was aligned north/south; it was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.3m. The natural boulder clay subsoil, ***23***, was encountered at a depth of 1.95m in the northern part of the trench, but had been truncated by the moat, ***17***, to the south.

3.2.7 The moat, ***17***, had an east/west alignment, and ran slightly obliquely with respect to the trench; only the northern edge of the moat was established, but the southern edge was probably just beyond the southern limit of the trench, given the angle of the deposits within the ditch (Fig 5). The base was revealed at a depth of 2.3m below the ground surface and had a flat, well-preserved profile; the clearly defined sides of the cut had a very gradual slope, and there was no evidence of re-cutting or slumping. The moat contained a sequence of three fills, of which only the lowest, primary fill, ***18***, contained any traces of waterlogging and organic semi-humified material. This fill, ***18***, was a mid-grey brown sticky clay with an homogeneous consistency and was 0.6m thick; it contained traces of wood, which were probably the result of natural erosion or the accumulation of material in a wet environment. It also produced a small fragment of green-glazed roof tile, probably medieval in date (*Section 3.4*). The two upper fills comprised sandy clay, ***19***, and sand, ***20***, which appeared to have been the combined result of natural accumulation and deliberate back filling.

3.2.8 A post-medieval buried soil, ***22***, 0.22m thick, was revealed above the upper fills of the moat; this was a badly humified sandy clay horizon, with an almost peat-like consistency, containing what resembled leaf mould, and could be interpreted as the detritus from overhanging trees. It had been sealed by a levelling deposit, *16*, that contained modern material, and was part overlain by topsoil, 15, but in the southern part of the trench formed the current ground surface.

3.2.9 ***Trench 17:*** Trench 17 was positioned slightly north of the south-west corner of the projected line of the moat, to establish its alignment. The trench was aligned east / west and measured 7.0m long by 1.7m wide by 2.0m deep. The length of the trench represented the maximum reach of the 12 ton mechanical excavator when positioned on the eastern edge of the extant moat.

3.2.10 Natural boulder clay, ***29***, was encountered at the base of the trench 1.8m below the present ground surface. This was truncated by the cut for the moat, ***30***, in the west, and there was a surface earthwork, at the western end of the trench, set into the upper fill of the moat.

3.2.11 The line of the moat, ***30***, ran north/south and the base was revealed 1.8m below the ground surface at the eastern end of the trench; it was only observed in the north-facing section. There was only one fill of the moat, ***27***, which was present across the western part of the trench and formed a primary deposit; it was 0.4m thick, consisted of a grey/brown sticky clay and contained fragments of degraded wood and small sub-angular stones. No environmental samples of organic moat fill ***27*** were taken, due to the high levels of contamination caused by subsequent truncation. The eastern edge of the moat had a gradual rise, but the profile had been disturbed for much of its depth by later activity, which was associated with a deliberate backfilling of the moat, ***24***. In the south-facing section, at the eastern end of the trench, the eastern profile was heavily disturbed by a large intrusive linear feature, ***28***, of uncertain function; it was unlikely to have been a drainage channel as there was no evidence for it continuing beyond the southern section of the trench and it could therefore perhaps have been a pit. The fill of feature ***28*** was identical to the later fill of the moat, ***24***, which seemed to have been a deliberate attempt at backfilling, and this feature ***28*** woud also appear to have related to this backfilling. Overlying ***24***, was a dark-grey brown sandy, humified loam, ***22***, the composition of which was suggestive of a buried soil horizon, and it was possibly the result of the natural accumulation of leaf mould. This was overlain by topsoil, ***23***. The western extent of the trench cut through an extant, slightly embanked, linear earthwork, orientated north/south, and the base of the moat was seen to continue at least partially below this earthwork. The earthwork was very late in the stratigraphic sequence and was clearly of relatively recent origin.

3.2.12 A stone-lined culvert, ***25***, had been inserted near to the base of the moat in a central position, which was aligned north/south; this appeared to be broadly contemporary with the backfilling, ***24***. The cut for the culvert truncated the primary fill of the moat, and was probably introduced to drain the moat after backfilling.

3.2.13 The deposits revealed in Trench 17 confirmed the existence of the moat in the south-west area, and, although it was truncated by post-medieval activity, a sufficient extent of the moat was exposed to establish its alignment.

3.2.14 ***Trench 18:*** Trench 18 was positioned so as to establish the location and/or existence of the moat at its south-east corner and to the immediate south of the tree-lined avenue. The trench was aligned east/west and measured 8.30m in length, 1.10m wide, and had a maximum depth of 1.90m. A further 6m trench was excavated 3m to the south-east of the main trench, the two sections being separated by a substantial tree which limited excavation.

3.2.15 There was no evidence of the moat detected in either section of the trench, suggesting that it may have been on the line of a causeway. The trench cut through an accumulation of undisturbed and well-drained natural silts and sands with pockets of silty clay, ***223-229***; above the natural orange sand, ***230***, was a thin layer of sand, ***229***, which itself was overlain by a pale grey loose sand, ***228***. Above this was a mid-grey, sandy clay layer, ***226***, identified at a depth of 1.25m below the present ground surface, reminiscent of the moat fills revealed in Trenches 15, 16, and 17, which contained remnants of wood fragments; it was 0.10m thick and was identified over a 3m length in the central part of the north-

western section of trench. As there was no evidence of a ditch or moat cut within this trench, this layer may be the remains of a buried soil horizon.

3.2.16 Above ***226*** were two relatively thick levelling layers of silty clay, ***225*** and ***223***. Above ***223***, and beneath a 0.46m thick layer of topsoil, ***220***, was an area of cinder ash waste, ***222***, which was 0.10m thick; it could have been a dump of fire-waste, either localised from a bonfire or cast-out debris from the hearths within the hall. At the eastern side of the trench, a small deposit of broken post-medieval brick was identified adjacent to a layer of crushed micaceous flat stones, ***224***.

3.2.17 The south-eastern trench extension confirmed the absence of any evidence of a moat in this area. Below a thin layer of topsoil (0.20m deep), the only deposit identified was a natural boulder clay, ***231***, with patches of orange sand. A 1m square sondage was excavated to a depth of 1.10m at the extreme east of the trench extension and this confirmed that the boulder clay was a natural deposit.

3.2.18 The absence of the moat in this area may indicate the existence of an original causeway, on the line of a principal access, as indicated by a tree-lined avenue which extends east from a point to the immediate north of Trench 18.

3.3 THE MOATED PLATFORM

3.3.1 ***Trench 19:*** Trench 19 was positioned against the east-facing elevation of the south wing of Clayton Hall, and was intended to investigate the potential for foundations of an earlier structure beneath or adjacent to the present structure. The trench was aligned east/west and was 5.0m long, 2.0m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.50m. A 2.00m square sondage was excavated at the far eastern end of the trench to investigate the depth of natural subsoils; this was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.40m.

3.3.2 A natural subsoil, ***232***, comprising boulder clay, was found at the eastern end of the trench at a depth of 1.0m below the level of the ground surface; overlying this was a sloping layer of redeposited clay, ***233***, which was probably a levelling deposit for the moated platform. These deposits were identified within the sondage.

3.3.3 Overlying the redeposited clay was an accumulation of levelling deposits, comprising a stony sand spread, ***218***, and an iron-rich mineralised sand, ***211***, which both extended over the eastern part of the trench; the mineralised sand followed the same angle of slope as the clay below, and showed signs of water dilution. Overlying ***211*** was a light grey gravel sand, ***210***, which appeared also to have a levelling function; however, this deposit had a varying thickness and was consistently observed at the western end of the trench as thin patches. A single sherd of eighteenth century black glazed redware was recovered from this layer, but this seems likely to be residual.

3.3.4 Near the western end of the trench, a linear, flat bottomed ditch, ***203***, orientated north/south, truncated horizon ***210***. Its fill, ***204***, consisted of a silty sand with small clay inclusions, and the feature had the appearance of a flat-bottomed drain. In all, 13 fragments of medieval pottery (*Section 3.4*) and a piece of animal bone were recovered from the surface of ***204***. At the base of the cut, a

mottled iron-rich sand, ***219***, similar to ***211,*** was encountered, representing drainage in antiquity. Fill ***204*** was sealed by a clay layer, ***202***, in the north, which was not present in the south; this may represent a deliberate attempt to backfill the cut and create a surface. This clay layer was probably contemporary with an adjacent clay deposit that bonded an uneven spread of sub-rectangular stones, ***201***. This deposit, ***201***, extended between linear feature ***203*** and the foundations of the eastern wall of the Hall, and could perhaps be the remains of an earlier wall, with an associated clay floor. On the east side of ditch ***203*** was a deposit of clay, ***205***, which was comparable to the clay deposit within ***201***, but without the stone component. Overlaying ***205*** was an orange sandy layer, ***209***, at the northern side of the trench.

3.3.5 East of ***203*** was a further linear feature, ***208***, on a similar alignment, comprising a disturbed flat stone structure, which was 0.56m wide and had a section of what would appear to be a wall with facing stones on both the east and west sides. This would therefore appear to be the decayed remains of a wall or wall foundation. The structure was set within an approximately parallel-sided foundation cut, ***207***. A large sandstone capping, ***206***, topped a second course of sandstone in the north part of the wall and the feature resembled a stone culvert. This putative culvert did not extend all the way across the trench, and at the southern end wall ***208***, was overlain by thin micaceous sandstone tiles, resembling a surface. The feature was sealed by redeposited clay in the east and west.

3.3.6 ***Trench 20:*** Trench 20 was positioned against the east wall of the north wing, and was intended to investigate the potential for foundations of an earlier structure beneath or adjacent to the present structure. The trench was aligned east/west, and measured 5.0m in length, 2.60m in width, and had a maximum depth of 1.70m.

3.3.7 Natural boulder clay, ***217***, was encountered in the eastern part of the trench in a 1.60m square sondage. This was overlain to the west by a 0.50m thick levelling deposit, ***216***, consisting of a mid orange/brown firm clay with crushed brick and coarse sand inclusions; this was revealed in the east-facing section of the sondage, and is interpreted as a levelling layer for the construction of the extant hall.

3.3.8 At the western end of the trench, two 100mm diameter ceramic water drains were visible, which ran parallel north/south, aligned with the extant foundation of the house, and were either contemporary with, or post-dated, its construction.

3.3.9 The lack of archaeology in this trench is in marked contrast to that in Trench 19. No artefacts were discovered to indicate the date of deposition of the levelling clay, though the presence of crushed brick suggests a date later than at least the sixteenth century.

3.4 FINDS

3.4.1 In total, 48 fragments of artefacts and ecofacts were recovered from Trenches 15, 16, 17 and 19, comprising unmodified animal bone, and objects of ceramic and wood; of these the great majority were ceramic, 42 vessel sherds and a single fragment of glazed roof tile. In general the pottery was neither severely fragmented nor severely abraded, indicating that the deposits in which they lay

had not been badly disturbed and thus that fragments had not moved far from their original place of deposition.

3.4.2 The pottery falls broadly into two categories, medieval, and mid-late seventeenth century onwards. A total of 16 identifiable sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from three contexts, topsoil ***15*** (Trench 16), fill ***204*** of linear feature ***203*** (Trench 19), and fill ***208*** of wall foundation ***207*** (Trench 19); of these, only the group from ***204*** may be considered to have been securely stratified. The latter comprised 13 sherds, probably representing three vessels, although 11 of the fragments were clearly from a single glazed jug or handled jar, several pieces of which, broken in antiquity, were found in close association. This vessel had a hard, fully-reduced, sandy fabric with moderate sub-rounded quartz inclusions less than 0.5mm across. The exterior surface was decorated with applied, thumbed strips and covered with an olive-green lead glaze. Two joining fragments of strap handle had been decorated by stabbing. The paucity of medieval assemblages from the North West (Mellor 1994) makes this vessel difficult to date with precision, but a fourteenth to sixteenth century date is most probable (McCarthy and Brooks 1988). This is supported by one of the other two fragments from the context, a small fragment in a fine, hard-fired reduced fabric, and a larger but somewhat abraded fragment of a sandy bright orange oxidised fabric reminiscent of Wrathmell's Redware fabric type 11 at The Old Hutt (Wrathmell 1988/89, 29), dated to the fourteenth-fifteenth century. The single fragment from fill ***208*** is similar to the latter, and without doubt residual in a group comprising largely eighteenth century material.

3.4.3 One of the two fragments of medieval pottery from topsoil ***15*** has a hard, smooth, sandy grey to dark grey fabric, with a dark olive-green glaze. The other is a somewhat crude fabric with numerous very large inclusions (up to 10 mm), glazed both inside and out. It is probably best interpreted as a fully reduced fabric, although there are occasional oxidised patches on the surfaces. These fabrics are clearly part of the widespread northern reduced greenware tradition, ranging in date from the fourteenth to seventeenth centuries (Brooks 2000, 123; White 2000, 289-90). Whilst effectively unstratified, these fragments add to the evidence for activity on the site during the late medieval/early post-medieval periods.

3.4.3 The remainder of the assemblage comprised table and kitchen wares of later seventeenth to nineteenth century date. The material included a number of black-glazed redware body sherds, the earliest of which (possibly late seventeenth century) is likely to be from rubble make-up layer ***2*** (Trench 15). Stoneware included a small cup, again probably later seventeenth or early eighteenth century in date, from topsoil ***200*** (Trench 19), and several body fragments from bellarmine-type jugs. A single fragment of Westerwald-type stoneware from topsoil ***23*** (Trench 17) is also likely to be late seventeenth century in date, representing a luxury import to the site. White-glazed earthenwares from the site are unlikely to be earlier than the end of the eighteenth century.

3.4.4 The other ceramic fragment of note is a piece of green-glazed, flat roof tile from ***18***, the primary fill of the moat (Trench 16). Its fabric bears a strong resemblance to tile fabric A at Speke Hall (Higgins 1988/89, 66) where it was dated to the fourteenth/fifteenth century.

3.4.5 The fragments wood were mostly derived from the primary fills of the moat; although poorly preserved, and for the most part small, one, at least seemed to have come from a large timber which had been cut to a wedge point. The two animal bone fragments are both apparently relatively modern, having been recovered from topsoil and from within the fill of the stone culvert, ***25***, in Trench 17.

4. FABRIC SURVEY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 Following the machine and hand clearance of the stone and brick rubble within and around Clayton Hall, a detailed written description was made of the fabric and construction of the structure. The plan of the building (Fig 8) consisted of a hallway (Room 4) extending between the porch, forming the main entrance (Room 5) and the rear entrance, a main living room (Room 3) off this to the north, and two smaller rooms to the south (Rooms 6 and 7). At the far north end is the north wing, a long, narrow room (Room 1) which was shown as a dairy on the 1910 plan (Hallam *c*1983; Fig 7). A photograph taken of the building in *c*1900 (Plate 5), shows that it had a brick superstructure, constructed on an ashlar stone plinth; this matches the physical evidence of a surviving ashlar stone plinth around most of the building (Fig 8), coupled with the hand-made brick (each typically 240mm in length and 60mm in depth) that formed most of the building rubble that was removed from the building's interior. Limited sections of intact brickwork were found, particularly on the southern elevation where there were the greatest amounts of intact brick superstructure, and also forming a series of internal partitions (Fig 8: Walls Ii, Iii and Iiii). All three partitions were distinct in that they were composed of machine-made brick, contrasting with the hand-made brick on the outside walls and forming much of the excavated building debris.

4.2 THE SOUTH AND EAST ELEVATIONS

4.2.1 ***East Elevation***: the elevation has two distinct sections, separated by the porch. The north section is constructed of large ashlar blocks, up to 0.75m long, 0.23m deep and 0.38m tall, forming a front face, and behind this is a double skin of brick, in an English garden bond, with an internal finish of plaster. The remains of a large window, 3.08m wide, dominates this end, although it is only recognisable due to the presence of a roughly defined aperture, the base of which is 0.75m above the ground and the scars of splayed jambs on either side; there are also possible scars for two central mullions within the sill. A photograph of the building, taken *c*1900 (Plate 5), shows that this window was a long, five-mullioned window, and a photograph taken in 1975 (Hallam *c*1983) shows that by that date the mullioned window had been removed and the wall above was supported with acroprops. A northern wing extends out from the principal elevation plane, and was also shown to have had a three-mullioned window in the *c*1900 photograph, which was still intact on the 1975 photograph (*ibid*).

4.2.2 On the first floor, the *c*1900 photograph shows adjacent one- and three-mullioned windows in the central section, and a further three mullioned window in the northern wing; again, the 1975 photograph shows that the central windows had been removed in advance of the demolition of the building.

4.2.3 Extending 2.4m out from the centre of the eastern elevation is a porch, which was constructed in a similar style to the northern section, although the top

course of ashlar blocks is chamfered, suggesting that the ashlar plinth was at full height. The entry hall has an outer and inner doorway, both with stone fluted jambs, although the northern jamb of the external doorway is entirely missing, and the 1975 photograph shows that this door surround had been removed prior to demolition (*ibid*). Both this and the *c*1900 photograph shows that the porch had large, alternate, sandstone quoins, with longer quoins on the northern corner, than the southern corner. The photograph shows that above the entrance-way was a single stone mullioned window. Within the short porch is a stone flag floor, and the walls are finished with plaster, including a high skirting board. The internal jambs appear to have been inserted, or more likely repositioned, as the brickwork supporting them has been rebuilt.

4.2.4 The southern section of the elevation, to the south of the porch, is constructed of a single skin of ashlar stone cladding, with only a single skin of brick behind; the mortar between the bricks is a dark charcoal / ash-rich mix, which is found only in this section, and in the southern elevation. The upper course of stone cladding is chamfered, but these are at a lower level than the chamfered blocks on the porch, and the *c*1900 photograph confirms that the upper level of the ashlar cladding is markedly lower in the southern section than that on both the porch and the northern section.

4.2.5 In the centre, at the current wall top, is the remains of a window sill, 1.47m wide. There is a concrete skim around this and the limited remains of the northern jamb include a probable reused piece of stone, with a fluted or ogee moulded decoration. There are three small vents along the base of the wall, with ceramic covers, 0.22m long and 0.15m wide. The *c*1900 photograph shows that the windows, on both ground and first floors, of this southern section were three light portrait-shaped, timber-framed windows, each with brick voussoirs, forming a flat relieving arch. The form of these windows is in marked contrast to that of the rest of the building, which are stone mullioned.

4.2.6 ***South Elevation:*** the ashlar cladding of the southern section of the east elevation, with a single skin of brick behind, continues along the southern elevation to a height of only three courses; the central area of stonework also comprises much narrower blocks than elsewhere. There is a single small vent with a ceramic cover, like those in the southern section of the east elevation, at the far east end. Above the ashlar blocks, the brick wall has been finished with a render skim, scribed to give the appearance of stonework; the scar of a vertical bracket or batten is visible in this render. The upper ashlar stones are chamfered and survive to their full height; the rest of the wall was constructed in hand-made brick, which again was bonded, in places, with a dark, charcoal-rich mortar.

4.3 NORTH AND WEST ELEVATIONS

4.3.1 The north and west external elevations appear to have been constructed with an ashlar cladding foundation and a brick superstructure, as in the south and east elevations, although they were not exposed sufficiently to allow a full investigation. The central section of the west elevation was badly damaged, limiting a detailed description. The south end of the west elevation has the same character as the south elevation, with a single skin of ashlar cladding, and an

internal skin of brick. There is limited evidence of a rear, westerly extension, shown as a nineteenth century extension on a 1910 map (Fig 7; Hallam *c*1983), but, this was not exposed as part of the present clearance programme. However, the 1975 photograph (*ibid*) shows that this extension had no stone cladding / foundation, and clearly butted onto the ashlar-clad former rear wall of the hall. To the north of this later extension, a further section of ashlar masonry was recorded by the survey, but there was no brickwork extant on the internal side. At the west end of the north wing is a rear entrance, with an ashlar stone surround, and this is clearly shown on the 1975 photograph (*ibid*). Opposite the main entrance on the east elevation, and on the line of the former external western wall, is a pair of large ashlar moulded door surrounds which are similar in style to those on the main entrance. This entrance provided an internal access into the nineteenth century extension, but, prior to the construction of the extension, was the main rear external entrance.

4.4 INTERNAL DETAIL

4.4.1 There are four internal dividing walls (Ii, Iii, Iiii and Iiv), each consisting of a single skin of machine-made bricks; these create two small rooms at the southern end of the building, and divide off the northern wing into a single room. One of these thin dividing walls (Iii) continues the line of the south wall of the porch up to the principal western entrance; however, on the 1910 plan (Fig 7) of the building this wall is depicted as thick, comparable to the external walls. This either reflects an inaccurate original survey, or that the wall has subsequently been rebuilt. A brick partition wall separates the hallway (Room 4) from the large room to the north (Room 3), and is orientated east/west in line with the northern jamb of the internal door of the main entrance and the northern jamb of the western principal entrance. The internal division is made of hand-made bricks, and is in contrast to the other three internal walls, which are narrower and machine-made bricks. It also contains two pieces of stone, which appear to have been window jambs (one of which has an iron fitting built into it), thus showing obvious signs of some rebuilding within the structure.

4.4.2 On the inside of the south elevation are four hollow pillars (two in each room), made of hand-made bricks, each pair probably forming surrounds for a fireplace or range, or possibly acting as flues in their own right. The interior of the southern wall and its flues are internally finished with green and blue painted plaster. The remaining internal elevations are, where they survive, finished with plaster and whitewash, with the remains of tall skirting boards visible in places. There is another fireplace on the south side of Room 3, with the remains of parts of the iron surround and grate still *in situ* in the ground.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The second phase of evaluation has provided further detailed information about the depth, character, date of archaeological deposits, and the plan form of the moat. The trenches excavated in the south and south-west areas provided valuable evidence of the alignment and profile of the moat, and resolved much of the uncertainty of layout raised as a result of the first phase of trenching (LUAU 2000). The trenches from both this and the earlier phase of trenching in the south-east (*ibid*) have demonstrated a marked absence of a moat, which would suggest the existence of a causeway there. The trenches across the moated platform revealed contrasting results, with structural evidence encountered in front of the south wing of the hall, but not in front of the northern wing.

5.1.2 The fabric survey demonstrated that the building was the product of three phases of construction; the core of the building was the central and northern sections, built in the late sixteenth or early seventeenth centuries, whilst the southern wing was apparently built at a subsequent date, but prior to the OS 1st edition map (1848). An extension was susbequently added to the west, prior to 1910.

5.2 THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE MOAT

5.2.1 Trenches 15, 16, and 17 have provided much information about the likely form of the southern part of the moat, and established its course; Trench 18 investigated what would appear to be a causeway across the moat.

5.2.2 Trench 15 was positioned in the field to the south of the fence forming the boundary to the site, as it was anticipated that an element of the moat would extend into this area on the basis of the first phase of evaluation. In addition, this area of pasture had previously been noted to have contained a shallow depression (WYAS 1998, 20), which was then interpreted as evidence of the moat. The evidence from Trench 15 has confirmed the presence of the moat in this position (Fig 3); the width of the moat was there seen to be at least 4m, and it appears to have been of similar dimensions to the northern arm, as revealed in the Phase 1 evaluation (LUAU 2000, 22-3). Although the fills did not have the distinctive humic element, ***18***, as recorded in Trench 16, this may have been due to the construction of a stone culvert to drain the area in the post-medieval period. The levelling and backfilling seen in the south end of the trench were probably undertaken in the eighteenth and/or nineteenth centuries, as pottery (1001) from this period was recovered from the rubble make-up below the topsoil. This could be interpreted as an attempt to reclaim the land for farming.

5.2.3 Trench 16 was placed across the anticipated southern arm of the moat, to the south of the building platform; the moat was orientated north/south, it was 5m wide, and its base was at an altitude of 66.78m OD, which is comparable to that recorded from the initial phase of trenching (LUAU 2000). The moat revealed a sequence of fills, of which the lowest contained traces of waterlogging and also produced a fragment of thirteenth to sixteenth century ceramic roof tile

(18/1002); the fills were sealed by what appeared to be a buried topsoil. A levelling deposit composed of modern material was probably a result of backfilling in the 1960s (pers comm local resident).

5.2.4 Trench 17 helped to clarify and confirm the character and substantial dimensions of the moat at the south-west corner. The cut for the moat on the eastern side had been subjected to truncation by a feature of uncertain function, ***28***, which was only visible in the south-facing section; traces of the cut for the moat, however, were detected in the north-facing section. The flat base of the moat in this area was 1.8m below the ground surface and continued beyond the western edge of the trench, below an intrusive earthwork. A stone-lined culvert had been inserted near to the base of the moat following its line, and pottery from the backfilling of this dates to a period no earlier than the nineteenth century; however, a fragment of German Westerwald stoneware jug (1010), dating to the mid seventeenth century, was found within the topsoil overlying this deposit.

5.2.5 Trench 18 was positioned to the immediate north of Trench 5 from the first phase of trenching (LUAU 2000), which had revealed the western edge of the moat, yet Trench 18 displayed no evidence for this; it is therefore suggested that this trench was on the line of a causeway. This was confirmed by a 6m extension to the south-east of the main trench, which revealed only topsoil and natural boulder clay, identified at a depth of 0.60m below the ground surface. The deposits toward the western end of the trench seemed to be an accumulation of silty sand and silty clay, which seemed relatively undisturbed. Although these deposits were well drained, an element of humification was present in a sandy clay layer, which indicates a recent damp environment. Whether these sands and clays were the result of natural accumulation, or of deliberate backfill of a cut that has not been identified, is uncertain, but as no such cut was identified, it is suggested that the causeway was an original feature, rather than a product of localised backfilling.

5.3 THE MOATED PLATFORM

5.3.1 The presence of the levelled clay surface, ***201***, and footings, ***203***, in Trench 19, indicates the probability of an earlier, perhaps medieval building underlying the southern part of the extant hall. The sequence of sand deposits in Trench 19 is possibly the result of an attempt to relieve drainage.

5.3.2 There was no significant archaeology in Trench 20, except for the import of clay to create a platform for the present hall. Although little dating evidence came from the trench, the presence of post-medieval crushed brick, sealed by the redeposited clay, suggests that the construction of this platform was no earlier than the seventeenth century.

5.3.3 The trenches across the eastern frontage of the house have added considerable weight to the existence of earlier structures on the site. In particular, the material gained from Trench 19 has provided successive domestic evidence for a broad date range, between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries.

5.4 THE FABRIC OF THE HALL

5.4.1 The surviving fabric of Clayton Hall demonstrates at least two phases of build, additional to its original construction. The entire southern end, although built in a similar style to the rest of the building (with the base in ashlar stone and the rest in brick), has clearly been added onto the building. There are several design differences demonstrating this: the internal brick skim is much thinner, reflecting a different building technique; and the windows were set within flat-arched brick surrounds and were very distinct from the stone-mullioned windows of the rest of the building. The fireplaces or flues within the southern two rooms are also of a very light and insubstantial form and do not fit with the style of the northern part of the building. There are several vents in the south end of the building, which are not found elsewhere, which were most probably inserted when this end was built, as it would have been extremely difficult to insert them through the ashlar stonework following construction.

5.4.2 Clear indications of rebuilding around the internal jamb on the south side of the porch indicates that the southern part of the building was added from this point. Extending west from the porch is a very thin internal wall, made of machine-made bricks, but the 1910 plan (Fig 7; Hallam *c*1983) clearly shows this as a thick wall comparable to the present external walls of the building; it would therefore appear that this may have been the former southern external wall of the hall, which was subsequently replaced in brick at some date between 1910 and its demolition in 1976.

5.4.3 The rear, western extension was not exposed as part of the present programme, but it was evident from both the observed fabric, and photographs taken prior to demolition (*ibid*), that this had an entirely brick foundation and was distinct from the ashlar-clad foundation of the rest of the building. It was clearly a later rebuild, and was not depicted on the OS 1st edition 6" map (1848), although the southern extension was in place by that date. By 1910 (Fig 7), the westerly extension was in place and it therefore probably dated from the second half of the nineteenth century.

5.4.4 The original build probably dates from the late sixteenth or early seventeenth centuries (*Section 1.3.6*), and, as it survives, comprised an approximately square plan with two protruding wings. At some date prior to 1848 (OS 1st edition map) a southern extension was added, in part matching the design of the original build, and then, between 1848 and 1910, the rear extension was added. The foundations of a building underlying, and set very slightly east of the southern extension, was revealed in Trench 19; these were associated with medieval pottery, and were of a type that were very distinct from the foundations of both the southern extension and the main build to the north; they clearly predated the extant structures. It is significant that the evidence for this structure, presumably the forerunner of the present structure, was markedly absent from Trench 20, adjacent to the northern part of the house. This seems to indicate that building activity shifted about within the centre of the moated area, and it is possible that the present building was constructed immediately adjacent to the earlier, build (perhaps while it was still occupied). Then, at some date following its completion, the earlier build would have been demolished, making way for the later construction of a southern extension to the main building on the site of the earlier, possibly medieval house. It is perhaps significant that the main entrance and hallway lie at the southern extremity of the earliest build now visible;

indeed, the porch could have formed a southern wing to match that to the north, but this is an atypical arrangement for regional seventeenth century polite architecture, where there would normally be symmetry centred on the porch, forming 'E'-shaped buildings, such as Dukenfield Hall, and Toft Hall, both in Cheshire (Robinson 1991, 32 and 74). However, if the earlier build, presently beneath the later southern extension, was actually in place at the time of the construction of the main house and was intended to complement, the, then, new build, there may indeed have been a degree of symmetry to the facade of the building. Such an argument may provide some additional support for the supposition that there was a medieval house on the site at the time of the construction of the sixteenth / seventeenth hall, but would also suggest that the original build was intended to coexist with the then new build.

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APPENDIX 1
PROJECT DESIGN

Lancaster
University
Archaeological
Unit

December 2000

CLAYTON HALL
CLAYTON-LE-WOODS,
LANCASHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AND CONSOLIDATION PROGRAMME

PROJECT DESIGN

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request by the Environment Partnership, for a programme of archaeological recording, fabric survey and building consolidation at Clayton Hall, Clayton-le-Woods, Lancashire.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

1.1.1 The Environment Partnership have requested a programme of recording of the moated site of Clayton Hall, in order to inform a management plan for the site, and an interpretative scheme. The site is a scheduled ancient monument and the study will serve to inform any schedule monument consent applications for the environmental enhancement of the site. The programme follows on from a programme of evaluation of the moat system for the site (LUAU 2000) which involved the excavation of 14 trial trenches around the perimeter of the site. It also involved selective palaeoenvironmental coring of the moat ditch and associated feeder ponds.

1.1.2 The proposed programme will involve the excavation of additional trial trenches to examine the line of the moat on the southern side of the site; a programme of clearance, recording and consolidation to expose the extant fabric of the Clayton Hall house, and an evaluation of the platform.

1.1.3 Other proposed works include the piping of water between the feeder ditch and the north section of the moat and the desilting of part of this section of the moat.

1.1.4 As the site is a Scheduled Monument consent will be required in order to implement the works.

1.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 The earliest mention of Clayton was in *c*1160, when the *mesne* including Clayton was granted to Richard Fitton by Richard de Bussel, Baron of Penwortham (Lumby 1936). Moated sites such as Clayton Hall typically date from the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries, and fourteenth century pottery has been found on site (Lewis 1978, 54-5), which would tend to suggest that the moated site was in place by that date. In the thirteenth century Clayton-le-Woods was on the western periphery of the Penwortham demesne forest, and it is probable that the moated site was one of the forest assarts (*ibid*).

1.2.2 In the seventeenth century the house was rebuilt, and was evidently of some stature, as it was recorded in 1666 as having 14 hearths (Bolton 1985, 41), and James Anderton II's *inquisition post mortem*, dated 1658-1660, records the house, and possibly also the home farm, as having 31 chambers inclusive of out-buildings (*op cit*, 42). The land was separated from the hall in the 1960's; the hall ceased to be occupied in 1968 and was demolished in 1976 (WYAS 1998).The moat and probable fish ponds are still extant and are significant survivals from the original foundation and hence the site has been scheduled as a nationally important Ancient Monument (SAM no. 13409).

1.2.3 The evaluation involved the excavation of fourteen trenches, that were placed across the moat, feeder channels and the fish ponds. The trenching identified the line of the moat around the northern, western and to an extent the eastern sides, however, to the south the trenches identified only shallow and insubstantial ditch features, and, because only a limited number of trenches were excavated in this area, it was not possible to establish the precise line or form of the ditch in this area.

1.3 LANCASTER UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT (LUAU)

1.3.1 LUAU has considerable experience of the archaeological survey of sites and monuments of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large projects during the past 18 years. LUAU has particular experience in the recording and analysis of standing ancient monuments, historic buildings and landscapes. Of most relevance a comprehensive landscape survey, excavation and fabric survey was undertaken at Risley Moated site in advance of its destruction. A landscape survey and excavation has also been undertaken at the Samlesbury Hall, Lancashire moated site and also the archaeologically important moated site at Lathom, nr Ormskirk. A survey and evaluation was also undertaken of the moated site at Broughton Tower, near Preston for CNT and involved the generation of a detailed contour survey of the

moat earthworks. LUAU has also undertaken interpretation studies at sites such as Egremont Castle and Kendal Castle to enhance the wider appreciation of these sites.

1.3.2 Projects have been undertaken to fulfil the different requirements of various clients and planning authorities, and to very rigorous timetables. LUAU has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. LUAU and all its members of staff operate subject to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct. **LUAU is an IFA registered organisation, number 27.**

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme is in accordance with discussions between Peter McCrone (Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS)), Cath Neve (The Environment Partnership), and Andrew Davison (English Heritage). The project will be monitored by LCAS and English Heritage

2.2 PROJECT PREPARATION

2.2.1 The project specifications will be subject to negotiation with all interested parties: LUAU, TEP, LCAS, English Partnerships and English Heritage. The project design will accordingly be refined. An application for Scheduled Monument Consent will be prepared and submitted to English Heritage.

2.3 CONSOLIDATION WORKS

2.3.1 It is proposed that a channel be excavated linking the northern feeder channel to the northern moat section, and this be filled with a culvert to provide an overflow from the northern pond out to the moat system. The channel will follow the line of trench 2 to minimise the disruption to archaeological deposits. These works will be subject to archaeological supervision.

2.3.2 In order to improve the safety of the site the northern moat section will be subject to desilting and the selective removal of bank side trees. All interventions into the moat will be subject to archaeological supervision

2.4 EVALUATION TRENCHING OF THE MOAT

2.4.1 At least four trenches will be excavated, using a mechanical excavator to remove overburden down on to the upper archaeological horizons and sampled manual excavation will be undertaken to assess the character, survival and depth of archaeological deposits, subject to health and safety limitations. The locations of the trenches are provisionally defined on the attached mapping, and extend around the southern part of the site. The exact positions will be established in discussions with a representative of The Environment Partnership and LCAS.

2.4.2 Subject to the survival of early remains specialist advice and sampling will be undertaken by a palaeoenvironmentalist, involving the taking of a pollen monolith through the trench section. An assessment of the results will present the potential for further analysis.

2.5 EXPOSURE AND CONSOLIDATION OF CLAYTON HALL

2.5.1 An integrated programme of recording, clearance of rubble and consolidation of the exposed fabric of the Clayton Hall building will be undertaken. Initially the trees will be cleared from the house remains. A fabric survey will record the exposed plan of the building and a photographic record will be produced prior to any intervention. Under archaeological supervision the building rubble will be cleared from the exterior of the walls, and to a lesser extent within the interior of the building. The exposed elevations will be recorded, and then the walls will be subject to masonry repairs, primarily repointing, in order to stabilise them. The extent of exposure of the walls will depend upon the stability of the intrinsic structure and the requirement for further consolidation.

2.6 EVALUATION OF THE MOATED PLATFORM

2.6.1 Two short trenches will be excavated against the exposed house walls in order to investigate the foundations of the building and the potential for earlier structures on the site. The trenches will be no more than 7m long.

2.7 REPORT

2.7.1 A written report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. It will present the results of the trenching programmes and the analytical results of the fabric survey.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 PROJECT PREPARATION

3.1.1 The project proposal will be designed in conjunction with all interested parties, which includes LUAU, TEP, LCAS, English Partnerships, Chorley Borough Council, and English Heritage. This project design will be submitted to all parties, who will be invited to offer comments on the proposals and any revisions will be incorporated in the final version. Once the project design has been agreed an application for scheduled monument consent will be prepared and submitted and will address all impacts upon the site, inclusive of all consolidation and landscape proposals as well as archaeological works. The costs provide for two meetings of a project manager and the preparation of an SMC application.

3.2 CONSOLIDATION WORKS

3.2.1 ***Cutting of Channel between feeder ditch and the north section of the moat:*** it is proposed that the channel be excavated on the line of previously excavated evaluation trench 2, and will therefore minimise the impact upon intact deposits. a clay pipe will be laid in the channel at a level agreed by TEP, English Partnerships and LUAU. This will form an overflow from the channel and the pond to the moat and will alleviate the possibility of the pond flooding the adjacent properties on Spring Meadow. The channel will be back filled with the original fill and will be consolidated using clay if necessary. The top surface of the ground may have hard core rolled into the surface to provide a more robust footpath surface. The costs for the consolidation works will be met directly by TEP and are not covered within the present project design.

3.2.2 ***Watching Brief:*** although for the most part these ground works will be through recently disturbed ground, any impact beyond the extent of the former trench will need to be subject to an archaeological watching brief. The recording for the watching brief 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 coordinates where appropriate). All archaeological information collected in the course of fieldwork will be recorded in standardised form, and will include accurate national grid references. Features will be planned accurately at appropriate scales and superimposed on the large scale plan provided by the client. A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously. The recording techniques and procedures employed by LUAU for such detailed recording represent current best practice. The costs for the watching brief are defined as a day-rate.

3.2.3 ***Desilting of the Northern Moat Section:*** in order to reduce the risk to members of the public it is proposed to remove some of the more recently deposited silts from the northern section of the moat. This will involve the mechanical removal of the silts from the northern side of the moat with a large tracked excavator that has sufficient reach to undertake deep excavation. The excavation should be undertaken with a toothless ditching bucket to minimise damage to the moat sides. The silts will be removed from the site using a dumper and deposited on English Partnerships land adjacent to the site. The costs for the desilting works will be met directly by TEP and are not covered within the present project design.

3.2.4 While it is anticipated that the excavation will only impact relatively recent silts, there is a need for archaeological supervision in the course of these works, to ensure that there is minimal disturbance to significant deposits and to record any strata should they be exposed. The costs for the watching brief are defined as a day-rate.

3.3 EVALUATION TRENCHING

3.3.1 This programme of trenching is intended to resolve the very considerable doubt as to the form and line of the moat around the southern part of the site. The locations of the proposed trenches are shown on the attached figure and broadly correspond with the recommendations for further trenching outlined in the evaluation report (LUAU 2000). This programme of trenching will establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and, if established, will then briefly test their date, nature, and quality of preservation.

3.3.2 It is proposed to excavate four trenches, which will be positioned as defined on the attached mapping, however, this layout will be subject to discussions with the client and the archaeological curators at the outset of the project. The trenches will be positioned so as to be remote from trees, the sizes of the trenches are also defined on the attached mapping and will vary from 5m to 15 in length, but will be 1.5m - 2m in width. If the trenches need to be excavated below 1.5m depth, the trench width will be broadened to satisfy the health and safety requirements for unshored trenches. The number and extent of trenches may be varied on site and will be subject to the implementation of contingency costs and agreement with the archaeological curators, the client and LUAU.

3.3.3 ***Water Management:*** as the site is fairly wet and it is proposed to excavate out the moat there is the potential for the trenches filling with water. It is therefore recommended that the trenches be excavated in summer when the water table will be at its lowest, and there may be a requirement for pumping in order to enable the excavation of the trenches.

3.3.4 ***Methodology:*** to maximise the speed and efficiency of the operation the removal of topsoil and overburden will be undertaken by machine, where accessible, under careful archaeological supervision (with a standard five foot toothless ditching bucket). The excavation will be for the most part undertaken with a wheeled JCB excavator, which will allow for mobility across the site and also will have the reach to excavate deep trench sections. The mechanical excavation will be undertaken in level spits down to the level of the highest significant archaeological horizon, and below that level excavation will be by manual techniques. If further mechanical excavation proves necessary it will be subject to agreement with LCAS. If excavation proceeds below 2.0m depth, or there is a risk of trench collapse, excavation will be by machine and recording will be undertaken from the top of the trenches to minimise any risk to personnel. The sections and trench floors will be manually cleaned prior to undertaking any manual excavation.

3.3.5 Manual excavation will examine all sensitive deposits, and will enable an assessment of the nature, date and survival of deposits. The deposits will be investigated sufficiently to establish their character but the full depth of the deposits to natural will not necessarily be established across the whole trench. All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Exposed features will be sample excavated, which typically would involve the excavation of 50% of discrete features and 25% of linear features. No feature or structure will be wholly excavated as the intention is simply to evaluate only the archaeological resource at this stage. Similarly structures or features worthy of preservation will not be unduly excavated.

3.3.6 ***Environmental Sampling:*** subject to the finding of medieval moat fills, environmental sampling and analysis will be undertaken by the LUAU environmental specialist. As only post-medieval fills were identified during the first phase of evaluation there is the potential that no environmental sampling will be required; this element is therefore costed as a contingency.

3.3.7 One monolith (0.50m x 0.10m x 0.10m) would be taken through the most complete buried soil profile within the moat. This will be subsampled by the environmental specialist in the laboratory and then archived in cold storage for further examination. Four pollen samples will be prepared chemically so that an assessment of the pollen content can be made. The samples

will be examined microscopically and a minimum of one hundred pollen grains will be counted and identified where possible. Pollen preservation will be assessed and recorded. From this data it will be possible to provide evidence of the type of vegetation and possible changes occurring during the period that the soil was forming. The environmental archaeologist will be provided with a detailed drawing and photographic record of the section by the excavators. If further environmental work is required it will be subject to contingency costing.

3.3.8 ***Dating Methods:*** the deposits will be assessed for their potential for radiocarbon and archaeomagnetic dating and costs for such work have been included in the contingency fund. The contingency costs allow for two AMS dates, which would be undertaken under the supervision of Dr Gordon Cook at the Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre at East Kilbride.

3.3.9 ***Evaluation Recording:*** all elements of the work will, as a matter of course, be recorded in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition* 1991) and the best practices formulated by English Heritage's Central for Archaeology. All excavation, by whatever method, will be recorded by the compilation of context records, and of object records for any finds, and the production of manually drawn accurately scaled plans and section drawings (probably at scales of 1:20 and/or 1:10). A photographic record will be maintained within 35mm black and white and colour transparency formats and a photographic gazetteer will be maintained. The stratigraphy of all trenches will be recorded irrespective of whether archaeological deposits have been identified. Trenches will be accurately located with respect to the original LUAU survey control, by use of a total station survey instrument, and the trenches will be depicted on the survey mapping provided by the client. All archaeological features within the trenches will be planned by manual techniques.

3.3.10 ***Finds Processing:*** finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (current IFA guidelines for finds work). All typologically significant and closely datable finds will be contextually recorded. All artefacts and ecofacts will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration. Finds storage during fieldwork and any post-excavation assessment and analysis (if appropriate) will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Emergency access to conservation facilities is maintained by LUAU. Any discard policy for finds should be formulated with care, and with advice from the Lancashire County Council. All finds will be washed, marked and packaged as appropriate. Small finds will be individually packaged, in a manner appropriate to the find type.

3.3.11 The artefact assemblage will examined by the LUAU finds specialist, and the potential for further examination will be assessed. A summary report on the significance, character and date range of the assemblage will be generated.

3.4 EXPOSURE AND CONSOLIDATION OF CLAYTON HALL

3.4.1 The proposed programme of exposure and consolidation of the Clayton Hall structure will be undertaken in order to ensure that an adequate record of the fabric is made at the relevant stages and to ensure that consolidation works follow as close on from the clearance to ensure that there is no risk of collapse or injury to the public.

3.4.2 ***Tree Clearance:*** the site is presently covered by recent and more developed tree growth, the root action of which is causing considerable damage to the underlying structure of the Scheduled Monument. It is therefore required that the trees be cut down near to the ground and the exposed stumps should be subject to an appropriate herbicide to kill them and prevent regrowth. The costs for this element will be met directly by TEP and are not covered within the present project design.

3.4.3 ***Pre-intervention Recording:*** prior to undertaking any clearance work on site the building will need to be subject to a RCHM(E) level 2 recording, which would involve the production of a ground plan and also a full oblique photographic record of the site.

3.4.4 ***Ground Plan:*** in order to create the ground plan survey control will be established over the site by closed traverse and internally will be accurate to +- 15mm; the control network will be located with respect to the control established for the phase 1 evaluation. The surface features will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a data logger; the accuracy of detail generation will be appropriate for a 1:20 output. The digital data is transferred onto a portable computer for manipulation and transfer to other digital or hard media. The archaeological detail is drawn up in the field as a dimensioned drawing on film plots with respect to survey markers. The survey will record all significant, extant structural elements, inclusive of blocked apertures, masonry joints and changes in internal levels. The survey drawings will be generated within a CAD system (AutoCAD14) and will be superimposed onto the topographic map produced from the phase 1 evaluation. The survey would be generated using RCHM(E) draughting conventions.

3.4.5 ***Photographic Survey:*** a general oblique photographic survey will be undertaken of the building in accordance with the RCHM(E) Level 2 recording. The record would be fully indexed and photographic views would be shown with respect to the survey plan. A record would be made in 35mm colour print and black and white formats of the interiors and exteriors of the building prior to any removal of the rubble.

3.4.6 ***Site Clearance:*** the site clearance operations will involve the clearance of the rubble both inside and outside the walls of the seventeenth century house, and will be undertaken under archaeological supervision. The clearance of the rubble will proceed no deeper than the external ground surface; clearance will be stopped if any sensitive archaeological stratigraphy is encountered. Internally it is intended to only expose the tops of the walls, rather than a wholesale internal clearance, this will involve the shallow removal of spoil and the excavation will be stopped if intact stratigraphy is encountered or a maximum depth of 0.35m is reached. It is intended that this process be undertaken as economically as possible and cause as little disturbance to the surviving fabric of the building and the moated site. The clearance will be undertaken by a combination of mechanical and manual techniques. Where it is possible to remove the coarse rubble by machine, without risk of damaging the walls or the underlying stratigraphy, it will be undertaken with a 5ton tracked mini-excavator. Where there is a greater degree of sensitivity, ie immediately against the walls, the excavation and cleaning of the walls will be subject to manual archaeological excavation.

3.4.7 The rubble will be transported by dumper track to an agreed location in the area of the farm, and this will be undertaken so as to minimise the disturbance to the scheduled ancient monument. It is proposed to lay down a temporary track surface over the more vulnerable sections of the route, particularly within the extent of the moated site. It is proposed to use 70mm thick rubber sheets, which will be able to spread the load, and can be easily lifted on completion. It is proposed that this track be down for as short a period as possible to prevent permanent damage to the underlying grass. It is proposed to use a four ton dumper with large tyres to minimise the ground pressure.

3.4.8 ***Clearance Recording:*** the structural elements, exposed as a result of the clearance programme, will be recorded as part of the subsequent fabric recording stage (*Section 3.4.9*). As it is proposed to excavate only the rubble collapse, it is not anticipated that significant stratigraphy will be revealed, and therefore there will be only a limited requirement for recording. However, if any non-structural elements or significant stratigraphy is encountered then they will be recorded in accordance with *Section 3.3.9*.

3.4.9 ***Fabric Recording:*** following exposure of the walls they will be subject to recording prior to any consolidation. The plan of the building will be enhanced so as to show the structures and elements that have been exposed as a result of the clearance, and will follow the same methodology as that defined for the pre-intervention survey (*Section 3.4.4*). The exposed elevations where there are more than two courses of masonry exposed (mainly the external elevations) will be recorded by means of a combination of reflectorless instrument survey and rectified photography. The outline frame of the elevation will be created using the reflectorless instrument, and will incorporate all apertures, and timbers where they survive *in situ*, but will not record individual bricks. Rectified photographs will be superimposed onto the survey frame in order to provide appropriate detail. The rectified photography will be undertaken by in-house survey specialists and will be undertaken in black and white using a medium format camera. The photography will be output at an appropriate scale. It will be scanned into a

computer and superimposed with the outline data created by the reflectorless instrument within a CAD system (AutoCAD 14). If there is any residual oblique distortion within the photographs they will be corrected using Archis software, before being incorporated into the CAD system.

3.4.10 ***Consolidation:*** the present proposal is for the consolidation of the structure as found and would follow clearance of the interior and levelling by LUAU contractors. Masonry consolidation work would be carried out by a specialist masonry contractor under a watching archaeological brief, with the works contract administered by Carr Humphreys Architecture.

3.4.11 On the external face the consolidation work would in general comprise the reduction of the external spoil levels by about 200mm on the external face to expose approximately 900mm height of wall on the external face for consolidation. It would appear that the four corner returns of the Hall and the east entrance area will be sufficiently upstanding to be consolidated to achieve meaningful interpretation by the public. It is proposed that the facework be cleared of moss, raked out and repointed with capping consolidation of the walltop and it is expected that a large number of stone blocks and inner lining bricks will be in need of rebedding. It is not possible at present to predict what is under the covered mound to the south mid elevation but the height of the mound suggests that there may be fabric of interest.

3.4.12 The internal walls are largely of brick construction and it is currently intended to expose only the top two or three courses, sufficient for visitors to appreciate an outline of the internal plan form. It is proposed to expose relatively small areas concentrating on the south, east and perhaps the northern part of the plan. It is not possible to predict how much of the brickwork inner face remains and what condition it is in; consequently it is not possible to accurately predict the extent of the work required. In order to provide an approximate guide to costing it has been assumed that the brick is in a condition that is capable of being consolidated. It is probable that much of the upper course will have frost or mechanical damage and will require rebedding and probably bringing back to a sound face. The lower courses will probably require only raking out and repointing.

3.4.13 In all cases it is assumed that only the areas that are to become exposed will be consolidated, with probably one further course of consolidation below the new ground line.

3.5 EVALUATION TRENCHING OF THE MOAT PLATFORM

3.5.1 Two short evaluation trenches will be excavated up against the walls of the seventeenth century house are intended to establish if the structure is constructed on earlier foundations or if there is any evidence for an earlier building within the immediate vicinity of the building. The trenches will be 7m long and 1.5m wide and their positions will be subject to the results of the site clearance programme. The removal of topsoil and overburden will be undertaken by a tracked mini-excavator under careful archaeological supervision (with a four foot toothless ditching bucket). The mechanical excavation will be undertaken in level spits down to the level of the highest significant archaeological horizon, and below that level excavation will be by manual techniques. If further mechanical excavation proves necessary it will be subject to agreement with LCAS. The sections and trench floors will be manually cleaned prior to undertaking any manual excavation.

3.5.2 Manual excavation will examine all sensitive deposits, and will enable an assessment of the nature, date and survival of deposits. All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Exposed features will be sample excavated, which typically would involve the excavation of 50% of discrete features and 25% of linear features. No feature or structure will be wholly excavated as the intention is simply to evaluate only the archaeological resource at this stage.

3.5.3 The recording strategy and finds strategy will be as for *Sections 3.3.9* and *3.3.10* respectively.

3.6 REPORT

3.6.1 ***Archive:*** the results of Stages 3.1-3.5 above will form the basis of 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. The deposition of a properly quantified, ordered, and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in that organisation's Code of Conduct. This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, as a printed document, and a synthesis (the evaluation report and index of the archive) will be submitted to the relevant Sites and Monuments Record. The archive will be deposited with the County SMR within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork.

3.6.2 All drawings will be produced on standard 'A' size sheets and in metric format. Each sheet will be fully titled. Particular attention will be paid to achieving drawings of the highest quality and accuracy.

3.6.3 The archive will be formed of all the primary documentation, including the following:

- Survey Information
- Context Records
- Finds Records
- Sample Records
- Field / Inked Drawings and digital copies of CAD data
- Photographic negatives, prints and colour transparencies
- Written report
- Administrative records

3.6.4 ***Report:*** two copies of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the client and a further copy to the SMR. The report will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed in Stages 3.1-3.5 above, and will include an index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project, with an assessment of the sites development. It will incorporate appropriate illustrations, including a location map, geophysical survey results, copies of the site plans and section drawings, and the trench location plan all reduced to an appropriate scale. The report will consist of an acknowledgements statement, list of contents, summary, introduction summarising the brief and project design and any agreed departures from them, methodology, interpretative account of the archaeological stratigraphy and details of the features and stratigraphy recorded from each trench, table of contexts, the results of the survey work, a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work. If required the report will make recommendations for further mitigative recording. The report will be in the same basic format as this project design.

3.7 GENERAL CONDITIONS

3.7.1 ***Access:*** it is understood that there will be access for pedestrian and plant traffic to the site. There are tree preservation orders throughout the study area and the routes for the mechanical plant will be designed so as to avoid all trees, although there may need to be agreement to allow access through areas of scrub. It is understood that the client will undertake clearance of the ground vegetation in advance of the evaluation and clearance of the seventeenth century house.

3.7.2 ***Health and Safety:*** full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services) during the survey, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. The LUAU Health and Safety Statement conforms to all the provisions of the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Unit Managers) Health and Safety manual. Risk assessments are undertaken as a matter of course for all projects. The Unit Safety Policy Statement will be provided to the client, if required. If there is a requirement to excavate trenches deeper than 1.25m the trenches will be stepped out to minimise section collapse, and in some instances the lower sections of a trench may have to be excavated by mechanised means alone if it proves unsafe to allow human access into a deep

trench. The trenches will be excavated as quickly as possible and backfilled to prevent unauthorised access to the trenches by the public, after working hours. Any trenches left open overnight will be fenced off to prevent public access.

3.7.3 ***Confidentiality:*** The report is designed as a document for the specific use of the client for the particular purpose as defined in this project design, and should be treated as such. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties or for any other explicit purpose can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

3.7.4 ***Project Monitoring:*** any proposed changes to this project design will be agreed with the client, the Development Control Officer, Lancashire County Council, and the inspector of ancient monuments, English Heritage. If required a meeting with the archaeological curators and the client can be established at the outset of the project.

3.7.5 ***Insurance:*** the insurance in respect of claims for personal injury to or the death of any person under a contract of service with the unit and arising out of an in the course of such person's employment shall comply with the employers' liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 and any statutory orders made there under. For all other claims to cover the liability of LUAU, in respect of personal injury or damage to property by negligence of LUAU or any of its employees, there applies the insurance cover of £1m for any one occurrence or series of occurrences arising out of one event.

3.7.6 ***Contingencies:*** a contingency cost is submitted to cover the eventuality of further machining or additional areas of trenching, the requirements for conservation of artefacts, and the possibility of carbon dating. The environmental work provides for a basic level of analysis of two samples; if further environmental samples need to be analysed (in the event of discovering rich archaeological deposits) or if more detailed analysis is required this will also be covered by the contingency.

3.7.7 The contingency cost (*Section 6*) provides for two conventional carbon dates or a single accelerator date. The defined contingency cost is an upper limit, inclusive of all required contingencies; the actual cost for any element will be agreed with the client prior to implementation. Any further work will be subject to discussions with the archaeological curator and the client.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

4.1 It is intended to undertake the proposed programme between spring and summer when the water table is low. It is envisaged that the various stages of the project outlined above will fall into five distinct phases. The phases of work would comprise:

i ***Project Preparation***
3 days (in office)

ii ***Consolidation Works***
2 weeks (on site)

iii ***Evaluation Trenching of the Moat***
4 days (on site)

iv ***Pre-Intervention Survey of Clayton Hall***
2 days (on site)

v ***Clearance Excavation of Clayton Hall***
10 days (on site)

vi ***Fabric Recording of Clayton Hall***
4 days (on site)

vii ***Consolidation of Clayton Hall***
7 weeks (on site)

viii ***Evaluation of the Moated Platform***
3 days (on site)

ix ***Report***
10 days (in office)

4.2 The project will be under the management of **Jamie Quartermaine BA Surv Dip MIFA** (LUAU Project Manager). All Unit staff are experienced, each with several years appropriate professional expertise.

APPENDIX 2
CONTEXT LIST

Context Number	Trench	Description
1	15	Topsoil
2	15	Rubble make-up
3	15	Cut for field drain
4	15	Fill of ***3***
5	15	Stone culvert
6	15	Cut for ***5***
7	15	Natural clay subsoil
8	15	Field drain
9	15	Levelling deposit
10	15	Upper fill of ***14***
11	15	Fill of ***14***
12	15	Primary fill of ***14***
13	15	Natural sandy subsoil
14	15	Cut for moat
15	16	Topsoil
16	16	Modern (twentieth century) levelling deposit
17	16	Cut for moat
18	16	Primary fill of ***17***
19	16	Fill of ***17***
20	16	Upper fill of ***17***
21	16	Clay lens
22	17	Buried topsoil
23	17	Topsoil
24	17	Levelling deposit
25	17	Stone culvert
26	17	Cut for ***25***
27	17	Primary fill of ***30***
28	17	Cut for feature of unknown function
29	17	Natural clay subsoil
30	17	Cut for moat
200	19	Topsoil
201	19	Stone footings
202	19	Clay layer
203	19	Linear feature
204	19	Fill of ***203***
205	19	Clay lining of ***203***
206	19	Wall
207	19	Cut for ***206***
208	19	Fill of ***207***
209	19	Orange sand layer

Number	Trench	Description
210	19	Grey sand layer
211	19	Mottled levelling sand
212	20	Topsoil
213	20	Fill of ***215***
214	20	Drain pipe
215	20	Cut for drain
216	20	Redeposited levelling clay
217	20	Natural clay subsoil
218	19	Stone/sand spread
219	19	Iron pan-rich sand deposit
220	18	Topsoil
221	18	Redeposited orange clay
222	18	Cinder/fire debris
223	18	Silty clay levelling
224	18	Micaceous sandstone fragments
225	18	Mottled silty clay levelling
226	18	Sandy clay layer containing wood fragments
227	18	Silty clay below 226
228	18	Pale grey loose sand below 227
229	18	Redeposited sandy clay below 228
230	18	Undisturbed natural orange sand with iron pan inclusions
231	18	Natural boulder clay with patches of orange sand
232	19	Natural subsoil comprising boulder clay
233	19	Layer of redeposited clay

APPENDIX 3
SUMMARY FINDS LIST

Trench	Context	OR no	Material	Category	No frags	Description	Date
15	2	1001	Ceramic	Vessel	2	Slip cast black ?stoneware rim fragment. Black-glazed redware body fragment.	Late eighteenth / nineteenth century Late seventeenth century
15	12	1000	Wood	Worked	1	Cut timber fragment, probably oak.	
16	15	1005	Ceramic	Vessel	2	Body fragments, both fully reduced green-glazed fabrics.	Fourteenth to seventeenth century
16	15	1006		Vessel	4	Body fragment, brown-glazed redware. Body fragment, black-glazed redware. Rim fragment, plate, transfer-printed blue and white earthenware. Rim fragment, plate, creamware with blue feathered edge.	Eighteenth century or later
16	15	1007	Bone	Animal	1	[illegible]	
16	18	1002	Ceramic	Roof tile	1	Flat tile fragment.	Fourteenth - fifteenth century ?
16	18	1003	Wood	Unworked	1	Burnt, and stained timber fragment.	
16	18	1004	Wood	Unworked	1	Cut timber fragment.	
17	23	1010	Ceramic	Vessel	1	Body fragment, Westerwald-type stoneware.	1640 or later
17	23	1011	Ceramic	Vessel	3	Rim fragment, late slip-decorated redware. Rim fragment, large black-glazed redware pancheon. Body fragment, black-glazed redware.	Eighteenth / nineteenth century
17	24	1008	Ceramic	Vessel	1	White-glazed earthenware.	Nineteenth century
17	24	1017	Ceramic	Vessel	2	White-glazed earthenware, one a saucer rim fragment.	Nineteenth century
17	25	1009	Bone	Animal	1	[illegible]	
19	200	1012	Ceramic	Vessel	8	Rim of flask or bottle, fine reduced fabric. Two body fragments early stoneware. Body and handle fragment, thin iron-washed stoneware. Body fragment, bright orange sandy fabric with colourless glaze. Two body fragments black-glazed redware. Body fragment late brown-glazed redware.	Not closely dated Late seventeenth century Late seventeenth century? Eighteenth century
19	204	1015		Vessel	13	11 body and handle fragments of a jug or jar, in sandy reduced fabric, thumbed strip decoration and a strap handle with stabbed decoration. Body fragment fine, hard-fired reduced fabric, dark green glaze. Body fragment, bright orange sandy fabric with patchy dark green to purple glaze.	Fourteenth – sixteenth centur Fourteenth – seventeenth century Fourteenth – seventeenth century
19	204	1016	Bone	Animal	[illegible]	[illegible]	
19	208	1014	Ceramic	Vessel	6	Body fragment, bright orange sandy fabric with patchy dark green to purple glaze. Body fragment redware with colourless glaze. Three fragments black-glazed redware. Handle, stoneware jug.	Fourteenth-fifteenth century? Eighteenth-nineteenth century Eighteenth century
19	210	1013	Ceramic	Vessel	1	Black glazed red earthenware jar.	Eighteenth century

ILLUSTRATIONS

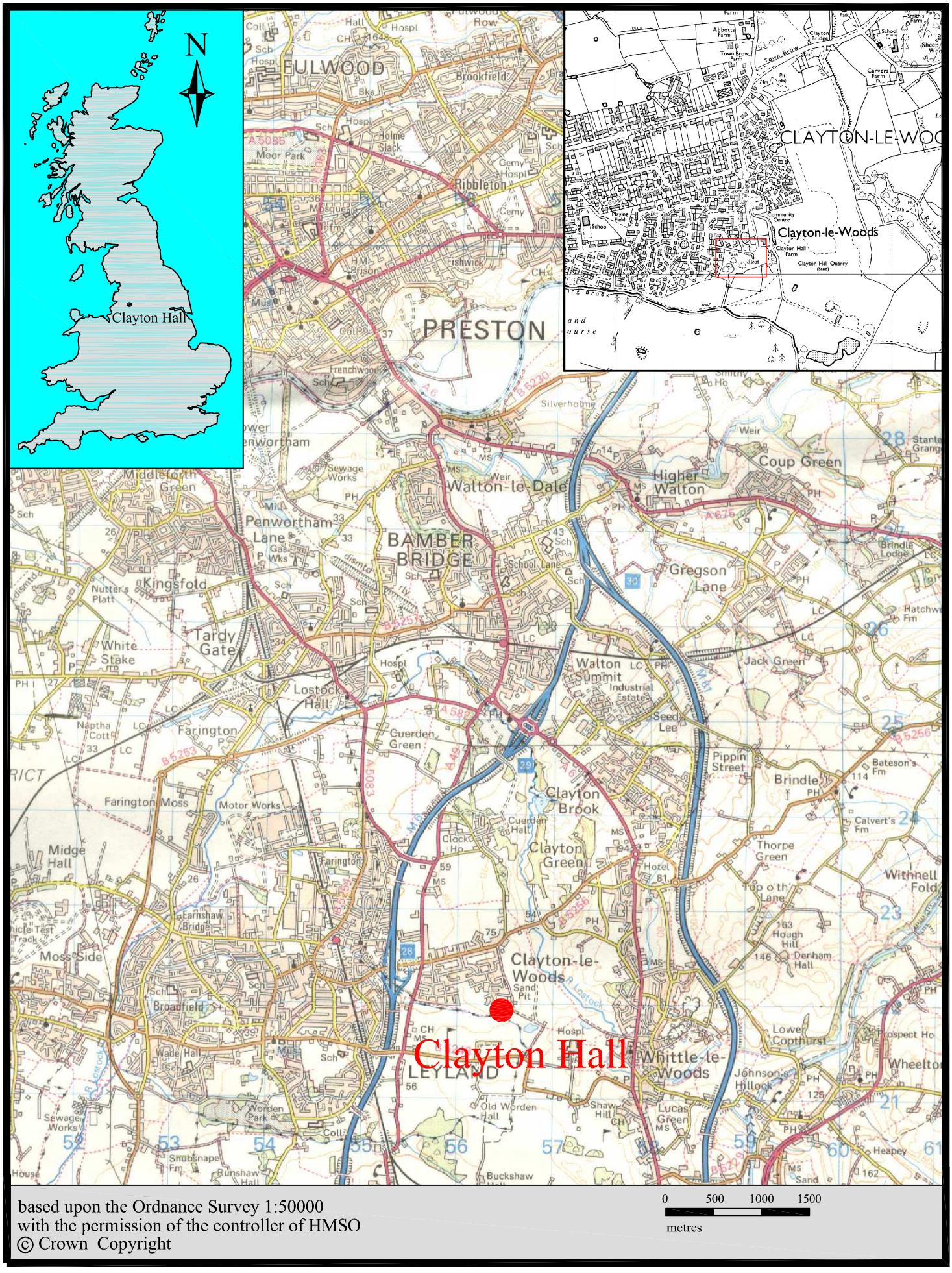


Fig 1: Clayton Hall: Location Map

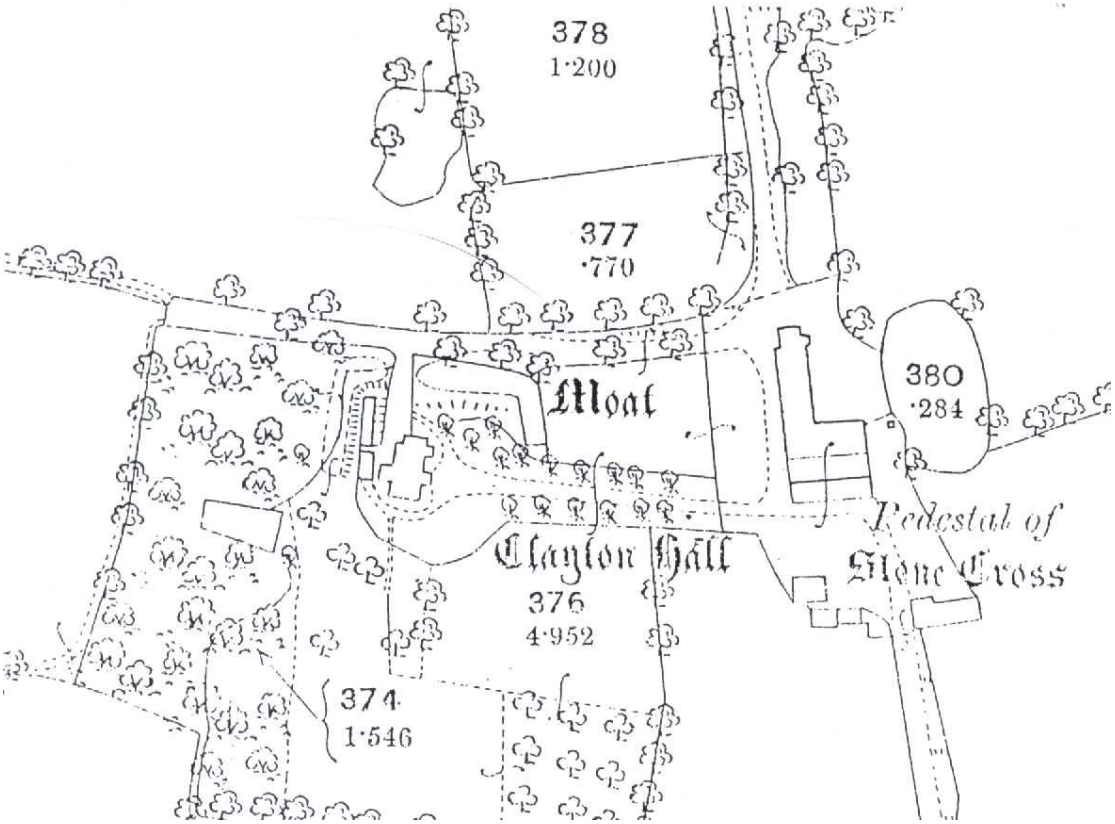


Fig 2 Clayton Hall on the OS 2nd edition 25" map (1893)

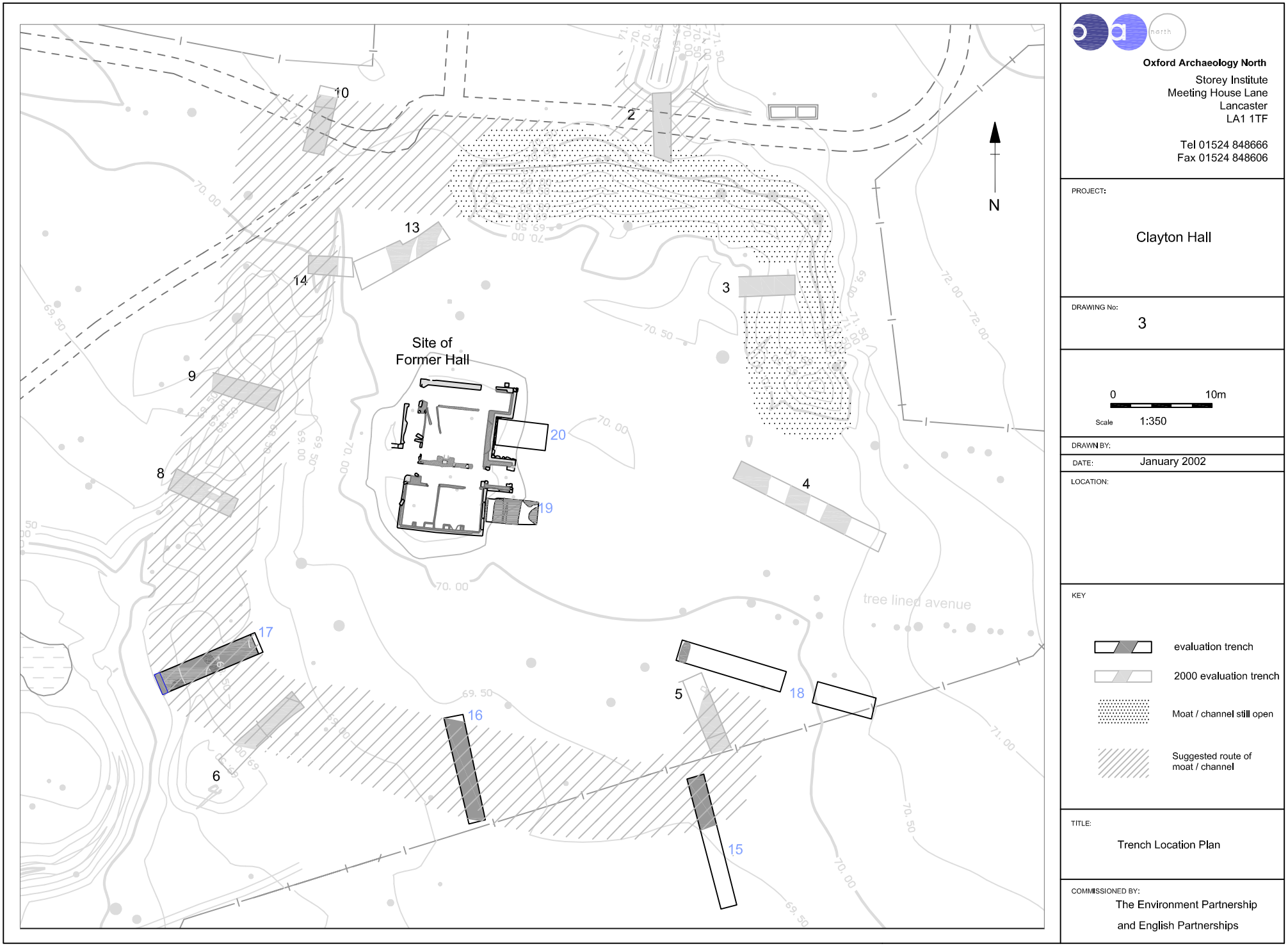
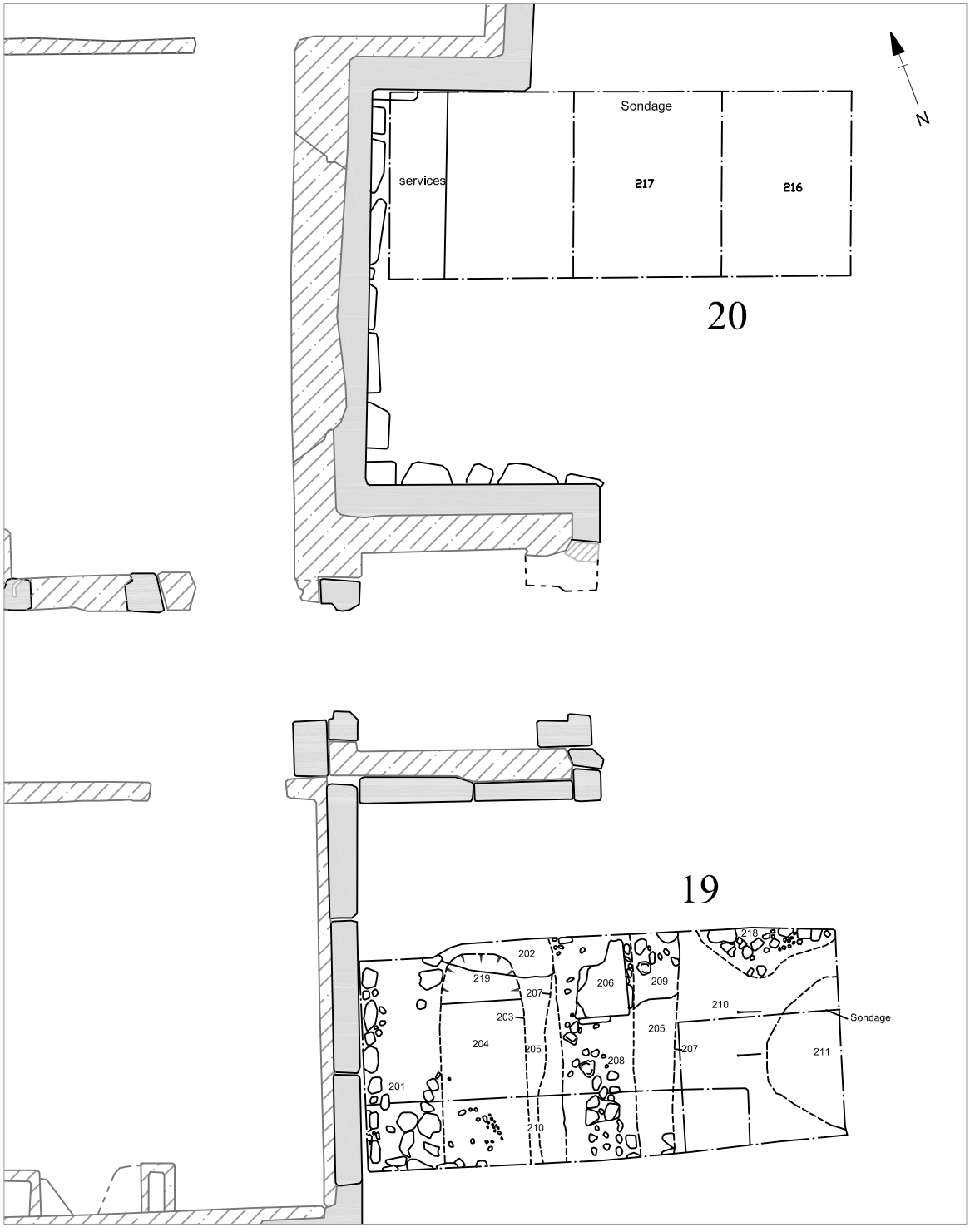


Figure 3: Trench Location Plan



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PROJECT:

Clayton Hall

DRAWING No:

4

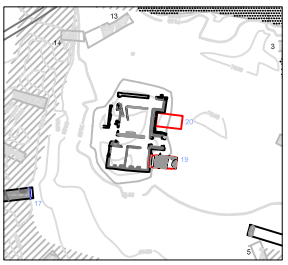
0 2m

Scale 1:50

DRAWN BY:

DATE: January 2002

LOCATION:



KEY

stone
brick
timber
iron

TITLE:

Detail of trenches 19 and 20

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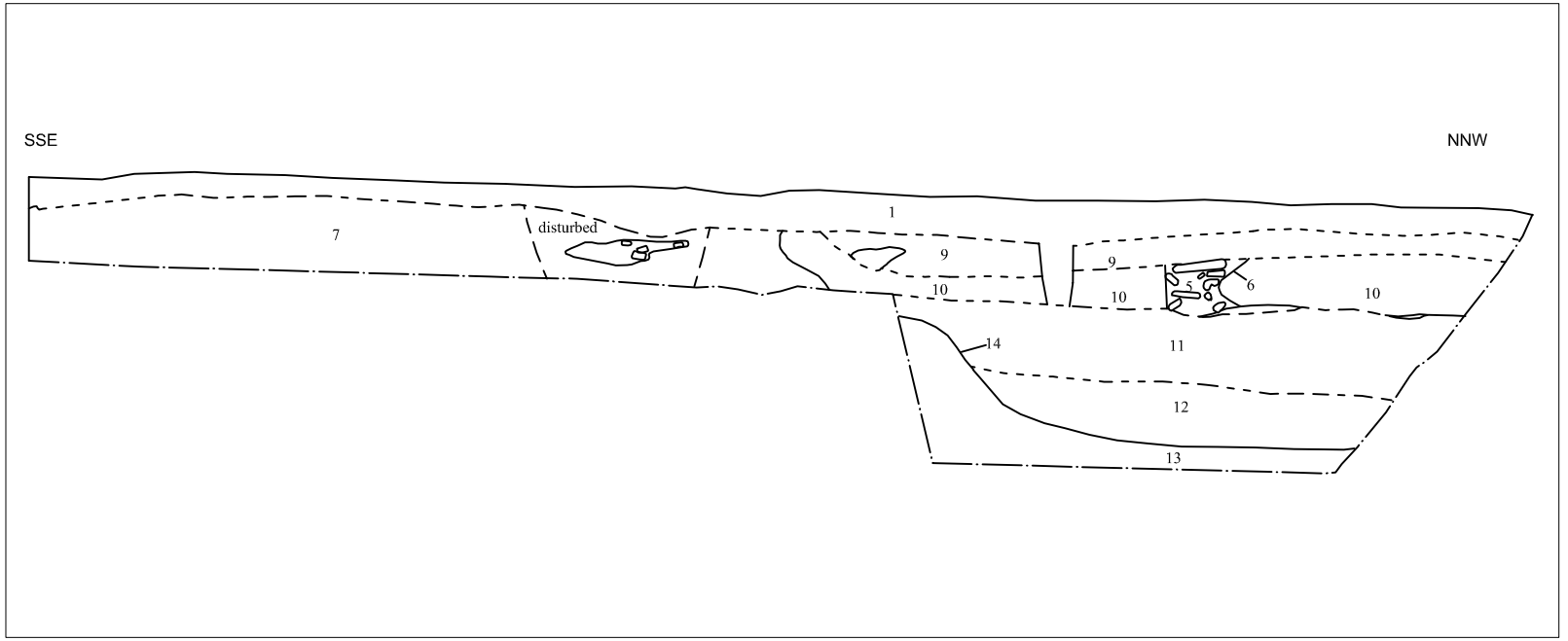
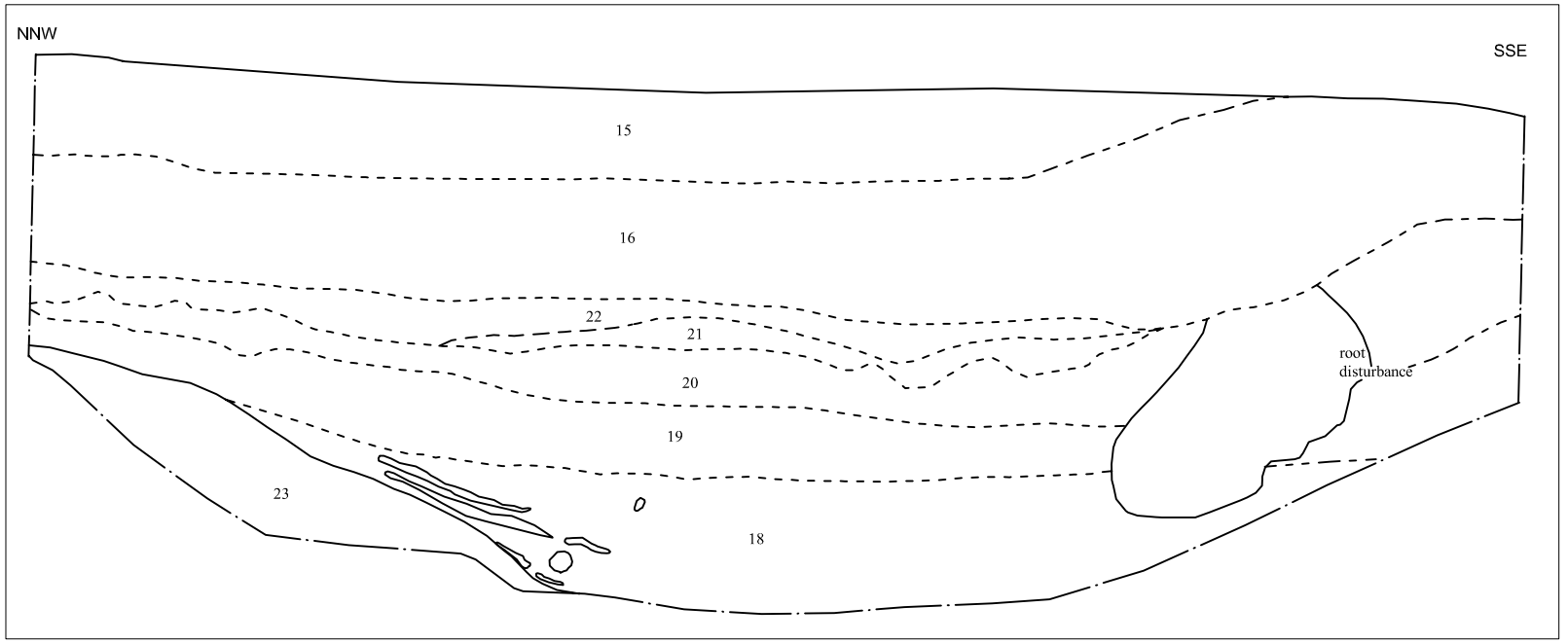
Figure 4: Plan of Trenches 19 and 20



North-east-facing section of Trench 15 at 1:25



South-west-facing section of Trench 16 at 1:25

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PROJECT:

Clayton Hall

DRAWING No:

6

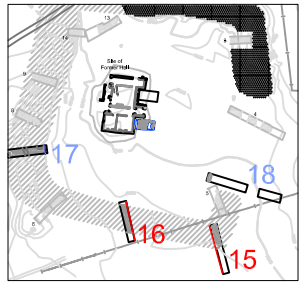
0 50m

Scale 1:25

DRAWN BY:

DATE: January 2002

LOCATION:



KEY

TITLE:

Sections - Trenches 15 and 16

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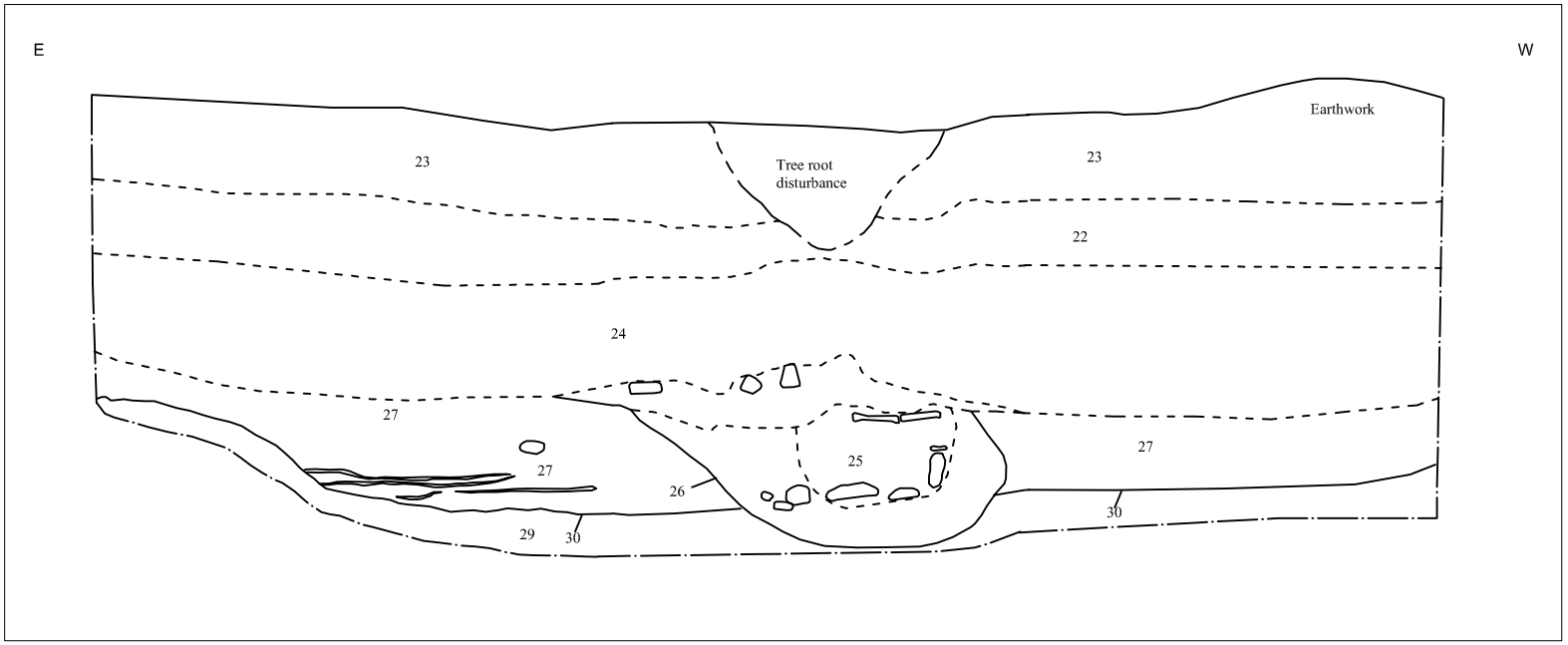
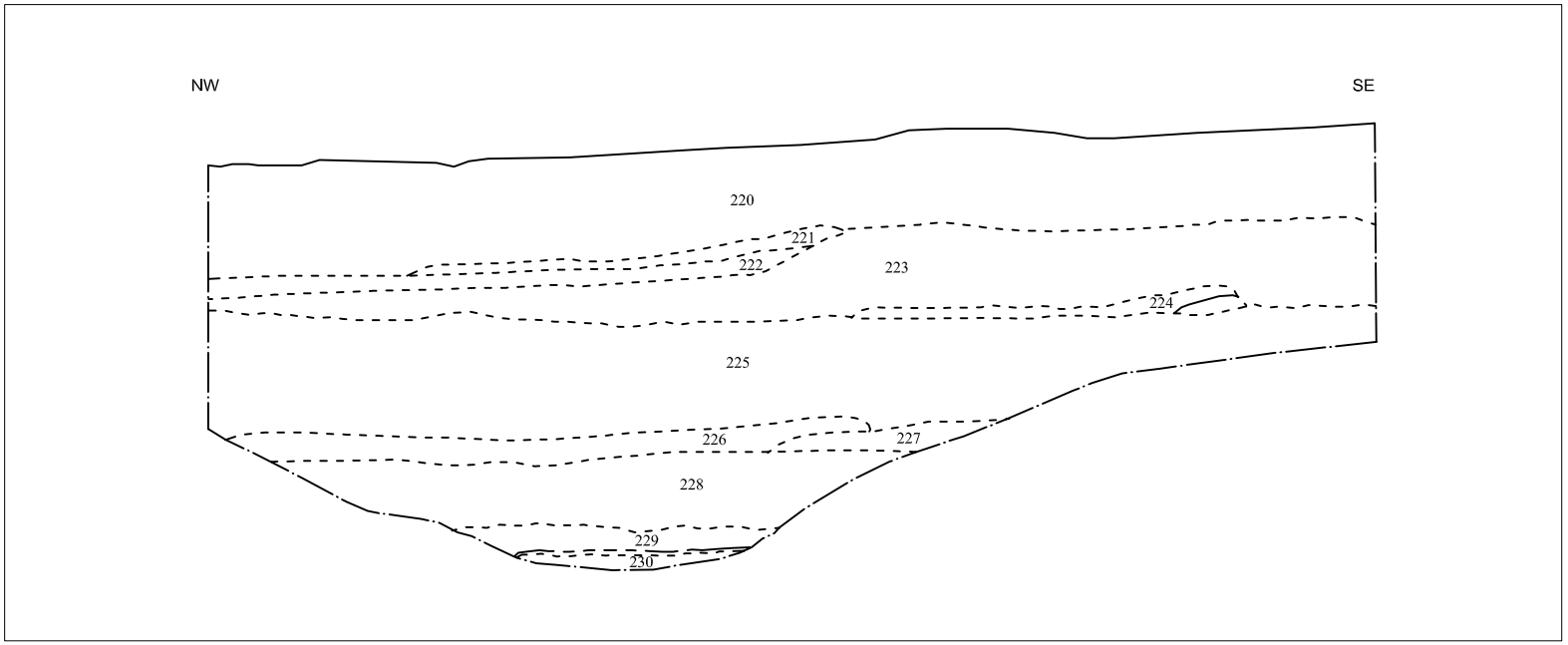
Figure 5: North-east-facing section of Trench 15 and south-west-facing section of Trench 16



Schematic North-facing section of Trench 17



South-facing section of Trench 18

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PROJECT:

Clayton Hall

DRAWING No:

7

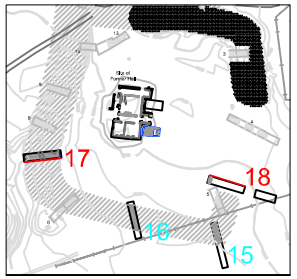
0 50m

Scale 1:25

DRAWN BY:

DATE: January 2002

LOCATION:



KEY

TITLE:

North-facing section of Trench 17 and South-facing section of Trench 18

COMMISSIONED BY:

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Figure 6: North facing section of Trench 17 and South-facing Section of Trench 18

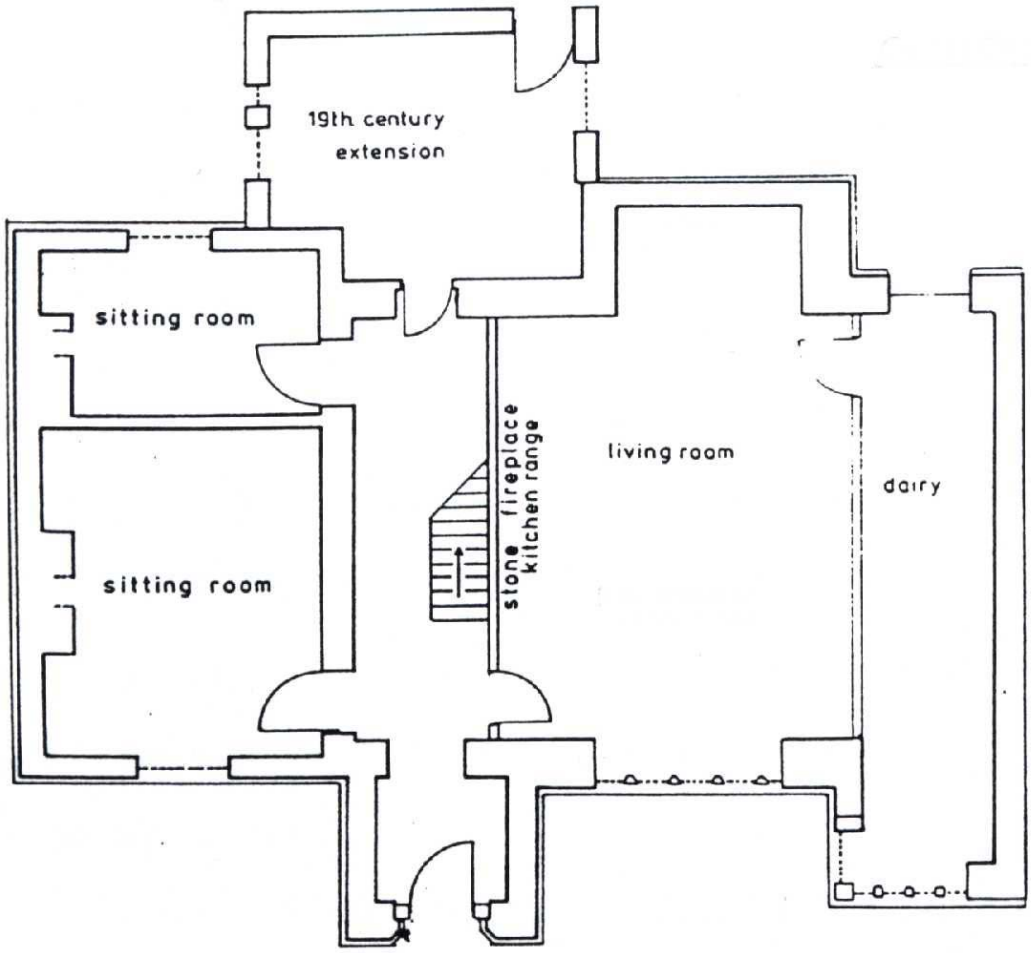
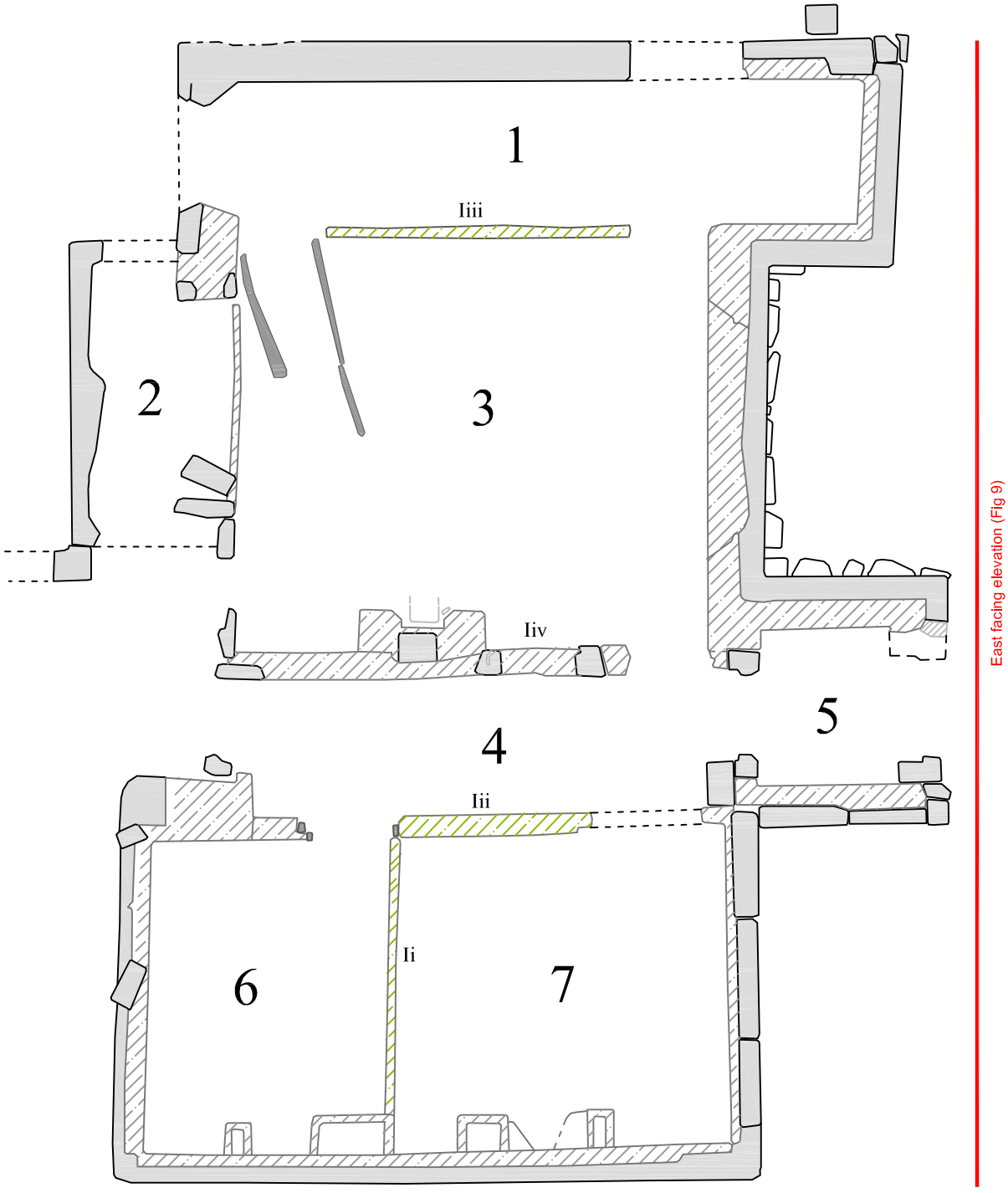


Figure 7: Plan of Clayton Hall *c*1910 (after Hallam 1983)



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PROJECT:	Clayton Hall
DRAWING No:	8
SCALE:	1:75
TITLE:	Plan of Hall
CLIENT	The Environment Partnership and English Partnerships
DRAWN BY:	
DATE:	November 2001

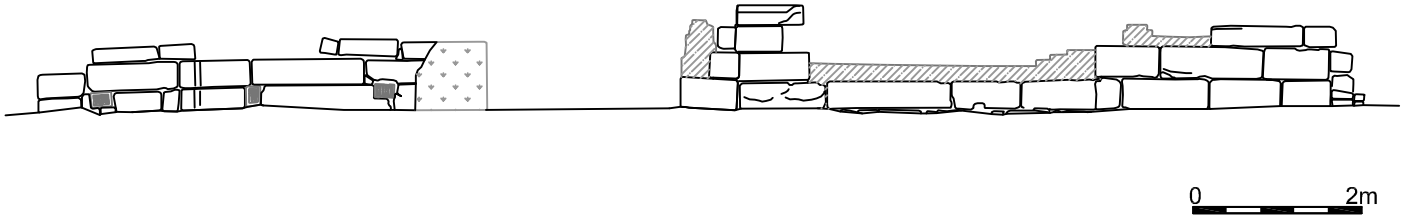
LOCATION:

N

KEY

- stone
- timber
- iron
- hand-made brick
- machine-made brick

Figure 8: Plan of the Surviving Remains of Clayton Hall



East Facing External Elevation

South Facing External Elevation

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PROJECT:

Clayton Hall

DRAWING No:

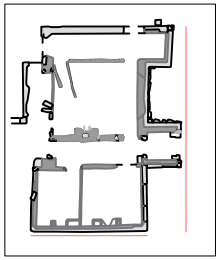
9

0 2m

DRAWN BY:

DATE: January 2002

LOCATION:



KEY

brickwork

obscured by vegetation

concrete

TITLE:

East and South External Elevations

COMMISSIONED BY:

The Environment Partnership
and English Partnerships

Figure 9: Eastern and Southern External Elevations of Clayton Hall

PLATES

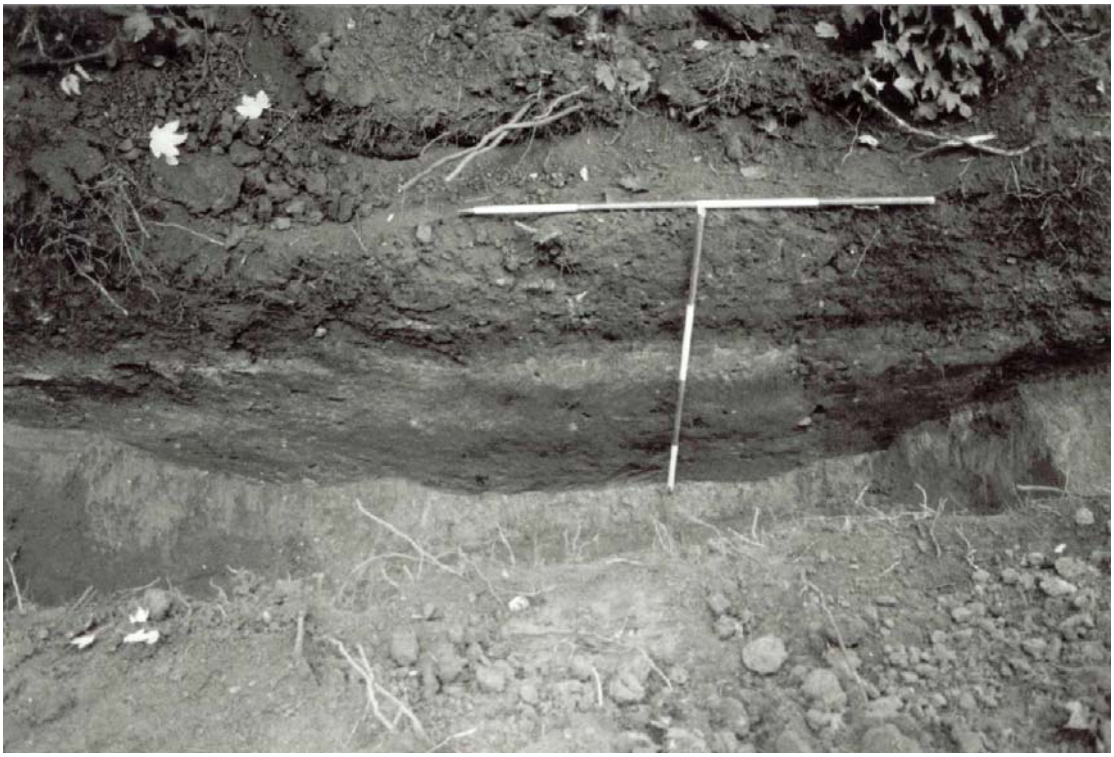


Plate 1: West-facing section of Trench 15, showing the profile of the moat

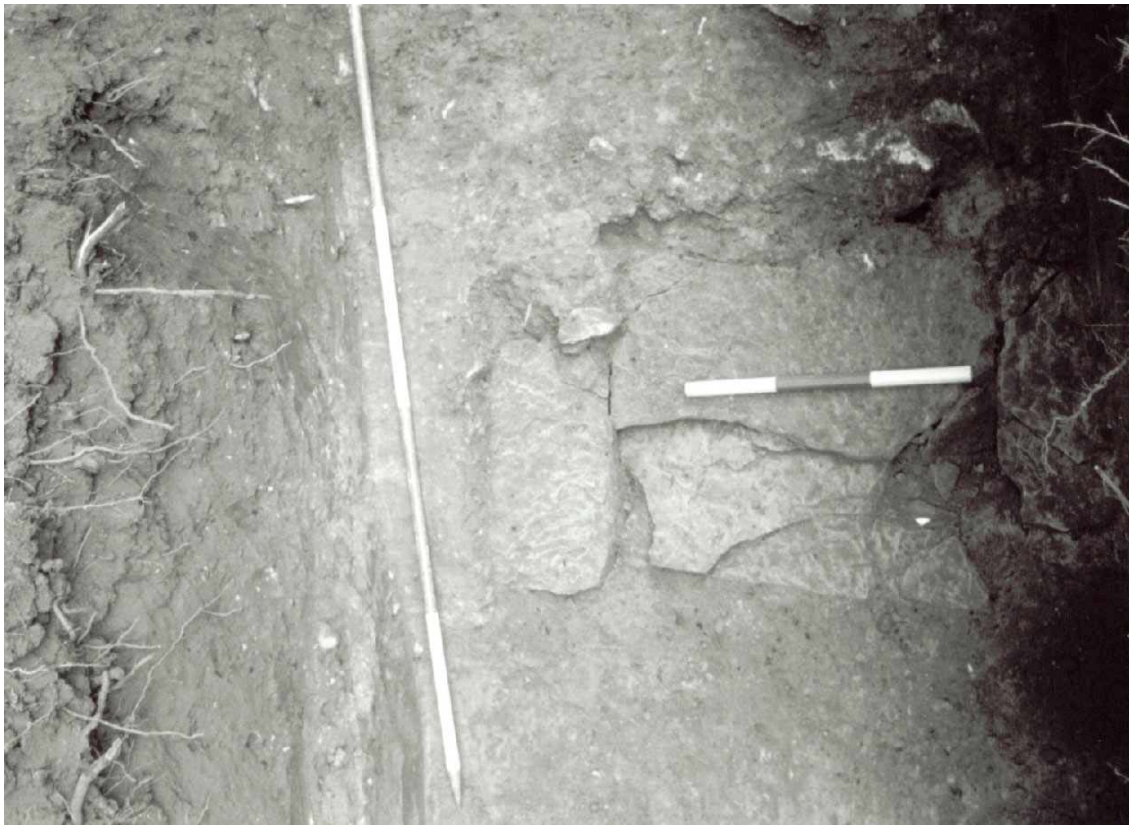


Plate 2: Vertical view of stone culvert **25** in Trench 17

Plate 3: Trench 19, looking west showing the contrast between the early foundations, ***203***, and those of the southern extension

Plate 4: Trench 20, looking west, showing natural deposits beneath building

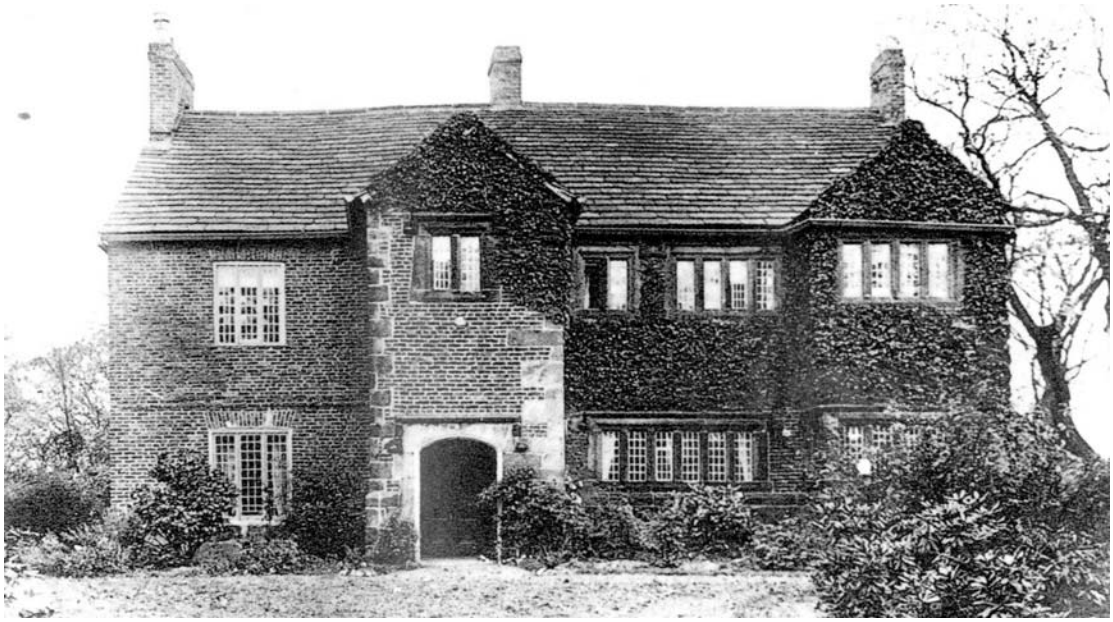


Plate 5: Clayton Hall looking west, taken in *c*1900

Plate 6: Main eastern entrance prior to clearance excavation, looking west

Plate 7 General view of Clayton Hall, looking north-west

Plate 8 View of the porch, looking west, at the outset of consolidation

Plate 9: The porch following consolidation, viewed from the south-east

Plate 10: Southern part of Clayton Hall, including the porch, viewed from the south-east at the outset of the consolidation