

Cumbria College of Art and Design

Carlisle, Cumbria



Archaeological Watching Brief



Oxford Archaeology North

February 2002

Cumbria College of Art and Design

Issue No: 2001-2/128

OAN Job No: L8158

NGR: NY 4030 5730

Document Title: CUMBRIA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
CARLISLE

Document Type: Archaeological Watching Brief

Client Name: Cumbria College of Art and Design

Issue Number: 2001-2002/128

OA Job Number: L8158

National Grid Reference: NY 4030 5730

Prepared by: Vix Hughes
Position: Project Supervisor
Date: February 2002

Checked by: Jamie Quartermaine Signed.....
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: February 2002

Approved by: Rachel Newman Signed.....
Position: Director
Date: February 2002

Document File Location Jamie/Projects/8158CCWB

Oxford Archaeology (North)

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1TF
t: (0044) 01524 848666
f: (0044) 01524 848606

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd 2002

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0EA
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Circumstances of the Project	4
1.2 Location and Topography	4
1.3 Archaeological Background.....	5
2. METHODOLOGY	8
2.1 Project Design	8
2.2 Topsoil Stripping	8
2.3 Trench Excavations.....	8
2.4 The Finds	8
2.5 Archive.....	9
3. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS	10
3.1 Topsoil Stripping	10
3.2 Duct and Drainage Trenches.....	11
3.3 Gully Sondages	12
3.4 The Finds	12
4. CONCLUSIONS	14
4.1 Discussion	14
4.2 Impact	14
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	15
APPENDIX 1.....	15
Project Design	
APPENDIX 2.....	15
Finds List	
ILLUSTRATIONS	16
Fig 1 Location Map	
Fig 2 Plan of works and features identified in the walled garden	
PLATES.....	17
Plate 1: View of walled garden interior following topsoil stripping, looking north-west	
Plate 2: Feature B, sandstone and brick foundation, looking east	

SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was carried out in July 2001 within the walled garden at Cumbria College of Art and Design, Carlisle (NY 4030 5730). This work followed on from Phase 5 of a programme of archaeological work, being carried out for the college jointly by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN), formerly Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), and Newcastle University's Archaeological Practice, in accordance with a brief set by the Development Control Officer of Cumbria County Council.

The College is situated in an area which has been identified as being of high archaeological importance (County Sites and Monuments Record 5782, Scheduled Monument 28484). The main College building is situated between the line of Hadrian's Wall and the probable course of the associated *Vallum*, c200m to the south-east of the Wall. It is also only approximately 60m north-east of the north-eastern defences of the Roman fort of Stanwix, the largest fort on Hadrian's Wall.

The watching brief followed on from an evaluation undertaken within the garden by OAN, which identified a large 'V'-shaped ditch running north/south, parallel and adjacent to the east side of the fort at Stanwix; it was believed that this may have been a Roman military ditch relating to the fort.

It was a requirement of the Scheduled Monument Consent that the development should cause as little disturbance to the underlying archaeological deposits as was feasible, and therefore the watching brief involved the recording of what were relatively superficial interventions. The work initially consisted of the observation of topsoil stripping to a depth of 0.3m across the entire site. This revealed the walls of earlier greenhouses along the north-west wall, a brick and sandstone structure half way along the south-west side, and the remains of a sandstone wall aligned north-east/south-west in the southern part of the site. The second part of the work involved the monitoring of groundworks for the insertion of two ducts, five drainage trenches, and seven water storage gullies. No significant archaeological features were recorded within these interventions and the only features present were recent drains and services which truncated the natural subsoils and underlying drift geology. No evidence of the possible Roman military ditch found in the earlier evaluation within the western part of the garden was seen, mainly as a result of the positioning of the trenches.

The results demonstrate that no archaeology of any significance was disturbed by the development and that the Roman archaeological deposits, identified by the earlier evaluation, will be preserved *in situ*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (formerly Lancaster University Archaeological Unit) would like to thank Malcolm Wilson (Architects Plus) and Helena Smith (Cumbria County Archaeology Service) for their support in the course of the project. Thanks are also due to the on-site workers for their friendliness and constant cheer. Thanks are due to Peter Harman and Mike Baker of Cumbria College of Art and Design for their help in the course of the project, which was very much appreciated. Thanks are also given to Ken Hope Plant Hire for the meticulous and speedy machining.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Bates and Vix Hughes, who also compiled the report. The drawings were by Emma Carter and the finds report by Ian Miller. The report was edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Rachel Newman and the project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 **Contract Background:** Oxford Archaeology North (OAN), formerly Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), conducted a watching brief at Cumbria College of Art and Design, Carlisle, between 31st July and 3rd August 2001 in the course of ground works for the establishment of a car park. The work was part of a programme of archaeological fieldwork being carried out for the College jointly by OAN and Newcastle University's Archaeological Practice, in accordance with the terms of a brief set by the Cumbria County Archaeology Service. The fieldwork was required as a condition of planning permission in order to mitigate the impact on the archaeological resource of the extension and improvement of the College, its access roads, and services, currently being conducted for the College by principal contractors Lambert and Gill Ltd. Phase 5 of the programme involved the evaluation of a walled garden to the west of the college in advance of the construction of a car park, which identified a possible Roman military ditch (LUAU 2000b). As a follow up to this work it was recommended that a watching brief be undertaken in the course of groundworks during the construction of the car park within the walled garden.
- 1.1.2 The College lies on a site that has been identified as being of high archaeological importance (County Sites and Monuments Record 5782 and Scheduled Monument 28484). The main College building is situated between the line of Hadrian's Wall, and the probable course of the *Vallum*, c200m to the south-east of the Wall; it is also only c60m north-east of the north-eastern defences of the Roman fort of Stanwix, the largest fort on Hadrian's Wall.

1.2 LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 The study area lies immediately west of the main College building, and south-east of Tarraby Lane, in a walled garden which, until recently, housed three portacabins, used as ancillary classrooms for the college. The grounds that the walled garden occupy are on the western side of the site, standing above the lower ground on which the college is built, and on which some have suggested that a parade ground was located (McCarthy 1999). To the west, just beyond the walled garden, the eastern wall of the fort is thought to be situated. The walled garden therefore occupies a position of some importance, due to its proximity to both Hadrian's Wall and the fort.
- 1.2.2 The site lies at c30m OD. The underlying solid geological deposits consist of Triassic mudstones and siltstones (British Geological Survey 1982), while the soils of the surrounding area are of the Clifton series, which is a typical stagnogley soil (Soil Survey 1983). However, the soils within the walled garden are loamier, which may reflect the past use of the site.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 **Stanwix Fort:** excavations of the fort at Stanwix in the 1930s by Simpson, Hogg and Richmond established the positions of the south gate, and the defences on the north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western sides. Internal buildings, including a granary, were located in the playground of Stanwix Primary School (Simpson and Hogg 1935). In the 1980s, an excavation in the car park of the Cumbria Park Hotel, immediately north of the school playground, located the stone footings of the north-western fort wall and an interval tower, together with two ditches beyond (McCarthy 1999). This demonstrated that the fort had been enlarged in the Antonine period, projecting it north of Hadrian's Wall. The other key discovery was that of a ditch underlying the interval tower, which was clearly earlier than the enlargement of the fort and was presumed to be associated with Hadrian's Wall, the foundations of which had been discovered by Simpson and Hogg in 1932-4 (Simpson and Hogg 1935; McCarthy 1999, 163).
- 1.3.2 In 1997, Carlisle Archaeological Unit (CAU) carried out further work in the playground of the Primary School, in advance of the construction of an extension to the school (McCarthy 1999, 164). The earliest identifiable feature consisted of a turf deposit, overlain by a substantial deposit of clay; this turf deposit was either part of a rampart or perhaps evidence of the Turf Wall that predated the stone version of Hadrian's Wall to the west of the River Irthing. There were no obvious front or rear faces to this deposit, but it was located some metres south of the stone Hadrian's Wall discovered in the 1930s (Simpson and Hogg 1935). The walls located by Simpson and Hogg were not found, but stone and cobbled surfaces and rubble deposits were identified and were presumed to have belonged with the walls found in the 1930s. Timber buildings erected after the deposition of Huntcliff ware in the fourth century were also discovered (McCarthy 1999).
- 1.3.3 In 1997 and 1998, CAU dug two further trenches in a narrow passage immediately adjacent to the north-western side of the Victorian school, locating the inner ditch and the stone footings of the fort wall (McCarthy 1999). Other work in Stanwix in 1993 revealed two phases of walls and surfaces (CAU 1993).
- 1.3.4 **The Fort Environs:** in 1986, CAU excavated some deeply stratified deposits, including remains of buildings, at the former Miles MacInnes Hall in Scotland Road, demonstrating the existence of extramural development beyond the west gate of the fort (McCarthy 1999).
- 1.3.5 Between the fort and the rising ground to the north-east centred on Wall Knowe, is an area of lower ground, where investigations by CAU, in the grounds of Cumbria College of Art and Design, in 1996 revealed an extensive clay platform up to 0.5m thick, which was provisionally interpreted as the parade ground for the fort (*ibid*). Between this putative parade ground and the east gate of the fort is a raised area which was tentatively identified as a tribunal (*ibid*). The clay identified as a parade ground sealed an old ground surface, with extensive areas of plough marks, and field boundary ditches, including some discovered in 1976 by the Central Excavation Unit (Smith 1978). In 1998, excavations by CAU identified further buildings and possible industrial debris near to the entrance to Cumbria College of Art and Design on Brampton Road (CAU 1998). The investigation also identified a large ditch, interpreted as the *Vallum*, even though it was c75m to the south of the position shown on OS maps.
- 1.3.6 An excavation and watching brief was carried out at the College in 1999 by LUAU (1999). Excavation to the south-west of the main College building

revealed only twentieth century features, and suggested that modern disturbance had been heavy due to the building having been terraced into the slope. However, a watching brief at the main gate revealed a dump containing Roman pottery, the butt-ends of two possible beam slots, a larger linear feature, a pit, a posthole, and a possible kiln. The evidence suggests Roman occupation close to Brampton Road, probably terminating by the late third century AD. No evidence for the *Vallum* was present in this area (LUAU 1999) despite its proximity to the feature identified by CAU (1998).

- 1.3.7 A watching brief was undertaken at the same time by Newcastle University's Archaeological Practice on extensions on the south-east side of the main College building. The excavations failed to uncover any archaeology to the depth of the pile caps, except for a thick ploughsoil and hillwash. A much deeper excavation was undertaken for the construction of a lift-shaft, however, which revealed an extensive area of cobbling similar to that encountered by the CAU evaluations (1993) to the north of the College building. Large postholes and slots were also discovered, apparently contemporary with the cobbled area; these were cut by ditches and overlain by burnt deposits. The deposits appeared to concentrate in the east end of the trench, with the west end showing truncation from the point at which the college building has been terraced into the slope (A Rushworth *pers comm*).
- 1.3.8 An evaluation and watching brief were carried out in June 2000 by LUAU (2000a) to the north of the main college building. The watching brief on a pipe trench revealed a deposit of clay and cobbles running approximately two thirds the length of the trench. The evaluation was between the pipe trench and the main College building to the south, and revealed mainly nineteenth and twentieth century features and soil horizons. However, excavation in the centre of the trench revealed the same deposit of clay and cobbles as identified in the watching brief. This deposit consisted of two phases of clay / cobble surfaces abutting a metallised surface at the western exposed end, Roman tile, brick and pottery were uncovered embedded in the clay surface. The brief provided only for the recording of features that would be affected by the proposed development, so little examination or interpretation of the deposit was possible. A sondage, however, revealed the depth of the deposit to be c0.3m. These clay and cobble surfaces correspond to those identified by the 1996 excavations by CAU (McCarthy 1999), which were then interpreted as a parade ground (LUAU 2000a).
- 1.3.9 A programme of evaluation trenching was undertaken in August 2000 (LUAU 2000b) in the walled garden to the east of the college. This involved the excavation of three trenches, of which those in the centre and east of the garden uncovered only natural deposits and features associated with the garden. However, in the western trench a 'V' profiled ditch was identified, which had a marked steepening of gradient towards the base. The ditch was orientated north/south, lying parallel to the eastern edge of the fort at Stanwix. The fills contained few diagnostic finds and appeared to demonstrate a very short period of use, with the ditch apparently having been backfilled very quickly. It was tentatively suggested that this was a ditch of Roman military origin and therefore likely to predate the fort at Stanwix, and may be part of a temporary camp or earlier fort.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by Oxford Archaeology North (formerly LUAU) and Newcastle University's Archaeological Practice, in response to a request from Architects Plus for an archaeological evaluation and watching brief of the study area, in accordance with a brief prepared by Cumbria County Council Environment and Design. This design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 TOPSOIL STRIPPING

2.2.1 The development involved the laying of a carpark within the area of the walled garden. The brief required observation during the stripping of topsoil, which was undertaken to a depth of 0.3m. In accordance with the requirements of the brief, no excavation was undertaken beyond the level that was to be disturbed by the development. A 360° mechanical digger, using a wide toothless ditching bucket and working under full archaeological supervision, carried out the work. The ground was checked for archaeological features throughout the process and the area was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts and other potentially significant materials. The topsoil was initially stockpiled behind the north wall and in front of the rear college entrance and was then deposited in an even layer on the open ground to the south of the walled garden and also as an embankment in front of the college.

2.3 TRENCH EXCAVATIONS

2.3.1 All the trenches excavated, whether for ducts or drainage, were dug using a 0.3m toothed bucket on a JCB, under archaeological supervision. The ducts were excavated prior to the laying of terram and reinstatement with a 0.3m depth of aggregate sub-base. The drainage trenches were excavated after the reinstatement of the ducts and involved digging down through the aggregate and terram. All exposed sections were cleaned and examined for significant archaeological deposits.

2.3.1 Recording was by means of the standard OAN recording system, which complies with IFA (Institute of Field Archaeology) guidelines. A full photographic record in colour slide and black and white formats was made, and annotated drawings were compiled of the features and trenches, while observations were objectively registered.

2.4 FINDS

2.4.1 All finds were collected for washing, marking, and spot identification, and were recorded using the same integrated system applied for the site. The results are presented in *Section 3.4*.

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*), and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, with the excavated material, a further copy will be made available for deposition within the County Record Office (Carlisle), and a summary sent to the SMR (Sites and Monuments Register) and NMR (National Monuments Register).

3. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

3.1 TOPSOIL STRIPPING

- 3.1.1 The topsoil removed consisted of c0.30m of very dark grey, fine sandy silt, which had been heavily disturbed by root action; it was equivalent to overburden **16** identified in the evaluation (LUAU 2000b). The topsoil was found across the entire area of the walled garden, which is c40m x 43m in extent (see Fig 2). There was a slight increase in the thickness of the topsoil towards the south-west corner, which became more obvious in the course of the excavation of the drainage trenches. Several features became visible following excavation of the topsoil.
- 3.1.2 **Feature A:** along the north-west side of the walled garden were the remains of several brick structures (Fig 2); the bricks were machine made, mid-red and bonded with a light grey cement / mortar. The furthest south-west of these structures (A1) was three sided and appeared to be abutting the garden wall; it was 8.35m long and 2.6m wide. The middle structure (A2) was a foundation composed of a single width of bricks, again extending out from the wall. The eastern structure (A3) comprised several foundations, two aligned north-west/south-east and abutting the garden wall, and two others at right angles to them (Fig 2); it measured 6.25m in length and was over 1.6m wide. The area surrounding these foundations contained a large amount of nineteenth and twentieth century pottery and fragments of window glass, some of which was retained; features A1 and A3 are confidently interpreted as greenhouses of later nineteenth or earlier twentieth century date. The single brick structure in-between (A2) was almost certainly a boundary wall.
- 3.1.3 **Feature B:** to the south-west, c15m from the north-west wall, a brick and sandstone structure was uncovered (Fig 2); it consisted of one course of mid-yellowish bricks (each 0.23 x 0.11 x 0.08m) overlying a course of red sandstone blocks. The stone structure was not fully uncovered, since it was to be preserved *in situ*, but it extended over an area of at least 1.8m x 1.6m. The bricks were unfrogged and laid in rows aligned north-east/south-west, meeting rows aligned north-west/south-east. The regular sandstone blocks had been carefully dressed and varied in size (0.45 x 0.22m, 0.45 x 0.10m, or 0.30 x 0.22m); because of the limited depth of the excavation it was not established if there were further courses of sandstone beneath, or how deep the blocks were. There were two distinct foundation cuts, to the north-west and south-east of the structure, which were aligned north-east/south-west and abutted Feature C (Fig 2); the extent of the foundation cuts was 6.4m long by 2.8m wide. It is not certain what the function of the feature was, but it may have served as a garden feature such as the foundation for a small gazebo. Surrounding the structure was a mixture of brown, silty subsoil and pinkish mortary sand, which was clearly disturbed and had seemingly been infilled.
- 3.1.4 **Feature C:** Feature C was a ditch, located about 4.3m north-east of the south-west wall of the garden, and was orientated roughly north-west/south-east but was not quite parallel with the standing brick wall, being closer to it at its north-west end (Fig 2). It turned, at a right angle, at the south-eastern end and continued north-east for over 10m. The ditch was 0.8m wide and over 30m long, continuing into the baulk at the north-west end. The fill of the ditch comprised 0.08m of

crushed red sandstone fragments, overlying a mid greyish brown, mortary sand matrix, containing 50–60% small rounded stones. The ditch was not excavated as it was not threatened by the development, and could therefore be preserved *in situ* as was required by the brief; it was therefore not feasible to determine the characteristics of any cut associated with the feature. The fill was similar to that of drain **9** from evaluation Trench 2 (LUAU 2000b), and it is possible that Feature C had a similar function; however, as the feature was not excavated this could not be confirmed, and, indeed it could potentially be the robbed out foundation for a wall.

- 3.1.5 **Feature D:** in the south-eastern part of the garden were three small areas of red sandstone blocks, one at the south-west end, one near the gate in the south-east, wall and one at the north-east side. They comprised two or more blocks of red sandstone, which were of varying sizes but all were relatively large and each was positioned about 5.6m north-west of the south-east garden wall. The south-western area of slabs measured 2.0m x 0.6m; the central area was 1.1m x 0.45m, and the north-eastern area was 1.4m x 0.55m. Each area was roughly on the same north-east/south-west alignment, and each was faced on both the north-west and south-east sides. It was not possible to establish the relationship between the features and no finds were found in association with them. These were possibly the regularly spaced foundation pads for localised structures, such as ornamental pillars or similar garden features.
- 3.1.6 **Feature E:** Feature E was linear, c0.3m wide, and ran roughly parallel to the north-eastern wall. At the north-west end it has been disturbed by the insertion of the electricity sub-station and it did not extend beyond the entranceway in the north-east wall; it was located about 3.9m away from the wall and its maximum observed length was 15.0m. The fill was somewhat mixed, but the main component was fragments of red brick. It probably represents the foundation of a wall, possibly bordering beds set against the garden wall.
- 3.1.7 **Feature F:** Feature F was located in the main entranceway along the north-east wall, and comprised an area of bricks, which were partially set into builders' sand. The extent of the area was c3.5 x 3.4m and was it 0.15m deep. The deposit was almost certainly the disturbed remains of a brick surface at the entranceway.
- 3.1.8 **Other Features:** in addition to the above features, the topsoil stripping revealed services, including cable trenches containing plastic covered steel cables, and drainage features containing ceramics pipes; all of these features had clear and sharply defined cuts. The cable trenches were of recent date whereas the drainage pipes may be twentieth or late nineteenth century in date; most had the occasional fragment of modern pottery associated, which confirmed this dating.

3.2 DUCT AND DRAINAGE TRENCHES

- 3.2.1 Two duct trenches and five interconnected drainage trenches were excavated by machine (Fig 2); they were all excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m, typically only 0.6m, from the pre-intervention ground surface. The sequence of deposits corresponded to that recorded in the evaluation (LUAU 2000b), with topsoil overlying a subsoil, **16**, which in turn overlay the natural drift geology, **17**. The natural drift geology showed considerable variation in texture and colour, being mostly a pink clay but also an orangey sand was seen in some places. The

variation is entirely due to the glacial nature of the deposits and has been seen in the other excavated sites in this area. The drainage trenches excavated in this area showed the ground dipped downwards towards the south and in the southernmost trenches the natural drift geology, **17**, was not identified at the base of the trenches. The topsoil was observed to have a greater depth towards the southern corner of the garden, and in part this reflects the underlying contours of the site. Only the south-eastern duct trench crossed the area where the line of the Roman ditch (LUAU 2000b) had been extrapolated to run; however, the base of the topsoil was relatively deep there and no sign of a ditch had been identified at the depth at which excavation ceased.

- 3.2.2 Only two features were uncovered in these seven trenches. One was found to be a deep, but recent, ceramic drain, and the other was a modern cable and drain combined within a single cut.

3.3 GULLEY SONDAGES

- 3.3.1 Seven rectangular excavations were carried out at the ends of the drainage trenches, allowing for the accommodation of large plastic soakaways for surface drainage when the car park is installed. The sondages varied in size but were no larger than 1.4 x 0.9m, the smallest being 0.8 x 0.6m; they were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m. None of them revealed any features but the two south-westernmost ones did show an increase in topsoil thickness. This indicated that the underlying contours were lower there and that more hillwash had accumulated. This confirms the angle of the underlying slope, also shown by the adjacent Well Lane. The soil may have accumulated over the lifetime of the walled garden, the external wall helping to retain it.

3.4 THE FINDS

- 3.4.1 In total, 70 fragments of artefacts and ecofacts were recovered in the course of the watching brief, all from the topsoil; in general the material was well preserved. The assemblage comprised ceramic vessel sherds, glass, and a single fragment clay pipe. Other classes of material, such as iron, industrial residues, and animal bone, were absent (*Appendix 2*).
- 3.4.2 The finds assemblage was dominated by fragments of pottery (67 sherds), all of which dated from the post-medieval or modern periods. A large proportion of the pottery was in good condition, neither badly abraded nor rolled, and some of the fragments were quite large, with several pieces of a single vessel, broken in antiquity; this would suggest little serious disturbance. Analysis of the pottery was based solely on visual inspection of individual sherds, and it has been described using the terminology developed by Orton *et al* (1993).
- 3.4.3 The assemblage included kitchen wares, table wares, flat wares, and garden wares. The garden wares were the most well represented numerically, and comprised unglazed red earthenware, characteristic of plant pots. The table wares included a few fragments of under glaze transfer-printed ware plates and bowls. These fragments were quite abraded, suggesting that they had been disturbed subsequent to deposition. The kitchen wares were dominated by yellow-glazed earthenware.

None of these fragments are likely to have a date earlier than the nineteenth century.

- 3.4.4 A small proportion of the assemblage comprised very crudely made objects, including a large plate and fragments of a jug. Both forms had been hard fired, almost to stoneware. The jug fragments had been dip glazed, leaving thick glaze runs on the exterior surface. These were clearly not commercially produced and it is possible that these fragments were the products of a local kiln, and probably of a modern date. This may be supported by the retrieval of six fragments of a large, unglazed vessel, which is likely to have been a saggar, an item of kiln furniture, comprising a clay container in which glazed vessels were placed within the kiln, to protect them during firing.
- 3.4.5 A single fragment of window glass and part of a glass jar were also retrieved from the watching brief, together with a single fragment of a clay pipe stem.
- 3.4.6 The assemblage is predominantly nineteenth to twentieth century in date, and is of little archaeological significance. The presence of a saggar, however, does suggest a kiln in close proximity, and may be of some local interest.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The earlier evaluation (LUAU 2000b) had demonstrated the absence of any deeply stratified archaeology, and this was confirmed by the present watching brief. No features of Roman date were uncovered but several, relating to the use of the area as gardens, were found and recorded. The garden has high walls on three sides and the fourth has a low wall with railings and a pedestrian gateway. The walls were constructed of red brick in the typical English Walled Garden bond, with capping stones in an ornate style. It has been suggested that the area of the garden was part of a rose nursery (Knowefield) until the 1840s (Burgess 1986), which was a decade when much of Stanwix was rebuilt or modernised, including the church, which was rebuilt in 1841. The garden is likely to have been part of the estate of Homeacres, the large house to the south-east of the garden (Mike Baker pers comm), which is suggested by the positioning of the lower wall and gateway, allowing both views of the garden and facilitating access from the house. The greenhouses that stood along the north-west wall were demolished in 1984 (Mike Baker pers comm) but it is unknown when they were built. No documentary details were identified pertaining to the use and layout of the walled garden, but the watching brief has indicated that there was a red sandstone wall and possibly a path along the south-east side.
- 4.1.2 The finds assessment has identified the existence of kiln furniture and crudely-made ceramics; this may potentially relate to ceramic production at the adjacent college. There is a report of a former kiln (M Wilson pers comm) in the area of Feature B and there is a possibility that, in the latter part of the twentieth century, there was a kiln operating either on site or in the vicinity. The garden was no longer in use and was almost certainly overgrown by 1984, when the temporary huts were erected.

4.2 IMPACT

- 4.2.1 Although Roman remains had been identified by the evaluation (LUAU 2000b), the watching brief did not reveal any Roman deposits at the shallow depths of the topsoil strip; the deep-cut Roman features, such as the putative military ditch, were not exposed by the present trenches and any deep Roman remains will be preserved *in situ*. The features that were uncovered were of fairly recent date and only of local importance, and in any case were found at a depth whereby they will be preserved below the terram and surfacing of the car park.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- British Geological Survey, 1982 1:250 000 map, solid geology, Sheet 54° N 04° W
- Burgess, J, 1986 *Stanwix: The History of a Cumbrian Parish* (Carlisle Library, Local History Reserve copy), unpubl doc
- Carlisle Archaeological Unit (CAU), 1993 *Cumbria College of Art, Carlisle: An archaeological investigation*, unpubl rep
- Carlisle Archaeological Unit (CAU), 1997 *Tarraby Lane and Beech Grove, Carlisle: Report on an archaeological evaluation*, unpubl rep
- Carlisle Archaeological Unit (CAU), 1998 *Cumbria College of Art and Design, Carlisle: Report on an archaeological evaluation*, unpubl rep
- Dacre, JA, 1985 An excavation on the Roman fort at Stanwix, Carlisle, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, n ser, 85, 53-69
- Daniels, CM (ed), 1989 *The eleventh pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall*, Newcastle upon Tyne
- English Heritage, 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London
- Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) 1999 *Cumbria College of Art and Design: Phase 2 Interim Report*, unpubl rep
- Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) 2000a *Cumbria College of Art and Design: Phase 4 Interim Report*, unpubl rep
- Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) 2000b *Cumbria College of Art and Design: Interim report of the Phase 5 Evaluation of the Walled Garden*, unpubl rep
- McCarthy, MR, 1999 *Stanwix – Petriana*, in Bidwell, P, *Hadrian's Wall 1989-1999: A Summary of Recent Excavations and Research*, Kendal, 162-5
- Orton, C, Tyers, P, and Vince, A, 1993 *Pottery in Archaeology*, London
- Simpson, FG, and Hogg, R, 1935 *Stanwix*, *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc* n ser, 35, 256-8
- Smith, GH, 1978 Excavations near Hadrian's Wall at Tarraby Lane, *Britannia*, 9, 19-56
- Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983 1:250 000 OS map

APPENDIX 1 PROJECT DESIGN

APPENDIX 2

SUMMARY FINDS LIST

Context	Material	Category	No frags	Description	Date
Topsoil	Glass	Window Pane	1	Fragment of window glass	Nineteenth / Twentieth Centuries
Topsoil	Glass	Jar	1	Sherd of a screw-top Jar	Twentieth Century
Topsoil	Ceramic	Pipe	1	Clay-pipe Stem	Nineteenth Century
Topsoil	Ceramic	Plate	4	Sherds of a crudely made, dip glazed plate	Twentieth Century
Topsoil	Ceramic	Jug	12	Sherds of a crudely made, dip glazed single vessel	Twentieth Century
Topsoil	Ceramic	Saggar	6	Sherds of a large unglazed saggar	Twentieth Century?
Topsoil	Ceramic	Vessel	10	Glaze transfer-printed ware	Nineteenth century
Topsoil	Ceramic	Garden wares	30+	Sherds of unglazed red earthenware flower pots	Nineteenth / Twentieth Centuries

ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig 1 Location Map

Fig 2 Plan of works and features identified in the walled garden

PLATES

Plate 1: View of walled garden following topsoil stripping, looking north-west

Plate 2: Feature B, sandstone and brick foundation, looking east

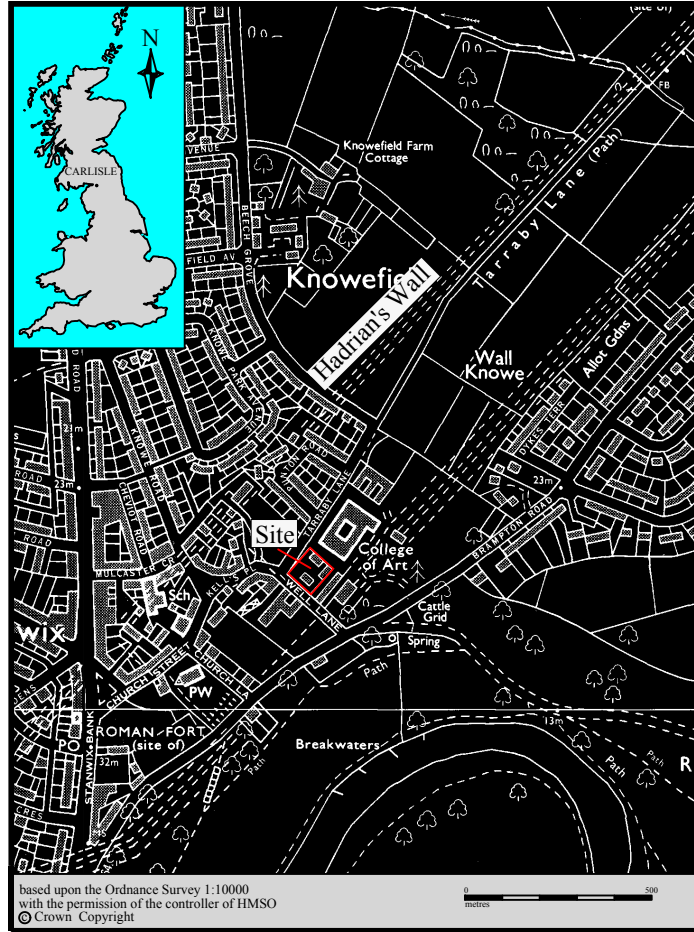


Figure 1: Location Map



Oxford Archaeology North
 Storey Institute
 Meeting House Lane
 Lancaster
 LA1 1TF
 Tel 01524 849886
 Fax 01524 849808

PROJECT:

Cumbria College of
 Art and Design, Carlisle
 Walled Garden Watching Brief

DRAWING No:

2

0 10m

Scale 1:200

DRAWN BY: ELC

DATE: December 2001

LOCATION:



KEY

- archaeology
- area of planning
- gulleys
- drainage trenches
- duct trenches
- Phase 5 evaluation trenches

TITLE:

Watching Brief

COMMISSIONED BY:

Cumbria College of
 Art and Design

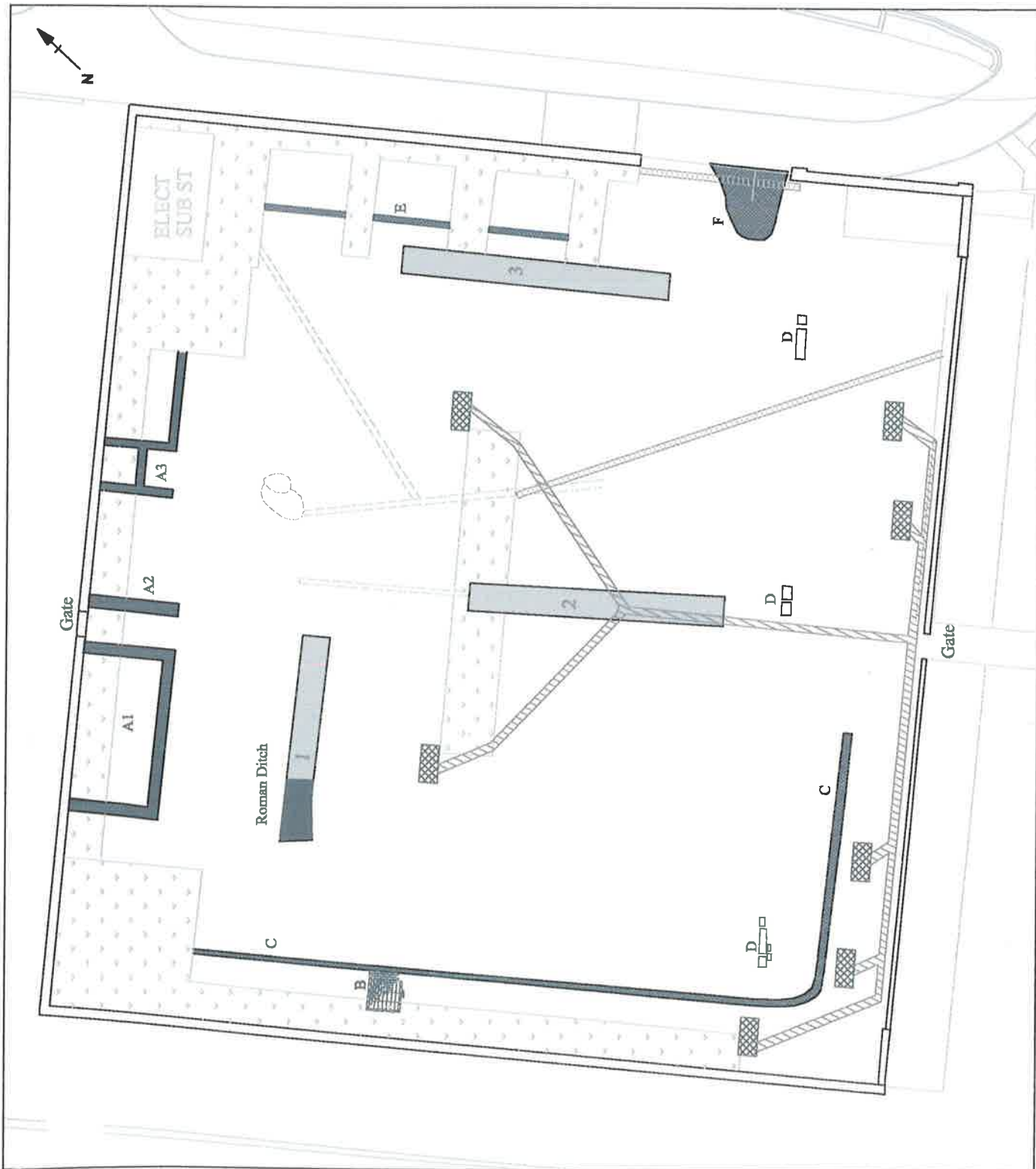


Figure 2: Plan of works and features identified in the walled garden



Plate 1: View of walled garden following topsoil stripping, looking north-west



Plate 2: Feature B, sandstone and brick foundation, looking east