

BLACKBURN STATION BUILDING, BLACKBURN Lancashire



Archaeological Building Investigation



Oxford Archaeology North

May 2002

Lancashire Constabulary

Issue No.: 2002-03/008

OAN Job No.: L9061

NGR: SD 685 279

Document Title: BLACKBURN STATION BUILDING

Document Type: Archaeological Building Investigation Report

Client Name: Lancashire Constabulary

Issue Number: 2002-2003/008

OA Job Number: L9061

National Grid Reference: SD 685 279

Prepared by: Chris Wild
Position: Project Officer
Date: May 2002

Checked by: Alison Plummer Signed.....
Position: Project Manager
Date: May 2002

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

Document File Location Alison/Projects/L9061/9061rep

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
2. METHODOLOGY.....	5
2.1 Project Design	5
2.2 Desk-Top Survey	5
2.3 Building Investigation.....	5
2.4 Archive.....	6
3. RESULTS	7
3.1 Documentary Study.....	7
3.2 Building Investigation.....	8
4. CONCLUSION	14
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY	15
ILLUSTRATIONS	16
APPENDICES	

Appendix 1: Project Design

SUMMARY

In April and May 2002, Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) undertook an archaeological building investigation for the station building of Blackburn Railway Station, Lancashire (SD 685 279). This work was carried out on behalf of the Lancashire Constabulary, and in advance of a conversion of the building to a deployment station. The station building is Grade II Listed.

The building investigation involved a rapid search of the pertinent available sources for information pertaining specifically to the station building and its construction. The fabric survey was undertaken to RCHM(E) level III-type standards, and involved the production of first and second floor plans and cross-sections for the station building, based on the existing architect's plans supplied by the client. A general and detailed oblique photographic survey was also undertaken. As part of the Listed Building Consent the building investigation will be followed by an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the dismantling of the staircase. The results of the watching brief will be presented as a separate report.

The documentary study established that the earliest station buildings, erected on the site in 1847, had been entirely replaced by a new station in 1885-88. The station building is of this period, and the fabric survey identified that it survived largely intact, with few major alterations. Whilst essentially functional in its construction, many of the internal features were ornate; these included moulded jambs to sash windows and doors, and cornices to the false ceilings on the second floor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) would like to thank the Lancashire Constabulary for commissioning the project and Richard Mallingson of Taylor Young Architects for making available copies of archive drawings. Thanks also go to the staff of Blackburn Station for their co-operation during the building investigation.

OAN would also like to extend its thanks to Peter Iles of Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record, and to the staff of Lancashire Record Office and Blackburn Local Studies Library.

The documentary survey, fieldwork and report writing was undertaken by Chris Wild, the CAD drawings being prepared by Chris Wild and Emma Carter. Alison Plummer was responsible for project management and report editing.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 The Lancashire Constabulary propose to convert the Blackburn Station building (SD 685 279) into a deployment station. The station building is a Grade II Listed building. Following a condition of Listed Building Consent for an archaeological building investigation, a verbal brief for the archaeological programme of work was issued by English Heritage. Due to the nature and extent of the development, the investigation was restricted to the upper two floors of the three-storey building. The building is currently empty but in a good state of repair. Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) was commissioned to undertake the project and the work was undertaken in April and May 2002.
- 1.1.2 In addition to the building investigation, English Heritage specified that an archaeological watching brief should be carried out during the dismantling of the staircase within the station building. The watching brief was programmed to follow the completion of the building investigation and the results will be produced as a separate report.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 A Project Design (*Appendix I*) was submitted by OAN in response to a request by Taylor Young Architects on behalf of the Lancashire Constabulary, and following a verbal brief from English Heritage. The objectives of the building investigation were to provide a drawn and textual record of the railway station building prior to conversion to a deployment station being carried out, whilst offering an outline analysis of the historical development of the building.
- 2.1.2 The archaeological programme work comprised three elements, desk-top assessment, building investigation, and report and archive.

2.2 DESK-TOP SURVEY

- 2.2.1 A rapid scan of the existing documentary resource was undertaken in order to retrieve information pertaining to the construction of the building, rather than to the history of the station in general, as such work had been previously undertaken (LUAU 1999). The sources consulted were largely contained within OAN's own extensive research archive.

2.3 BUILDING INVESTIGATION

- 2.3.1 The investigation comprised three main elements, a photographic record of the building, a drawn record of the upper two floors of the building, and their subsequent analysis.
- 2.3.2 **Photographic Survey:** the photographic survey consisted of general oblique coverage of the site on 35mm black and white and colour print film. Additional photographs were taken of noteworthy architectural details (mouldings, panelling, the main stair, fireplaces, fitted cupboards, the dumb-waiter and safe) and internal views of rooms.
- 2.3.3 **Drawn Survey:** the drawn survey involved the enhancement of existing architect's drawings on site and within a CAD environment. Floor plans were produced at first and second floor level, and the three sectional drawings supplied by the client (one long-section and two cross-sections) were also enhanced. Sketches of mouldings were also produced.
- 2.3.4 **Analysis:** a visual inspection of the site was undertaken and a general descriptive record was maintained of the structure, utilising appropriate OAN *pro-forma* record sheets to a standard corresponding to the Royal Commission on Historic Buildings in England (RCHM(E)) Level III-type survey. This level of recording is fully analytical and produced a systematic account of the development and use of the building, and includes an account of the evidence on which the analysis is based.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full archive of the investigation has been produced in accordance with the current English Heritage guidelines (1991). The archive will be deposited with the CRO (Preston) and a copy of this report will also be deposited with the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record.

3. RESULTS

3.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 The Sites and Monument Record entry for Blackburn Station (SMR ref 10614) states that it was built in 1844-45 for the Bolton and Preston railway. It goes on to state that the present station building is a rebuilding of 1885-88 for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company (LYR): *'Blackburn station was originally built 1844-45 for the Bolton and Preston railway. The present station however is a rebuilding of 1885-88 and comprises a two storey brick built office with triple stone framed windows, stone parapet and clock; three aisle booking hall, subway and ramps to two long island platforms with two bays of North one of South. Twin train sheds with dividing wall and outside wall of yellow brick with twin semi-circular arched windows on town side, iron roof trusses, single and two storey yellow brick platform buildings. Goods station to south with long 3-aisle stone built shed' (SMR 10614).*
- 3.1.2 This would correspond to Beattie's theory (Beattie 1992, 26) that the mid nineteenth century expansion of the textile industry in the region and the extending railway network were mutually beneficial. The town of Blackburn grew very rapidly as the 'mill building boom of 1849 to 1870 partnered growth' (*ibid*). It is likely that the old railway station was unequal to the increased volume of goods and passenger traffic wishing to use it, and so LYR decided to replace it. On 18 February 1885 the company accepted the tender of R Neill and Sons to build *'a new passenger station at Blackburn, excluding glazing'* for the sum of £53,232.16s.6d (CRO DDX/472/4). No reference to an architect could be found. It was to be built on the site of the earlier station, which was apparently completely demolished.
- 3.1.3 Listed Building Record SD 6827: 796-/2/10018 was also examined. The railway station was Listed Grade II in September 1995. The Listing refers to a *'Railway station booking hall.....c1886-88, for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, replacing an earlier and smaller station building; altered, and the main floor now unoccupied. Red brick in Flemish bond with fine penny-struck pointing, sandstone dressings, hipped slate roof to main block, glazed roofs on iron framework to front canopy and to side and rear ranges.'*
- 3.1.4 The new station was completed in 1888. It was built in an Italianate style which *'was almost old-fashioned by the time it was complete'* (Biddle and Nock 1983, 107). These buildings survive almost intact within the present railway station, although the two-storey booking hall area to the front has had the ground floor altered.
- 3.1.2 Repeated episodes of alteration to station facilities were carried out: in the 1940s and 1950s the toilets and accommodation for staff and passengers were updated, for example by the substitution of electric lighting for gas lamps.
- 3.1.3 The station as it stands today is largely a survival of the 1880s, a time at which the cotton town of Blackburn, and the railway networks serving it, were at the height of their powers.

3.2 BUILDING INVESTIGATION

- 3.2.1 **General description:** the external elevations of the station are to remain unaltered during conversion, and were thus excluded from the detailed survey. The station building as it stands today is a three-storey structure, but most of the ground floor comprises very late single-storey extensions that relate to the modern station (Fig 4). The building is empty but is in a good general state of repair. It received a new roof in the late twentieth century.
- 3.2.2 The station building is Italianate in style built from red brick in Flemish bond (Plate 1). The main north-western façade has sandstone quoin dressings, a plain sandstone frieze, and a prominent moulded cornice. There are four large Venetian windows; those in the two-bay centre are modified with pediments over square-headed centre lights. Mounted over the centre is a large clock, located within a pedimented upstand with carved enrichments. The building has four tall panelled and corniced brick chimney stacks (Fig 3), above the recently replaced metal roof.
- 3.2.1 **Main stair:** access to the offices on the first floor is gained via a central stair, positioned within an enclosed lobby at ground floor level (Fig 2). It is an open well timber stair with landings, and has five flights, comprising eight steps in the three main flights, with three steps between the half-landings. The stair is suprisingly ornate for the status of the structure and matches the decorative style of the façade rather than the interior offices above. Presumably it was originally visible from outside (the present late twentieth century doors are dark-tinted), which would explain its decorative nature. It has a curtail step at its base and has open strings, the strings being decorated with detailed fretwork in repeating cyma and ogee patterns. The newels are turned, having squared sections separated by roll and torus mouldings, and project above the handrail and below the string, where they are finished with unusual pointed turned pommels on all but the top banister (Fig 5); (Plate 2). Here they were omitted for the addition of a service stair above. The slender balusters are positioned two per tread, except for that immediately above the newel, which only has a single baluster, and are also turned, but with squared heads and octagonal-section bases. The tread ends project beyond the string the same distance as the nosing. The handrail has a simple hourglass profile, with projecting wide fillet on its upper surface. At the top of the stair, on the first floor landing (FF2), is a banister comprising six balusters closing the stair to the wall to the north.
- 3.2.2 **First Floor and Second Floor Plan (Fig 2):** there are three principal divisions to the first floor, an arrangement that is repeated above on the second floor. This comprises a large office space at either end of the floors (FF1, FF7, SF1/2, SF6/7/8), with smaller rooms offset from a rear corridor (FF2 and SF4), in the centre of the building (FF3-6, FF8, SF3-5).
- 3.2.3 **First floor office FF1:** this large office space is internally plastered, to a depth of c 30mm, with a mid-brown plaster containing lime and gravel inclusions. Visible portions of the wall beneath show it to be constructed of English Bond brick, bonded in a mid-grey cement mortar. The ceiling is hardboard panelled, and has boxed beams. The floor, as elsewhere within the building, is covered in linoleum, presumably above timber boards. The room took maximum

advantage of natural daylight, with three large two-light vertical sash windows in the northern elevation, and two narrower four-light sash windows in the south-eastern elevation. These windows have elaborate timber bolection mouldings at the junction between the sash case and the wall, and these were repeated around all the original window jambs and door surrounds of the first floor (Fig 5). A later three-light window was also inserted centrally between the two windows in the south-eastern elevation.

- 3.2.4 Room FF1 has fireplaces in either end-wall, subsequently narrowed for later grates and surrounds, and an internal partition, measuring 1.99m in height, jointed into the beams above by square-section timber posts. No evidence was observed for a continuation of the partition, either across the room, or returning to either end-wall, suggesting that it was designed purely as a screen. It is of timber construction, with panelling below a central rail and twelve-light glazing above. Later cloak-rails were added over some of the glazed panels, all of which were painted out. In the south-west of the room is a fitted cupboard, flush with the chimney breast to the south-east. It has slender panelled doors and appears to be of oak construction. Immediately in front of the cupboard is a simple closed-string timber service stair to the second floor, without decoration. The two features appear contemporary, as the openings within the cupboard are carefully positioned above and below the inner string (Plate 3). An asbestos panelled timber door gave access to a corridor along the north-eastern side of the building (FF2).
- 3.2.5 **First floor corridor FF2:** access to all rooms of the first floor from the main stair was via a corridor along the north-eastern side of the building (Fig 2). As elsewhere, the walls were plastered and the floor covered with linoleum. The ceiling was longitudinally tongue-and-groove panelled, with a stop-chamfered rail along the north-eastern side. Light was provided by three sash windows in the north-eastern elevation, identical to those on the same wall within FF1. The window heads projected above the panelling of the ceiling, into the floorspace above. Four doorways along the north-western elevation allow access into the small offices and toilets of the first floor (FF3-FF6), whilst doorways at either end of the corridor lead into the larger offices (FF1 and FF7).
- 3.2.6 **First floor office FF3:** the room to the north-east of FF1 appears to have been built as a roughly square room, with large sash windows on the north-western façade, but was subsequently split into two rooms (FF3 and FF4), by a timber partition wall. The partition is the full height of the wall, and is of similar style to the low screen in FF1. It is timber panelled at its base, with 22 glazed panels in two rows above. At its north-western end it has an awkward junction with the large sash window. It is offset to the south-west of the northern mullion of the window, and is thus canted in a northerly direction above window sill height to butt the internal face of the northern mullion. The window itself is a large six-light sash window, projecting into the second floor above, and as it is set into the much thicker wall thickness of the projecting façade it has timber panelled reveals and much deeper internally chamfered mullions. There is a fireplace within the chimney breast in the south-western wall, which has been narrowed, as with those in FF1. Small green glazed tiles survive from the later fireplace, suggesting an early twentieth century date for the alteration. A fitted

cupboard with panelled doors, but plainer than in FF1, is located to the south-east, flush with the chimney breast. The ceiling is laterally tongue-and groove panelled, opposite to the corridor (FF2) to the east. There is a sliding metal vent at wall-head height above the doorway into the corridor.

- 3.2.7 **First floor office FF4:** this lies to the north-west of the partition in FF3, and the room is of a very similar style. The awkward junction of the partition with the external elevation is less pronounced in this room, as it is panelled to the mullion, mirroring that on the northern jamb (Plate 4). Pipework to the north-east of the window is boxed within lath and plaster. The doorway to FF2 appears to be of the same style as that from FF3, suggesting that they are contemporary.
- 3.2.8 **First floor cloakroom FF5:** this room is a subdivision of a larger cloakroom (FF6), and presumably represents executive/ladies cloakrooms. It appears to have originally comprised a single cell, with curving wall along its northern side, and had a low timber ceiling with rooflight giving borrowed light from FF6. The cloakroom appears to have been later extended into similar, but smaller, cubicles within FF6, by the insertion of a doorway in the north-western wall, and the addition of a tongue-and-groove panelled wall to form a northern wall.
- 3.2.9 **First floor cloakroom FF6:** this appears to have been originally a general cloakroom, with cubicles partitioned along the south-western wall. A phase of alteration annexing the south-eastern cubicle into FF5 allowed for the insertion of a new doorway within the room, creating a lobby. It is probable that the lower cubicle at the western end, which overlaps the window jamb, was also added at this time, effectively replacing the one lost to FF5.
- 3.2.10 **First floor office FF7:** the room to the north-west of the staircase is of similar size to FF1 at the south-western end of the floor. It is similarly well lit, with three sash windows in the north-west elevation and two in the south-east elevation. It also has a later inserted window in the south-east elevation, although smaller than that in FF1, and offset slightly to the north-east. There is also an inserted window in the north-eastern gable, to the north-west of the chimney breast. There is no fireplace within the chimney breast, instead it houses a safe to the south-east of the flue leading from the ground floor fireplace. A dumb-waiter, leading to SF8 above, is located immediately to the north-west of the chimney breast and has fitted cupboards below (Plate 5). The room has a partitioned office in the north-east corner, the partition being very similar in style to that between FF3 and FF4, and most probably original (Fig 5). A partition in the south-east corner of the room, constructed of vertical tongue-and-groove panelling, forms a lobby, and is probably of later date, as it cuts the moulding around the south-eastern sash window. Between the two partitions are two vertical posts. Both are stop-chamfered and appear to be original supports for the ceiling. Steps have been added to the southern window of both north-west and south-east elevations, giving access onto external walkways above the canopies on either side of the building. A further short three-step stair in the south-west corner, without handrail and with wide curtail step, gives access into FF8.

- 3.2.11 **First floor kitchen FF8:** the kitchen is located off the south-western corner of FF7, above the staircase. The floor level is 0.72m higher than the remainder of the first floor to accommodate the headroom of the staircase below. The large sash window within FF6 continues into FF8, with the sill 0.22m above floor level. It is separated from FF7 by a timber and glass panelled partition, similar to that in FF3/4, but with tongue-and-groove infilling of the timber panels. It is partitioned from the staircase by tongue-and-groove panelling, plastered on the staircase side.
- 3.2.12 **Second floor stair:** main access to the second floor is provided by a simple dog-leg stair. It is closed string, with square section newel posts, slightly decorated at the heads, and with a simple turned handrail and panelled balustrade, open for the upper 0.17m. There are nine steps in each flight either side of a half-landing.
- 3.2.13 **Second floor office SF1:** the south-western room of the second floor also has a simple service stair from the first floor (see FF1 above) (Plate 3). It is enclosed within SF1 within a glazed partition, with a door into the room at its south-eastern end. The walls of the room are plastered with the same type of plaster used on the first floor. That on the north-west elevation has fallen off or been removed, revealing an English Bond brick wall. There is an arch constructed of a double row of headers at floor level at the northern end of the wall, representing the top of the south-western sash window of the first floor façade. An inserted three-light casement, in the centre of the south-eastern elevation, fills the upper part of an earlier aperture, which continued to floor level. The room has a ceiling at wall-head height, constructed of lath and plaster, with a bolection and ovolo-moulded cornice at its junction, with a lath and plaster stud partition wall dividing the room from SF2 to the north-east. There is a central loft-hatch within the ceiling giving access into the roofspace above.
- 3.2.14 **Second floor office SF2:** this room is also plastered in a similar style to SF1, and also with an exposed north-western elevation. This contains the head of a large sash window projecting above the floor level, and an arch-head in the brickwork to the north-east, identical to that observed in SF1 (Plate 6). There are two inserted four-light casement windows in the south-eastern elevation, presumably replacing at least one original sash window. The ceiling is of similar style to SF1, but without roofspace access. There is no evidence for a fireplace within the chimney breast on the north-eastern elevation.
- 3.2.15 **Second floor office SF3:** the room is again plastered in the manner of SF1, with exposed English Bond brickwork in the north-western elevation. The upper squared head of the central window of the north-western façade projects above floor level within this elevation, and is boarded over. The room has three four-light sash windows in the south-eastern elevation, similar in style to those on the first floor, but smaller. The room is open to the upper surface of the principal rafters, where it is boarded below the upper purlin on each pitch. The upper space has been recently re-roofed, with new rafters, and it is likely that this originally formed a skylight. The truss is exposed within the room, and is the same as all others observed within the roofspace (Plate 7). It is an unusual king-post truss, with the principal rafters meeting above the post and with a short king-block clasping the ridge-board above. The king-post itself is not

shouldered to support the braces, but instead has a vertical butt joint with them. The king-post and principal rafters are bolted onto the tie-beam, which appears to sit, unjointed, on the wall-plates. The north-eastern elevation is brick to wall-head height and is a lath and plaster stud partition above. There is no evidence of a fireplace within the chimney breast on the south-western elevation.

- 3.2.16 **Second floor corridor SF4:** a short corridor provides access from the central stair. At its south-eastern end there is a fitted cupboard running through the doorway into SF3, presumably a later addition. A second doorway only 1.9m to the north-east forms a lobby to SF3. Opposite the top of the stair is a two-light sash window, in the same style as those in SF3. A door flush with the top of the staircase gives access into SF6-SF8, whilst a short ladder to the south-west gives access into the roofspace (SF5).
- 3.2.17 **Second floor loft SF5:** access to this room is via a removable ladder from corridor SF4. The floor level is 1.3m above SF1-SF7, allowing it to span the staircase to the south-west wall of SF6/SF7. The walls are unfinished; either comprising exposed brickwork or laths and studs. A truss is located to the immediate north-east of the stud partition with SF3, with a second truss across the centre of the loft. A partition in the south-west corner, constructed of roughly sawn timber boards, houses a ladder giving access to the rear of the clock face and to its mechanism. The back of the chimney breast in the north-eastern elevation is corbelled out 0.14m within the roofspace to provide a wider base for the chimney stack.
- 3.2.18 **Second floor room SF6:** the room to the north-east of the stair appears to be a wide, dark corridor. It has partially glazed partitions with SF7 and SF8, the latter being lath and plaster below, whilst that to SF7 is a simple timber/glass panelled partition. A doorway at the southern end of the partition provides access into SF7. There is no covering to the floorboards, which run longitudinally. A short two-step stair gives access to SF8 at the north-eastern end of the building.
- 3.2.19 **Second floor room SF7:** this room is similar in style to SF2, with plastered walls and an arched window-head in the north-west elevation. The brick arch of the window-head to the north is concealed behind the plaster. The room has a ceiling similar to SF2, with similar moulding at its junction with the north-eastern elevation, to the north-west of the window. Above the window the moulding butts the lintel, and has the same profile along the ceiling. The glazing bars of the partition with SF6 are moulded on this side, suggesting a higher status for this room.
- 3.2.20 **Second floor office SF8:** the north-eastern room of the second floor is 0.56m higher than SF6/7. The walls are plastered, as elsewhere, and the roofspace is open to the north-east of the apex of the hipped roof. The truss supporting the apex is tongue-and-groove boarded on its north-eastern face, and is jettied into the room above the partition wall, which stands to ceiling height within rooms SF6/7 (Plate 8). The roof has a new late-twentieth century skylight within the hip to the chimney breast, which contains a small fireplace with cast-iron, leaded surround. The dumb-waiter from FF7 is located within a fitted cupboard to the north-west of the chimney breast, and has its pulley mechanism housed

on top of the cupboard. A four-light sash window located in the south-eastern elevation has been re-glazed north of the mullion with a single pane in the late twentieth century.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The façade of the building appears to have remained unchanged from its original construction in 1886-8. Extra windows have been inserted in the twentieth century into the rear elevation and north-eastern gable.
- 4.1.2 Internally the first and second floors retain many original features, and the majority of fitted cupboards appear original. The façade, and therefore the visual impact of the building, appears to have been the main focus of the design, leading to unusual internal features, especially the window-heads projecting into the second floor.
- 4.1.3 It is difficult to establish which of the timber partition walls are original, and which are later insertions; all butt the external walls, but this is always the case with such structures. The lobby partition within FF7 does appear to be secondary, as the moulding of the sash window has been cut through to house it. Although the junction between the partition separating rooms FF3/4 is awkward with the window, its northern reveal and the separate doorways into the two rooms suggests it is part of the original build, and is another example of the importance given to the geometry of the façade over the requirements of the internal arrangements. It may also represent a change of construction after the shell had been built to the original architect's plan.
- 4.1.4 The rooms of the first floor are clearly of higher status than those above. They are generally larger, with high ceilings and are much better lit. The south-western room (FF1) appears to have been the highest status, having two fireplaces and an internal screen, whilst the north-eastern room on the second floor (SF8) appears to have been the most important, having a fireplace and a dumb-waiter connecting it to the floor below. Despite the generally lower status of the second floor, as highlighted by the service nature of the stair, which although constructed following that below, does appear to be contemporary, the ceilings in rooms SF1, SF2 and SF7 have intricate cornice mouldings (Fig 5) not seen at first floor level.
- 4.1.5 The changes within rooms FF5/6 appear to reflect social changes within the workplace during the twentieth century. Whilst the original layout of the cloakrooms provided one separate toilet, either for executive or female employees, the doubling of the facilities within the room would appear to reflect the increasing number of female employees seen in all 'white-collar' industries in the early-mid twentieth century.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

5.1 PRIMARY SOURCE

CRO (Preston) DDX/472/4

SMR (Lancashire) Listed Building Record SD 6827

SMR (Lancashire) Reference 10614

5.2 SECONDARY SOURCES

Beattie, D, 1992 *Blackburn: the Development of A Lancashire Cotton Town*, Halifax

Biddle, G, and Nock, OS, 1983 *The Railway Heritage of Britain*, London

English Heritage 1991 *The management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

LUAU, 1999 *Blackburn Station, Lancashire: Fabric Survey*, unpubl rep

ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF FIGURES:

Figure 1: Location map

Figure 2: First floor and second floor plans

Figure 3: Long cross-section

Figure 4: Short cross-sections 1 and 2

Figure 5: Detailed mouldings

LIST OF PLATES:

Plate 1: North-west façade of Blackburn station

Plate 2: Detail of main stair

Plate 3: Service stair, fitted cupboard and fireplace within FF1

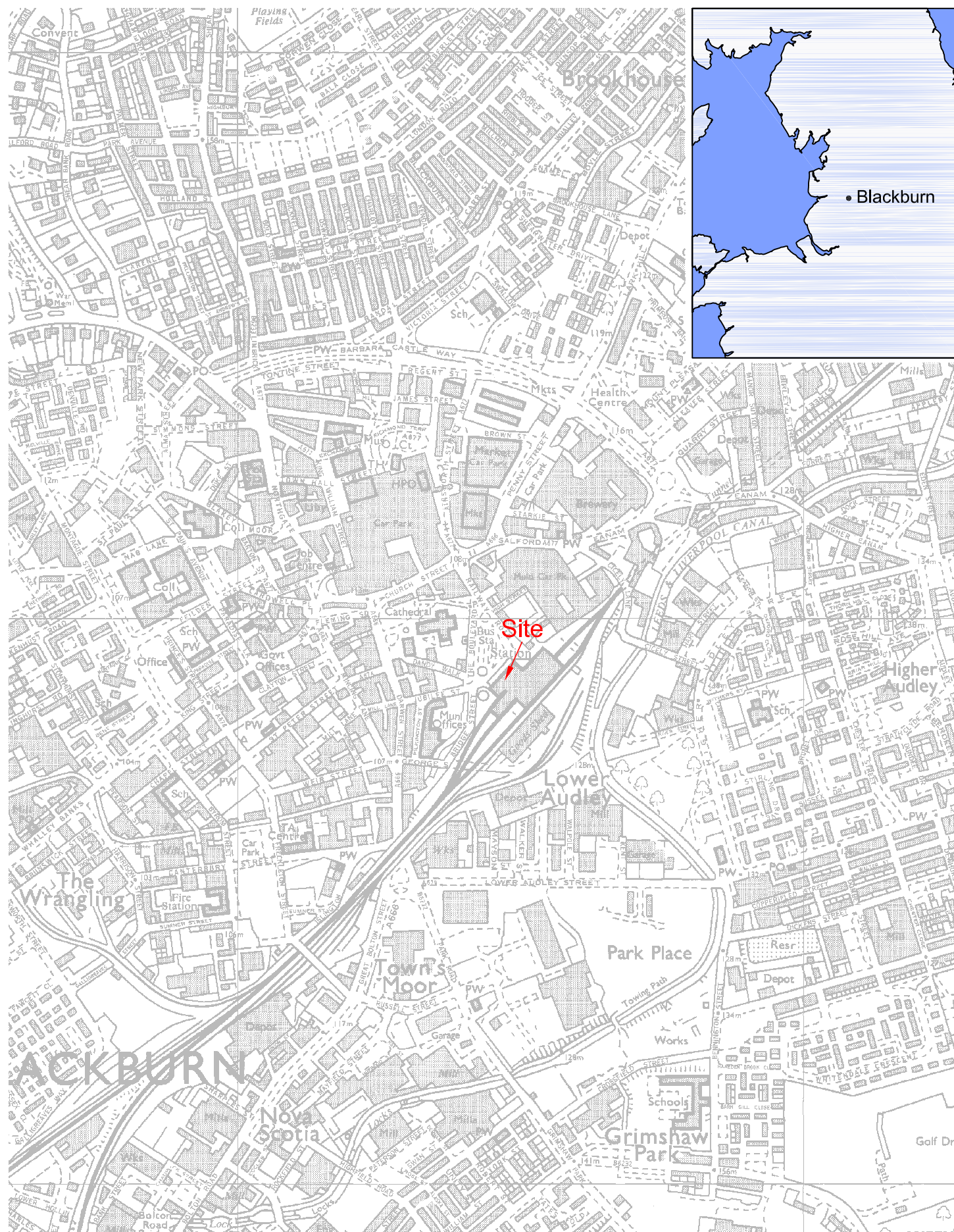
Plate 4: Timber partition between FF4 and FF3 from east

Plate 5: Dumb-waiter, safe and inserted window in gable of FF7

Plate 6: Arch-heads of first floor windows within SF2

Plate 7: Detail of second floor trusses (exposed within SF3)

Plate 8: South-west elevation of SF8

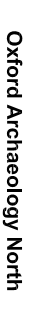


based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:10000
with the permission of the controller of HMSO
© Crown Copyright



0 500
metres

Figure 1: Location map



Lancaster

LA11TF

Tel 01524 848666
Fax 01524 848606

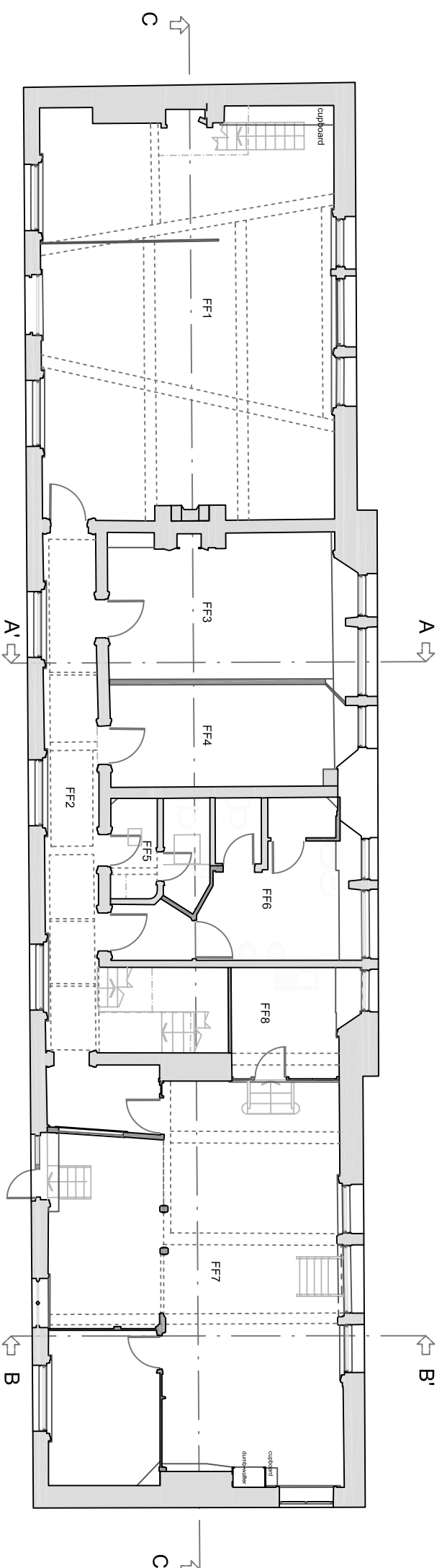
Blackburn Station

02

0 2.5m

Scale 1:125










DATE: May 2002



First and second floor plans

Lancashire Constabulary

Figure 2 : First and second floor plans

<div><div>Oxford Archaeology North Storey Institute Meeting House Lane Lancaster LA1 1TF Tel 01524 848666 Fax 01524 848606</div></div>		
PROJECT: Blackburn Station		
DRAWING No: 03		
Scale 1:125 		
DRAWN BY: CW/ELC		
DATE: May 2002		
LOCATION:		
KEY <div><div><div>Wall/masonry</div></div><div><div>Timber</div></div><div><div>Beam</div></div><div><div>Sectional timber</div></div><div><div>Ceiling</div></div><div><div>Glass</div></div><div><div>Floor space</div></div></div>		
TITLE: Long cross-section		
COMMISSIONED BY: Lancashire Constabulary		

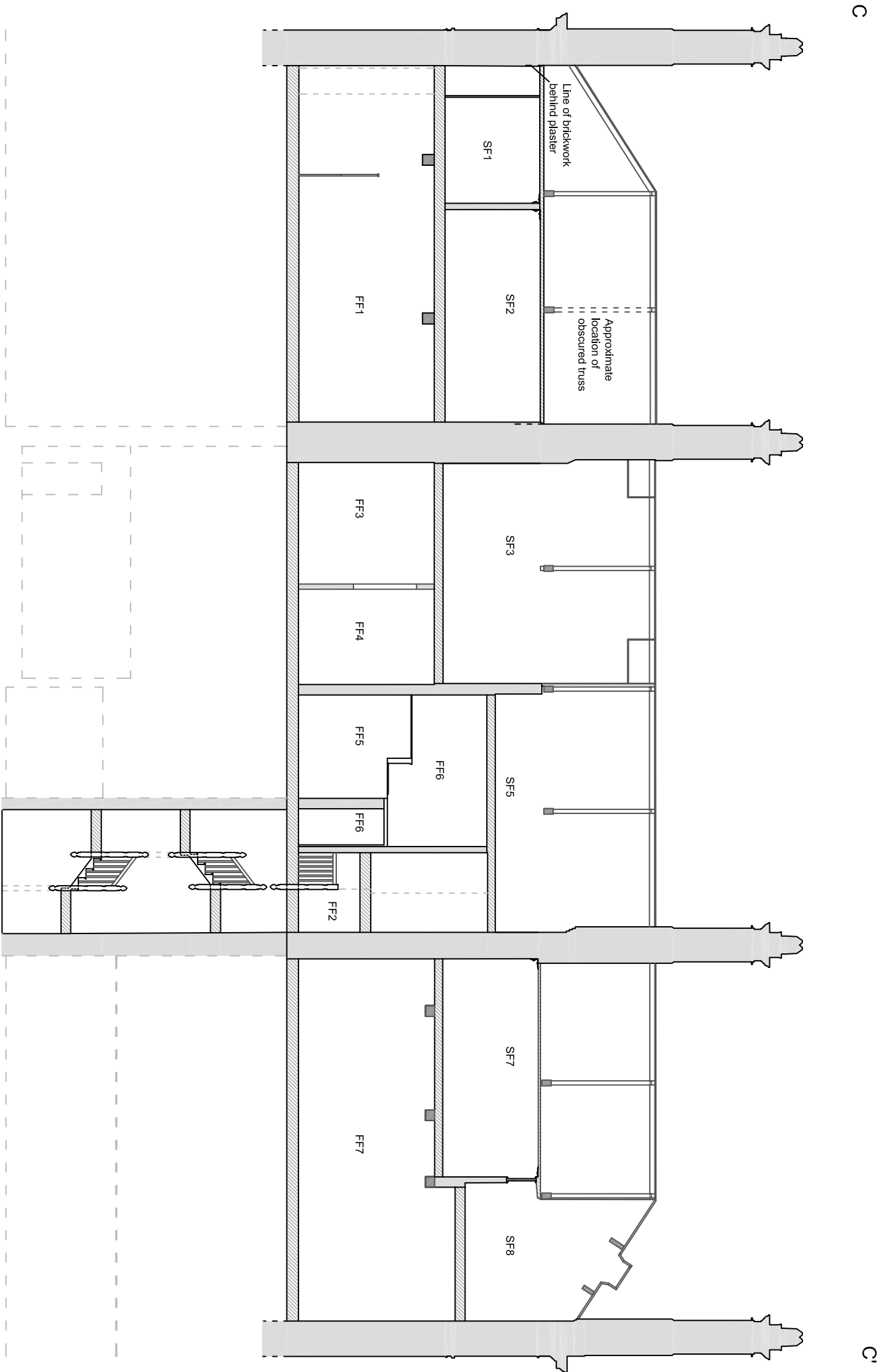


Figure 3 : Long cross-section

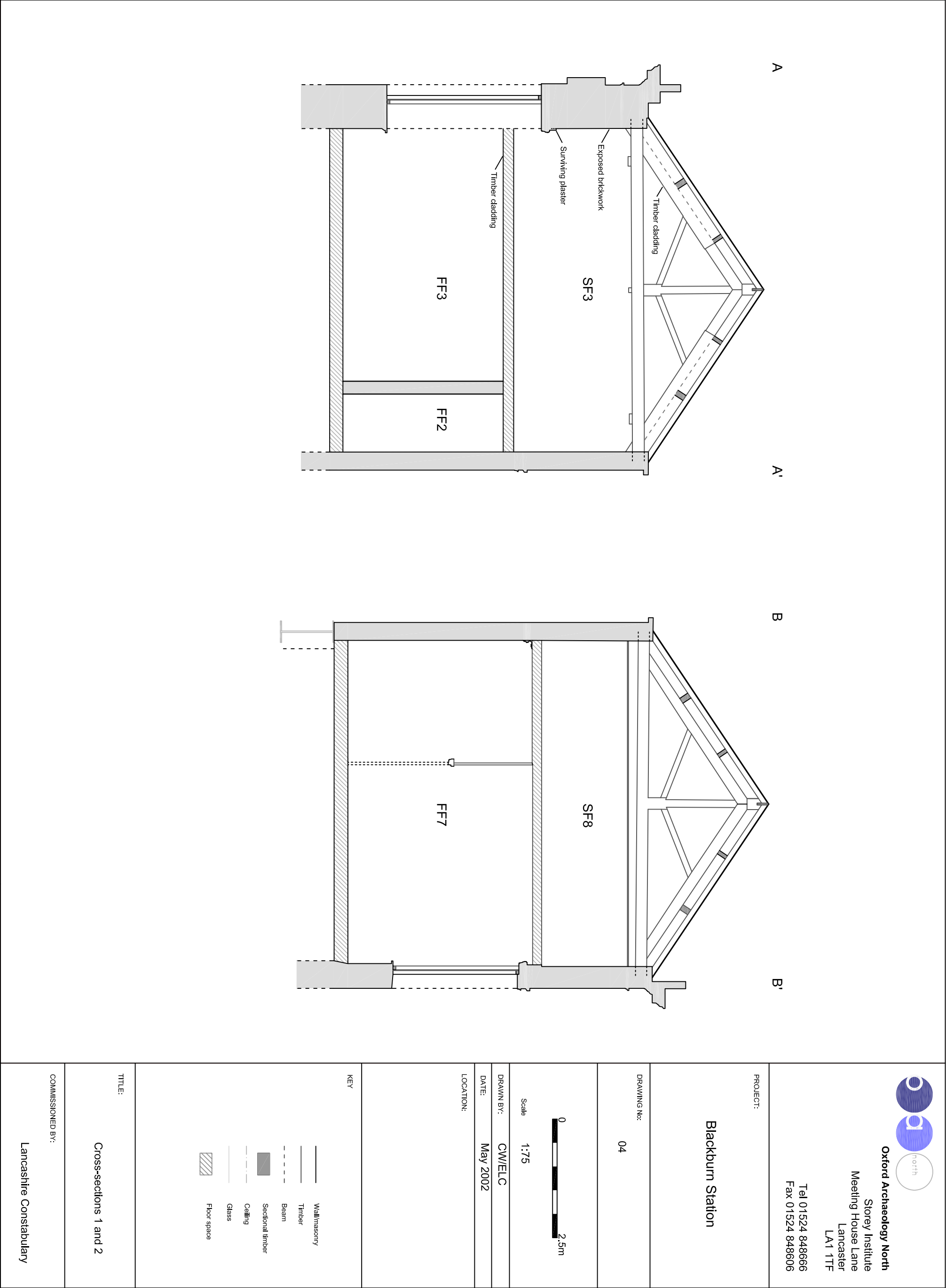


Figure 4 : Short cross-sections 1 and 2

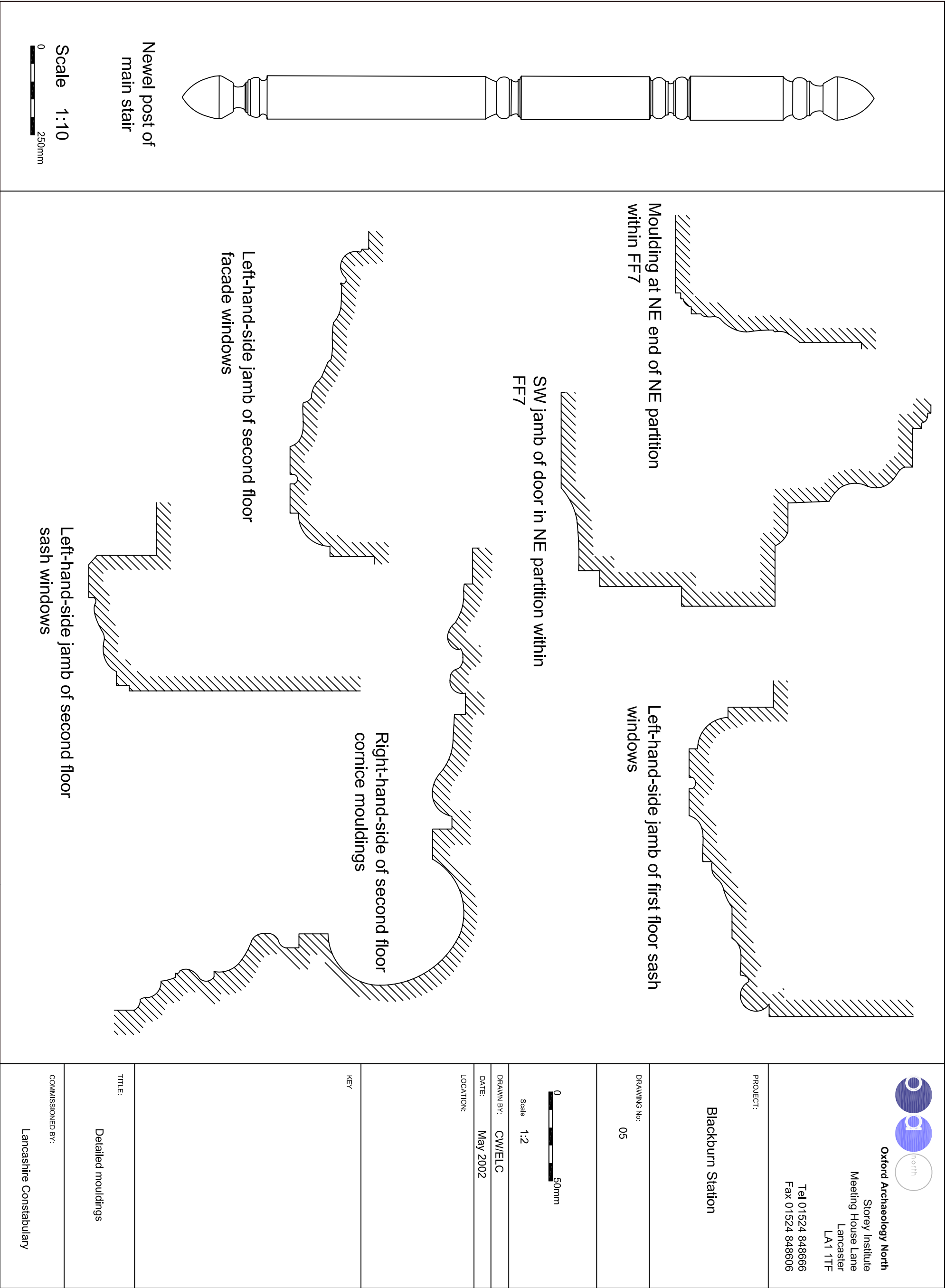




Plate 1: North-west façade of Blackburn station



Plate 2: Detail of main stair



Plate 3: Service stair, fitted cupboard and fireplace within FF1



Plate 4: Timber partition between FF4 and FF3 from east



Plate 5: Dumb-waiter, safe and inserted window in gable of FF7



Plate 6: Arch-heads of first floor windows within SF2



Plate 7: Detail of second floor trusses (exposed within SF3)



Plate 8: South-west elevation of SF8

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

April 2002

**BLACKBURN STATION, BLACKBURN,
LANCASHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING INVESTIGATION AND
WATCHING BRIEF**

PROJECT DESIGN

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Taylor Young Architects on behalf of the Lancashire Constabulary, for an archaeological building investigation of Blackburn Station prior to redevelopment for the accommodation of a deployment station, and a watching brief during the dismantling of an internal staircase.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Taylor Young (hereafter the client) have applied for Listed Building Consent on behalf of the Lancashire Constabulary, for the conversion of the station building at Blackburn, Lancashire (SD 683 273) to a deployment station. The Listed Building Consent has an archaeological condition attached for the recording of the building prior to the development works taking place.
- 1.2 This document is written to comply with a verbal brief from English Heritage and the Institute of Field Archaeologists Guidelines for Building Investigations.
- 1.3 Blackburn railway station is a Grade II Listed building. It is stone built in the Classical style, and dates to 1848. The building is currently vacant, and although in a state of disrepair internally, it has undergone a relatively recent roof replacement. The main internal staircase is thought to be a particularly good example of its type for the area.
- 1.4 Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) has considerable experience of the assessment and investigation of historic buildings of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects during the past 19 years. Investigations and assessment have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OAN has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the building investigation are to provide a drawn and textual record of the railway station building prior to conversion being carried out, whilst offering an outline analysis of the historic development of the building.

3. WORK PROGRAMME

- 3.1 In line with the objectives and stages of the archaeological works stated above, the following work programme is submitted:
- 3.2 **Desk-Top Assessment:** a rapid scan of the existing resource will be undertaken;
- 3.3 **Building Investigation:** to provide an outline analysis of the plan, form, function, age and development of the station building to RCHM(E) Level III - type survey;
- 3.4 **Watching Brief:** this is to be maintained during the dismantling of the main staircase up to the level that it becomes a service stair
- 3.5 **Report and Archive:** production of a suitably illustrated report.

4. METHODS STATEMENT

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

4.2 BUILDING INVESTIGATION

4.2.1 ***Desk-top assessment:*** the following rapid survey will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of source material. The emphasis of the survey will be the history and development of the station building, and in particular an attempt will be made to identify the architect. The assessment, the emphasis of which will be descriptive, is not intended to be a full documentary analysis.

4.2.2 ***Documentary and cartographic Material:*** this will include an appraisal of the data in the Lancashire Sites and Monument Record, appropriate sections of County histories, early maps (printed and manuscript), and such primary documentation as may be reasonably available. Records kept at the Lancashire Record Office will be consulted.

4.2.3 ***Photographic Archive:*** a photographic archive will be produced of the station building utilising a 35mm camera to produce both black and white contact prints and colour slides. The archive will comprise general shots of the building and its surroundings and detailed coverage of architectural/industrial features. Particular attention will be paid to the internal timber panels that are to be removed, the built in cupboards and safe that are to be enclosed within the wall space, and the main staircase.

4.2.4 ***Site Drawings:*** existing architect's drawings will be annotated to produce the following:

- (i) Ground floor plans;
- (ii) Relevant longitudinal and/or cross sections;
- (iii) Sketch of typical moulding detail where appropriate;

4.2.5 The drawings will usually be produced at a scale of 1:100. Where necessary the client's drawings will be enhanced utilising hand survey techniques. The corrected drawings will be digitised into an industry standard CAD package (Autocad Release 14) for the production of the final drawings.

4.2.6 ***Interpretation and Analysis:*** a visual inspection of the station building will be undertaken utilising the OAN buildings proforma sheets. An outline description will be maintained to RCHM(E) Level III-type survey. This level of recording is fully analytical and will produce a systematic account of the development and use of the building, and will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis is based.

4.2.7 ***Watching Brief:*** a watching brief is to be maintained during the dismantling of the main staircase up to the point that it changes to a service stair. The archaeologist will advise and assist in the numbering of the elements of the

staircase, and annotate plans and photographs accordingly. A brief index of the numbering system will be compiled.

4.3 ASSESSMENT REPORT

- 4.3.1 **Archive:** the results of Stages 4.2 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 gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.
- 4.3.2 This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Service format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files (as appropriate), and a synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and the report) will be deposited with the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record. OAN practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic, and plastic media) with the appropriate County Record Office, and, where appropriate a full copy of the record archive and the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) with the County Museums Service.
- 4.3.3 **Assessment Report:** two copies of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the Client, one copy submitted to the Lancashire SMR, and a further copy to English Heritage.
- 4.3.4 The report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on 3.5" disk (IBM compatible format).
- 4.3.5 **Confidentiality:** the assessment report is designed as a document for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and this project design, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

5. RESOURCES

- 5.1 OAN can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client. It is anticipated that the building investigation would take approximately 5 days on site, to be followed by office-based report writing and drawing compilation both taking in the region of five days. The duration of the watching brief will be dictated by the progress of the contractor.

- 5.2 The building investigation will be undertaken by **Chris Wild BSc (Hons)** and OAN project officer. Chris specialises in the surveying, recording and interpretation of historic buildings. He has worked on building projects spanning buildings from a wide range of periods and functions. Chris will be assisted on site by an OAN project assistant. The CAD work will be undertaken by **Emma Carter BA**. Emma is the OAN CAD supervisor and regularly produces detailed drawings of historic buildings.
- 5.3 The project will be under the management of **Alison Plummer BSc (Hons)** (OAN Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

6 PROJECT MONITORING

- 6.1 A representative of the local planning authority and English Heritage will monitor the project.