



130-130a STANDISHGATE, WIGAN

Archaeological Evaluation



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SUMMARY

In response to a proposal by B & D Croft Ltd to redevelop 120-130a Standishgate Wigan (centred on SD 5848 0623), the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU), in conjunction with the Wigan Conservation Officer, recommended a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of building work. This was to comprise a desk-based assessment of the entire development area, and a RCHME Level-III type building investigation of the standing structures forming 130-130a Standishgate. This programme of work was undertaken and completed by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in June 2004. Following on from the results obtained from the assessment and survey, it was recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation of 120 - 130a Standishgate be undertaken in advance of redevelopment in order to assess the extent and character of sub-surface remains.

The evaluation comprised the excavation of seven trial trenches, which were targeted so as to provide information regarding the early post-medieval development of the site. The results of the evaluation provided evidence for the occupation of the site since the medieval period. Consequently, on completion of the evaluation, an archaeological watching brief monitored all earth-moving works associated with the redevelopment of the site.

The earliest activity, which may be dated to the twelfth or thirteenth centuries, was represented by several large pit features that yielded a small, but significant, assemblage of medieval pottery. There were no structural remains associated with these pits, suggesting that any medieval buildings that had occupied the site had been of an insubstantial nature. Nevertheless, the excavated features provided new evidence for the extent of the urban fringe associated with medieval Wigan, whilst the results of palaeoenvironmental sampling hint at the area having been semi-rural during this period.

Similarly, the evaluation has confirmed the site to have been occupied during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as implied from the detail provided by historic mapping of the area. Whilst the surviving structural remains were fragmentary, they were nevertheless present and the occupation of the site during this period appeared to have included industrial activity in the form of metal alloy and copper working.

The activity on the site during the later post-medieval and industrial periods was represented by a sequence of brick-built buildings, associated with the urban expansion of Wigan. This situation reflects the rapid development of other towns in the north-west of England during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as a result of the Industrial Revolution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank B & D Croft Ltd, and in particular Sean Flynn, for commissioning and supporting the project, and for providing a mechanical excavator. The project was funded entirely by B & D Croft Ltd. OA North are also grateful to Norman Redhead, the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, and Phillip Powell, the Wigan Conservation Officer, for their advice and support throughout the course of the project.

Chris Healey carried out the archaeological evaluation, assisted by Lisa Keys, Nicola Gaskell and Chris Ridings; Chris Wild and Karl Taylor undertook the site survey. The watching brief that monitored ground-reduction works associated with the development was undertaken by Chris Healey and Nicola Gaskell. Mark Tidmarsh produced the CAD drawings, Jo Dawson and Christine Howard-Davis examined the finds and Frances Claxton and Elizabeth Huckerby undertook the palaeoenvironmental sampling. Chris Healey compiled the report, incorporating an historical background completed by Daniel Elsworth. The report was edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 A proposal by B & D Croft Ltd to redevelop the site of 120-130a Standishgate, Wigan (centred on SD 5848 0623), included the demolition of extant buildings occupying 130-130a. In order to secure archaeological interests, a condition was placed on the planning application and a brief for a programme of archaeological recording was issued by the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, in conjunction with the Wigan Conservation Officer. In the first instance, this was to include a rapid desk-based assessment of the known historical and archaeological resource for the whole development area, and a RCHME level-III type survey (RCHME 1996) of the surviving building remains at 130-130a Standishgate.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment and building investigation were undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in May and June 2004, and an archaeological watching brief was maintained during the demolition of the buildings in July 2004. The results obtained from this programme of works indicated that the building occupying 130-130a had a probable seventeenth century origin, with some potential for the survival of buried remains of medieval date. Consequently, the Assistant County Archaeologist recommended that a programme of evaluation trenching be undertaken in advance of the site's development in order to assess the character and extent of the sub-surface archaeological resource.
- 1.1.3 In response to a request from Mr Sean Flynn of B & D Croft Ltd, OA North submitted a project design for the archaeological evaluation at 120-130a Standishgate, Wigan (*Appendix 1*), and undertook the fieldwork during July and August 2004. Following on from the evaluation trenching, an archaeological watching brief monitored the mechanical excavation of foundation trenches across the site for the development.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 The fieldwork was undertaken during July and August 2004, and comprised the excavation of seven evaluation trenches. On completion of the evaluation trenching, an archaeological watching brief monitored earth-moving works during the installation of foundations associated with the new development. All archaeological work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures provided by the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

- 2.2.1 The uppermost levels of each trench were excavated by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The same machine was then used to define carefully the extent of any surviving walls, foundations and other remains, after which all excavation was undertaken manually. The floor and sides of each trench was cleaned and recorded in an appropriate manner.
- 2.2.2 All information was recorded stratigraphically with accompanying documentation (plans, sections and both colour slide and black-and-white print photographs, both of individual contexts and overall site shots from standard view points). Photography was undertaken with 35mm cameras on archivable black-and-white print film as well as colour transparency, all frames included a visible, graduated metric scale.
- 2.2.3 The precise location of the trenches, and the position of all archaeological structures encountered, was surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process generated scaled plans and sections within AutoCAD, which were then subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, and all information was tied in to Ordnance Datum.

2.3 WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.3.1 A programme of field observation accurately recorded the location, extent, and character of all surviving archaeological features and deposits within the study area during the course of the development works. This work comprised observation during the excavation for these works, the systematic examination of any subsoil horizons exposed during the course of the groundworks, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, and any artefacts, identified during observation.
- 2.3.2 During this phase of work, recording comprised 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). Features were planned accurately at appropriate scales and a photographic record was compiled.

2.4 FINDS

- 2.4.1 **Artefacts:** all finds recovered were bagged and recorded by context number, processed and stored according to current standard practice based on guidelines set by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The finds have been analysed by OA North in-house specialists. The finds are discussed in *Section 4.3*, and a summary finds catalogue is presented in *Appendix 3*.
- 2.4.2 **Environmental Samples:** several samples were taken from selected deposits during the course of the evaluation. In all cases, these derived from the sealed fills of pit features, which were subjected to palaeo-environmental assessment. The samples were hand-floated and the flots were collected on 250 micron mesh. The flot from pit fill **340** was air-dried as charred plant remains were observed whilst the sample was being processed, while those from the other contexts were stored in water as waterlogged plant remains were noted during processing. The flots were scanned with a Meiji EMT stereo dissecting microscope and plant material was recorded and provisionally identified. The results are summarised in Table 3. Botanical nomenclature follows Stace (1991); plant remains were recorded on a scale of abundance of 1-4, where 1 is rare (less than 5 items) and 4 is abundant (more than 100 items).

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 the current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the Wigan Heritage Service Archives in Leigh Town Hall. Two copies of the report will also be forwarded to the Greater Manchester County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), and a summary sent to the National Monuments Record (NMR). In addition, a summary of the results produced from the archaeological investigations will be forwarded to the CBA North West for publication in their magazine.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 The historical and archaeological background is taken from the desk-based assessment of the site, which was undertaken as an initial stage in the archaeological programme (OA North 2004). It is principally compiled from secondary sources, and is intended to put the results of the archaeological investigation into a wider context.

3.2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 3.2.1 The study area is located on the north side of Wigan, approximately 1km from the town centre (Fig 1). Standishgate is a long street running from Market Place at the south, and becoming Wigan Lane at the north. The site is situated at its far north end, immediately before it becomes Wigan Lane. Standishgate rises as it heads north from Market Place, reaching a height of approximately 50m above sea level at the position of 120-130a.
- 3.2.2 The geology of the area forms part of the Lancashire Coal Measures, which extend from the Mersey Valley in the south to the Amounderness Plain in the north-west (Countryside Commission 1998, 172). The solid geology comprises productive coal measures, with sandstone and marls to the south (Ordnance Survey 1951). The drift geology is glacial and post-glacially derived tills (Countryside Commission 1998, 128). Borehole data supplied by the Client indicates the presence of between 2.5m and 4m of boulder clay across the site (below the overburden), which overlays levels of mudstone, sandstone and bands of clay.

3.3 HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

- 3.3.1 **Prehistory:** there is relatively little evidence for prehistoric activity around Wigan, and none in the vicinity of the study area. Two stray finds are recorded: a Neolithic polished stone axe was found in the town (Jackson 1936, 74), and a Bronze Age axe hammer, now lost, was discovered near Bottling Wood to the north-east of the study area (Nevell 2001, 7).
- 3.3.2 **Roman:** a number of artefacts of Roman date were discovered across Wigan during the nineteenth century as a result of construction work in the Wallgate, King Street and Darlington Street area (Hannavy 1990, 8). A particular concentration of finds has been identified on the higher ground around Library Street and Millgate (Tindall 1983, 25). The remains of a probable Roman cemetery were also discovered during the construction of the gas works on the southern edge of the town between 1822 and 1830 (*ibid*). A defensive ditch and *agger* were visible in the early nineteenth century along the north side of the town centre, to the south of the study area (SMR 4057.1.0). However, there is some debate over the probable date of this observation.
- 3.3.3 The site of Wigan had long been associated with the settlement of *Coccium*, which is recorded as lying 17 miles from Manchester (*ibid*). The line of the

Roman road, through the town to Preston, is thought to lie to the west of the study area (Margary 1973, 368), although it is considered likely that Standishgate was part of a network of roads linking Wigan to Warrington, Manchester and Preston (*ibid*). A milestone, thought to be Roman in date, was discovered off Wigan Lane (to the north of the study area) in 1930 (SMR No. 4943.1.0), which adds weight to the suggested line of at least one road to the north.

- 3.3.4 It was not until excavations were carried out in the 1980s that actual settlement remains were identified in Wigan. These were at first only slight and lacking in structural remains (Holdsworth and Reynolds 1981, 2). A hearth, discovered in the Wiend in 1982-3, was the first Roman feature in Wigan to have been subject to detailed archaeological investigation (Tindall 1983, 2). These excavations eventually revealed the remains of what has been interpreted as a Roman military industrial site, comprising a series of timber buildings, furnaces and hearths and a metalled road (*op cit*, 29-30). It is considered likely that Roman remains existed near the summit of the hill in Wigan town centre before being largely destroyed by Georgian and Victorian cellars, while *in situ* Roman deposits have been revealed under more than two metres of overburden further down the slope (*ibid*). These deposits added weight to the suggestion that Wigan is the site of *Coccium*, although further work is needed to confirm this. Indeed, whilst the main phase of activity appears to have come to an end by the early years of the third century, basic questions remain regarding the chronology and nature of the Roman occupation in the area (Buxton and Shotter 1996, 77).
- 3.3.5 **Early Medieval:** little is known about Wigan following the collapse of the Roman Empire. Place-name evidence points to some form of native settlement (Tindall 1985, 20), and the name Wigan is thought to come either from an Old English personal name (*ibid*), or from the Saxon word *Waeg* meaning way, which is often associated with the existence of a Roman road (Nevell 2001, 9). There is no direct evidence for activity in the study area during this period, but the name Standishgate includes the Viking word for street, '*gata*' (Hannavy 2003, 15), which suggests it was a road of some significance.
- 3.3.6 **Medieval:** Wigan is not mentioned in the Domesday book (Nevell 2001, 9), and much of the surrounding area was probably of little importance (Hall *et al* 1995, 122). However, Wigan soon became established as an important area for agriculture, and in 1245 the town was effectively granted borough status by a charter of Henry III (Hannavy 1990, 33). By the mid-thirteenth century Wigan was one of the larger chartered towns of Lancashire, along with Lancaster, Preston, Liverpool, Manchester and Warrington (White 1996, 129).
- 3.3.7 The physical remains of medieval Wigan have been uncovered in several excavations within the town centre; cultivation soils and a timber-lined well or cistern were excavated at the Wiend (Jones and Price 1985, 29), and post-holes and pottery dating to the fourteenth or fifteenth century were uncovered at Chapel Street (GMAU 1987, 2). The remains of a medieval burgage plot with a substantial town house constructed of timber were also discovered on Hallgate (GMAU 2001).

- 3.3.8 The form of the plots shown on early maps of Wigan suggests that Standishgate formed part of the medieval town (Morris 1983, 35), although the northern end was apparently outside of the town defences (Powell 1998, 8). Mab's Cross, which is thought to predate the thirteenth century (Hawkes 1935, 13), was formerly situated close to the study area. It is connected to the legend of Sir William de Bradshaigh who, according to the legend, went to fight in the Crusades and never returned (Holcroft 1992). In actual fact the events took place several decades after the Crusades and in reality he had been exiled after his part in a rebellion. After several years his wife, Mabel, assuming he was dead, was remarried to a Welsh knight. Sir William returned, however, and killed his rival after chasing him to Newton-le-Willows. Mabel then did penance for her 'indiscretion' by walking the two miles from their home at Haigh Hall to the cross bare foot and bare legged, hence the cross came to be known as Mab's Cross (*ibid*). Sir Walter Scott, who used the tale as the basis for his own story, *The Betrothed*, mentions 'an old ruinous building' positioned near the cross in which Mabel did penance, although it is not clear what this might refer to (Porteus 1940, 31).
- 3.3.9 As a result of this local landmark being positioned so close to the study area there are a number of additional records that relate to this part of Standishgate. The Le Crosse or Le Cruce family (who were probably named after the cross (Taylor 1902, 234)) are known to have owned land here from c1280, described as '*between the land of the Parson of Wygan and... on the other side between the land of... [Adam] and the water of the Duglesse without condition*' (Hawkes 1934, 1), and there are similar references to land elsewhere on Standishgate (*ibid*).
- 3.3.10 The first direct reference to Mab's Cross dates to 1403, again as part of a description of land in the area: '*two acres of land next Mabcrosse in the tenure of William de Parbold worth 4/-*' (*op cit*, 31). These references demonstrate that there was settlement of some form in the area during the medieval period, although exact details are not clear and it is not known who owned the site covering the development area or what, if any, type of buildings were present there. A depiction of Mabel de Bradshaigh (who died c1350) at prayer before Mab's Cross forming part of a relief on the tomb of her and her husband shows buildings in the background with gabled dormers above the eaves. It is not clear, however, how accurate a depiction this is or whether such buildings were present at 130-130a Standishgate, especially as those depicted have a more sixteenth to seventeenth century appearance.
- 3.3.11 **Post-medieval:** during the early part of the post-medieval period Wigan became an important centre for pewter manufacture and textiles, particularly woollen cloths, linen, calicos and checks, as well as other small-scale industries (Tindall 1985, 23). A number of people engaged in such processes are listed as living on Standishgate from at least the beginning of the seventeenth century, although there are references to pewterers as early as 1470 (SMR No 4770.1.0). A deed of 1606-7 lists a potter called Edward Marckland on Standishgate (QDD/16/m4d), a panmaker named Thurstan Pemberton is listed in 1619-20 (QDD/28/m1), and a theft is recorded from a pewterer named James Scott in 1629 (QSB/1/62/53).

- 3.3.12 Standishgate during the seventeenth century was clearly a prosperous and busy area, much involved in the industry and commerce of the town. Coal also became one of the main commodities behind the economic prosperity of the town. Indeed the Wigan coalfield has been described as one of the most important of the seventeenth century Lancashire coalfields (Farrer and Brownbill (eds) 1908, 357), partially on account of rich deposits of cannel coal. Cannel coal burns with a bright flame and produces very little ash, and thus was in great demand for household use and invariably sold for a higher price than ordinary coal. The coal industry continued to expand during the eighteenth and nineteenth century, helped by the completion of the Douglas Navigation in 1742 and the opening of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal in 1774, which generated large amounts of trade with Ireland (Clarke 1994, 43).
- 3.3.13 Further transport links, including a canal branch to Manchester and the construction of the railways, continued to enhance Wigan's production during the nineteenth century. By 1874 there were 140 collieries operating in the Wigan area, many of which continued in use into the twentieth century (Ashmore 1982).
- 3.3.14 Specific changes to Standishgate itself are difficult to identify, although it is recorded that the road level was significantly changed during the nineteenth century '*when the street paving was changed... from 'petrified kidneys' to squared setts*' and was '*lowered at the Mab's Cross end and raised at the bottom of the hill*' (Anon 1911, 9). Again the development area is fortunate in being positioned close to Mab's Cross as there are numerous depictions of this showing the buildings fronting the street, including those within the development area. The earliest of these dates to c1800, and shows what was probably the front of 130-130a, which had two very evident blind dormers, and buildings on either side. This same scene was repeated by Roby in 1829 (1866), and again by Whitehouse in 1837 (although this is essentially a copy of Roby). A photograph, probably dating to the end of the nineteenth century, identified this building as the Golden Cross Inn and showed that this double blind dormer front was still present. A further photograph of 1912 shows that it had changed little by that date, as does a similar view of about the same time (File 3/2 67687/4). It is difficult to estimate the age of the building shown in these pictures, although elements of the window surrounds might suggest a late eighteenth to nineteenth century date. It is noteworthy, however, that the blind dormers are similar in style to those shown in the early depiction of Mab's Cross, which might suggest that these are of at least sixteenth or seventeenth century date.
- 3.3.15 ***The development area:*** the various deeds and other documentary sources have allowed a relatively detailed account of the development area to be compiled. This has allowed elements of the buildings on the site to be identified, even mapped in some cases, as well as some details of the occupiers.
- 3.3.16 ***130-130a Standishgate:*** earlier references for this block of property were not as easy to identify, although the recent building survey (OA North 2004) concluded that a building had probably occupied the site since the seventeenth century. The earliest primary document pertaining directly to the site is a lease dated to 1820, which describes a '*messuage or dwellinghouse and tenement*

with the Maltkiln Brewhouse Stable... lying and being near the Toll Bars in... Standishgate Street. And also all that Cottage or Dwellinghouse with the smithy' owned by Thomas Fisher and occupied by John Rushton, John Latham and Thomas Dawber (DDSc 129/47). This lease makes reference to an earlier agreement of 1802, presumably with the same description. There was a further reference to Mr Fisher and rents received from Samuel Bold's estate in 1818, which probably included this property. The description of 1820 was carried through into the client's deeds which first described it as a public house in 1851, although references were made to at an earlier date. The deeds of 1851 also included a shop at number 118 and the eight cottages to the rear as part of a single property. It seems that the site's address was at that time 120 Standishgate, and it was referred to as such in commercial trades directories until at least 1890. A directory for 1898, however, listed the Golden Cross at 130 Standishgate, indicating a re-numbering of properties along the street during the interim period (Kelly and Co 1898, 1102).

- 3.3.17 The property appears to have passed between members of the Fisher and Moore family before being transferred in 1896 to Thomas Farrimond, who finally conveyed to Francis Sheargold in 1960.
- 3.3.18 The fact that the buildings occupying 130-130a Standishgate were used as a public house makes it much easier to trace them. The Golden Cross was listed as early as 1797 under the name John Rushton (Anon 1908, 2), as outlined in Table 1 below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Occupier</i>	<i>Source</i>
1797	John Rushton	Anon 1908, 2
1807	-	Richardson <i>et al</i> 1980, 1
1824	Margaret Fishwick	Baines 1824, 620
1828	M. Fishwick	Pigot and Co 1828, 469
1834	John Dawber	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1838	William Rainsford	Pigot and Sons 1838, 188
1841	William Rainsford and Jane Rainsford	Census: HO 107 523, 31-2
1844	William Rainsford	Slater 1844, 104
1853	Thomas Grundy	Whellan and Co 1853, 138
1858	John Fogg	Kelly and Co 1858, 450
1861	James Harrison	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1869	Arthur Lowe	Worral 1869, 32

1872	Arthur Lowe	Worral 1872, 32
1881	Alice Lowe	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1885	Joseph Morris	Rockcliffe Brothers 1885, 184
1887	William Fisher	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1890	Joseph Roberts	Haslam and Co 1890, 101
1892	Sarah Ellen	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1895	Alexander Frost	Card Archive, Wigan History Shop
1898	Fred Jolley	Kelly and Co 1898, 1102
1903	James Taylor	Thomas Weaver and Co 1903, 221

Table 1: Recorded occupiers of the Golden Cross from 1797 to 1903

- 3.3.19 It is not clear when the building stopped being used as a pub. Thomas Farrimond was a brewer originally based in Ormskirk, and is known to have owned a number of pubs in the Wigan area (Richardson *et al* 1979, 12-3). He sold his company in 1854 (*ibid*), which would fit well with the date at which the property was conveyed to Francis Sheargold. Some time after 1903 the building appears to have been split into two residential properties which were occupied by a plasterer and painter and decorators in 1909 (Seed and Sons 1909, 104), a farmer in 1925, in 130a, (Seed and Sons 1925, 153), and by two single women in 1953 (Kent Services Ltd 1953).
- 3.3.20 **Cottages:** the earliest references to the row of cottages behind 130-130a Standishgate appear to date to 1851, although it is likely that some or all of them were included in the deeds dating to 1820 (DDSc 129/47). They remained part of the same block of property until sometime between 1960 and 1977, at which point there were separate deeds for them and they were referred to as garages.
- 3.3.21 The occupiers of the cottages were not always listed in the directories, but they seem to have typically been inhabited by miners and other labourers during the early twentieth century, as well as other manual professions such as a joiner and a fireman.
- 3.3.22 **Historic Map Regression:** the specific sites of archaeological interest that were identified within the wider study area are intended to give an impression of the archaeological resource around the development area. Within the study area itself, however, several features, principally earlier arrangements of buildings than those now present, were shown on historic maps of the area. While these buildings are not sites that would be recorded in their own right (in the SMR for example), they do make up an important part of the developing landscape of this part of Wigan.
- 3.3.23 The earliest known map of Wigan relates to a survey carried out as part of the proposed River Douglas Navigation, and dates to 1712 (DP 175). Standishgate

is shown and, although individual properties are marked, it is not possible to identify the study area. Indeed, there do not appear to be any buildings shown that far along Standishgate, although this may be a distortion of scale. A detailed plan, probably of eighteenth century date, showing approximately the southern half of the development area is, however, particularly useful (Fig 2). This plan shows not only houses on the street front but also houses to the rear, including small cottages, a barn (with a pair of large threshing doors), a shippon (marked 'shipen'), orchard, gardens and even a dung heap.

- 3.3.24 The first detailed map of the whole of Wigan dates to 1827 (Mather). Although not as clear as later maps it shows the outlines of long plots of medieval origin, and it is possible to identify the study area: the L-shaped block formed by the cottages to the rear of 130-130a is not recognisable, although buildings along the street frontage are, as are buildings attached to the north-west corner of this (Fig 3). A field to the west named brick kiln field is also shown. A map of 1837 (Kellet) shows a similar level of detail and the same features of the study area are again identifiable.
- 3.3.25 The Ordnance Survey plan of 1847 is by far the most detailed early map of the site, and the first to show the Golden Cross by name (Fig 4). The L-shaped block of cottages to the rear of this public house are clearly shown and additional rows of property were clearly present extending from the south-west corner and on the other side of Cross Yard.
- 3.3.26 A Tithe Map of 1848 did not show the buildings, although the apportionment did list 'Brickfield' to the west (DRL 1/87) The situation changed little between 1894 and 1929, although additional buildings had appeared to the west of the study area. The map of 1955 shows a dramatically altered situation, with the whole row of building between 118 and 130 gone and a garage built across the back part of this plot.
- 3.3.27 The L-shaped row of cottages to the rear of 130-130a Standishgate (which are present on the earliest map of the area, dating to 1827) were evidently not destroyed until relatively recently; they were still present in 1955, and are shown on plans provided by the Client dating to 2002.

4. EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 In total, seven targeted evaluation trenches were excavated across the study area. The objectives of the evaluation were to provide an assessment of the archaeological potential and character of the site and to inform a greater understanding of the development of land use in the area. On completion of the evaluation trenching, an archaeological watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches associated with the development.
- 4.1.2 The combined results obtained from the evaluation trenching and subsequent watching brief are presented in the following narrative. The deposits and features encountered are described in stratigraphical order, commencing with those of the earliest date.

4.2 TRENCHING RESULTS

- 4.2.1 **Trench 1:** the trench was placed parallel to Standishgate, and was excavated to a length of 21m (Fig 5). The trench aimed to establish the presence or absence of medieval and early post-medieval deposits and structures adjacent to the current street frontage, and to investigate the level of survival of archaeological deposits beneath the former Cross Yard. Natural subsoils comprising reddish-brown boulder clays with bands of sand (**133**) were present at depths of between 0.20m and 0.40m below the existing ground surface (Plate 1).
- 4.2.2 Potentially the earliest structural remains encountered within the trench were the remnants of a sandstone wall, **107**. This was aligned north-west/south-east across the central part of the trench (Fig 6), but was partly obscured by redeposited natural subsoil, **128**. This wall had been truncated on its south-western face by the foundation cut (**118**) for a later brick structure, **109** (Plate 2). The north-eastern elevation of the wall had been damaged further by the installation of modern services (**105**). The surviving elements of wall **107** comprised irregularly-coursed and unbonded sandstone blocks, each measuring up to 0.60m by 0.60m by 0.35m. It is possible that this wall was an internal element of the buildings shown in this position on the plan of 'Naylor's Houses' (Fig 2).
- 4.2.3 Four shallow and irregular pit-type features (**124**, **125**, **126**, and **127**) cutting into the natural soils were identified towards the north-eastern end of the trench (Plate 3). These were each filled exclusively with dark grey clayey-silt deposits (**129**, **130**, **131**, and **132** respectively), and none yielded any finds. A similar, sub-circular feature (**119**) was exposed a short distance to the south-west (Fig 6), and is likely to have been of the same origin. A single fragment of an unidentified copper alloy object was recovered from a fill (**120**) within pit **119**, but this could not be dated with accuracy (4.3.21 below). The function of these features remains uncertain, and whilst the absence of any artefacts suggested that they had not been intended as repositories for rubbish, the absence of post-medieval pottery was notable.

- 4.2.4 Sub-surface elements of later buildings were also revealed in this trench. Brick surface, **122**, was identified as the base for a walkway between the street front and the cottages to the rear of the property. This overlay a linear spread of clinker-type material, **134**, which sealed the fills (**129** and **130**) of pit-type features **124** and **125**. It seemed likely that deposit **134** represented a levelling horizon for surface **122**. These features appeared to be associated with a north-west/south-east aligned wall (**123**), composed of hand-made bricks, which was exposed at the north-eastern end of the trench (Fig 6). Map regression analysis has indicated that wall **123** corresponded to a structural element of the Golden Cross, or 130a Standishgate.
- 4.2.5 A series of apparently associated walls, each composed of hand-made bricks, was uncovered towards the south-western end of the trench. Walls **109**, **113** and **116** crossed the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment, perpendicular to Standishgate (Fig 6), while walls **110**, **111** and **114** followed a north-east/south-west alignment parallel to Standishgate. Walls **110** and **114** probably represented two sections of the same structure, whilst walls **111** and **113** seemed to represent an internal division of a cellar space. An arched structure, **115**, was revealed between **113** and **116** (Plate 4). This was identified as being part of a vaulted cellar ceiling construction. A similar structure (**112**) was revealed to the south-west of wall **109** (Plate 2). The rubble between these walls was revealed during the watching brief to have filled the cellar space, and extended down to a depth of c3.00m below the existing ground surface.
- 4.2.6 The uppermost features and deposits encountered within the trench were associated with a series of modern service trenches, **105**. These crossed the trench in a north-west/south-east alignment (cutting sandstone wall **107**), and extended down to a depth of 2.70m. The entire trench was sealed by a very mixed layer of demolition debris, **101**, which contained brick rubble, slate fragments and other assorted building materials. Whilst this context was only 0.20m thick at the north-eastern end of the trench, it had been used to infill cellars at the south-western end of the trench to a depth of up to 3.00m.
- 4.2.7 **Trench 2:** the trench was excavated perpendicular to Standishgate, extending 15m into the centre of the development area (Fig 5). The trench aimed to establish the presence or absence of medieval and early post-medieval deposits and structures within the central area of the site. Natural subsoils, **204**, were encountered at varying depths, from 0.40m below the existing ground surface at the south-east end, to 0.80m in the centre of the trench (Plate 5).
- 4.2.8 A linear feature, **207**, measuring 1.40m wide and 0.90m deep was noted in the north-eastern section of the trench. Feature **207** appeared to continue southwards, although it was not seen in the corresponding opposing section, suggesting that the feature was an elongated pit rather than a simple ditch section. It was filled almost entirely with abraded fragments of poorly-fired and heavily-sooted fragments of clay set in a very dark grey/black silt matrix (**202**), and capped with redeposited natural subsoil. Analysis of the clay fragments has indicated that the sooting comprised fine particles of burnt charcoal. A single copper alloy object was recovered from deposit **202** (4.3.19 below).

- 4.2.9 Both the north-east and the south-west sections of this trench revealed what appeared to be the vestiges of a sandstone wall (**203**), on a broad north/south alignment (Plate 6). Little of the wall survived within the trench itself, and both the sections looked to have been quite badly disturbed, perhaps by the installation of a telecommunications cable running down the centre of the trench (Fig 6), whose construction cut (**208**) was inordinately deep (4.2.12 below). Wall **203** may correspond to a perimeter wall around the buildings shown on the plan of 'Naylor's Houses' (Fig 2). A single fragment of pottery of a late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date was recovered from between the component stones forming wall **203** (4.3.11 below).
- 4.2.10 A small section of another sandstone wall, **206**, was exposed in the north-eastern corner of the trench. The wall measured 0.85m by 0.70m, and survived to a height of 0.40m. It was of dry-stone type construction, with no bonding material, and is likely to have been associated with wall **203**.
- 4.2.11 Later development on the site was represented by wall, **205**, which crossed the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment, 5.00m from the north-western end of the trench. Wall **205** comprised hand-made bricks, bonded with a lime-based mortar. This may have represented an element of one of the three cottages to the rear of the street frontage, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1847.
- 4.2.12 A service trench (**208**) running along the centre of the trench was patently a twentieth century feature, which cut through every other feature encountered within the trench. Service trench **208** was sealed by a thick (up to 0.80m towards the north-western end of the trench) layer of demolition debris, **201**, which was very similar in character to that exposed in Trench 1 (4.2.6 above).
- 4.2.13 **Trench 3:** the trench was placed across the southern part of the site, and aimed to determine the level of survival of the large structure shown on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map. The trench measured 10m in length, and was aligned on a north-west/south-east axis (Plate 7), with a 6m extension oriented north-east/south-west at the south-eastern end (Fig 5). Natural subsoils comprising bands of sand within reddish-brown boulder clay, **313**, were encountered at depths averaging 0.60m below the modern ground surface.
- 4.2.14 The 6m extension contained a large, sub-circular feature, **304**, cut into the natural subsoil (Plate 8). This feature measured at least 2.46m by 1.90m, and was revealed to have been cut into the subsoil for a depth of 1.70m. The sequence of fills (**303**, **345** – **354**) seemed to typify episodes of domestic waste dumping, and the subsequent sealing with layers of clay (Fig 10). Seven fragments of pottery recovered from upper fills of the pit, **303**, **347** and **346** have been ascribed a date range between the twelfth and fifteenth centuries (4.3.7 below); no artefacts of a later date were present within these fills, implying that feature **304** represented a medieval pit. The pit had been bisected by wall **308**.
- 4.2.15 A small sub-circular feature (**341**), exposed within the south-western part of the trench, appeared to represent a pit. It did not lie entirely within the confines of the trench, but measured at least 1.63m long (on its north-

west/south-east axis) and 0.50m wide (on its north-east/south-west axis). This pit produced no finds from any of its three fills (**342**, **343** and **344**), making accurate dating of this feature difficult.

- 4.2.16 A seemingly linear feature (**331**) was also revealed within the southern part of the trench. Feature **331** was orientated north-east/south-west, and measured 1.26m by at least 0.55m long (Fig 10). It had a maximum depth of 0.47m, and contained two distinct fills (**334** and **335**). These yielded more sherds of fired clay encrusted with sooting deposits, and amorphous fragments of copper.
- 4.2.17 Linear feature **331** was truncated to the north-east by a sub-circular feature, **333**, which contained three fills (**339**, **338** and **336**). All deposits were characterised by a high clinker-type content, indicative of the waste produced from a domestic of cottage industry-type hearth (Plate 10). Additionally, fill **336** produced fragments of sherds of fired clay encrusted with sooting deposits, identical to those recovered from the fills of feature **331**.
- 4.2.18 Trench 3 was dominated by hand-made brick structures, positioned either perpendicular or parallel to the current alignment of Standishgate, mostly corresponding to the position of structures shown on nineteenth century Ordnance Survey mapping. However, one wall of a potentially earlier date was **355**, which was aligned north-west/south-east, and was exposed towards the north-western end of the trench (Plate 9).
- 4.2.19 The remaining brick structures formed walls, **307**, **308**, **314**, **316**, **317**, **320**, and **321**. Walls **314** and **321** were on a north-west/south-east alignment perpendicular to Standishgate (Fig 7), while walls **307**, **308**, **316**, **317**, and **320** were on a north-east/south-west alignment, parallel to Standishgate.
- 4.2.20 Wall **307** was situated along the south-western end of the trench. The component bricks were all hand-made, measuring 0.225m by 0.105m by 0.065m, and were bonded with a lime and sand mortar with small inclusions of lime particles of less than 1mm. The wall measured 0.25m wide and survived to a height of no more than 0.33m. The position of wall **307** corresponds closely to a property-dividing wall depicted upon the Ordnance Survey map of 1847.
- 4.2.21 Structure **311** was exposed butting up to the north-eastern elevation of wall **307**. Measuring 0.46m north-east/south-west and 0.30m north-west/south-east, the structure was composed of a seemingly random assortment of hand-made bricks and brick fragments, refractory brick fragments and pieces of broken Yorkstone slabs, all strongly cemented together with lime and sand mortar. The structure seemed to form the core of a wall, that survived to a height of no greater than 0.29m.
- 4.2.22 Wall **308** was bonded, and situated perpendicular to, wall **307**, extending in a north-easterly direction by 4.20m until it joined wall **314**, to which it was also bonded (Fig 7). Wall **308** was 0.38m wide and survived to a height no greater than 0.27m. The bricks composing the wall were hand-made, with unit sizes up to 0.255m by 0.12m by 0.06m; the bonding material comprised a fine sand and ash mortar. It would appear that this wall represented the rear wall of the

properties on the street frontage, perhaps even the building shown on Mather's plan of 1827 (Fig 3).

- 4.2.23 Structure **309** abutted the south-eastern elevation of wall **308** (Fig 7). It comprised cut Yorkstone slabs laid over hand-made bricks, which measured 0.23m by 0.07m by 0.115m. The structure formed a small triangular step, measuring 0.70m by 0.95m, with the hypoteneuse oriented eastwards. It is likely that this structure was a late modification to the building, and perhaps provided access from a back yard of this property.
- 4.2.24 Wall **310**, bonded to the south-eastern face of step **309**, comprised a single course of hand-made bricks and fragments. The structure was 0.12m wide, and survived to a height of no greater than 0.23m. The hand-made brick fragments measured 0.15m by 0.12m by 0.065m at their largest, and were bonded with weakly cemented lime mortar with occasional inclusions of black ash mortar. Vestiges of plaster rendering were present on the north-eastern face.
- 4.2.26 Wall **314** was aligned north-west/south-east, perpendicular to Standishgate, and butted wall **321** at its north-western end (Fig 8). The wall comprised hand-made bricks, each measuring 0.23m by 0.12m by 0.08m and bonded with weakly-cemented sand and lime mortar, and the south-western face retained traces of rendering.
- 4.2.27 Wall **315** was aligned north-east/south-west, and butted the south-eastern end of wall **314**. Wall **315** was 0.25m wide, survived to a maximum height of 0.16m, and was composed of hand-made bricks bonded with a weakly cemented lime and sand mortar. This wall appeared to represent a property boundary wall between the buildings fronting Standishgate.
- 4.2.28 Structures **316** and **317**, exposed within the southern part of the trench, appeared to form a single wall on the same alignment as **308**, continuing the line to the north-east (Fig 7). The structure was given two context numbers in the first instance as there appeared to be a gap between the two, although it became apparent that this gap was the result of truncation. Taken together the wall was 0.52m wide, surviving to 0.18m at its highest. It was constructed of hand-made bricks, each measuring 0.23m by 0.12m by 0.075m, bonded with a weakly-cemented black ash mortar, which had a lime content of no greater than 5%.
- 4.2.29 Structure **318** was uncovered directly to the north-east of wall **321**, to which it was bonded. The structure was made of hand-made bricks with unit sizes of 0.235m by 0.11m by 0.075m, seemingly representing part of the wall footings associated with wall **321**.
- 4.2.30 Structure **319** was also bonded to wall **321**, directly to the north-west of **318** (Fig 7). The hand-made bricks constituting the feature formed an arch which extended in a north-easterly direction away from **321**, for 0.84m where it was truncated. The brick sizes were 0.22m by 0.12m by 0.07m, bonded with sand and lime mortar. The watching brief revealed this structure to be a section of vaulted cellar ceiling (similar to **323**, **112** and **115**), associated with the nineteenth century properties located to the south-west of the Cross Yard.

- 4.2.31 Structure **320** was located immediately to the north-west of **319**, and was a wall of hand-made bricks butting against, and extending north-eastwards from, wall **314** (Fig 7). The uncovered section of the wall was 0.89m long and 0.35m wide, and survived to a height of at least 0.70m. This wall appeared to represent the rear wall of one of the nineteenth century properties, and may have been a later alteration to the structure, perhaps extending the cellar or even the superstructure to the rear of the original layout.
- 4.2.32 Wall **321** was located along the centre of the trench, aligned north-west/south-east for a distance of 2.80m, seemingly forming a continuation of wall **314**. The wall was 0.36m wide, constructed from hand-made bricks and bonded with a lime and sand mortar. Wall **321** was in part constructed directly on top of a vaulted cellar ceiling (**323**) and was in part directly on top of wall **324**, indicating at least a measure of continuity in terms of building arrangement on the site. Map regression analysis has indicated that the position of the wall corresponds to the apparent extension to properties shown to occupy the plot in 1929. It did, however, extend further to the north-west than the building shown in this position on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 4).
- 4.2.33 A series of dressed Yorkstone slabs, **302**, laid flat onto the underlying soils, and also directly on top of wall **330**, were exposed along the south-western side of the trench. These slabs survived at a depth of 0.50m below the existing ground surface, and varied in unit sizes from 1.08m by 0.65m to 0.24m by 0.41m. They formed a paved passageway, complete with drain-hole (**328**; Plate 11). The location and orientation of this passageway would indicate that it lay between two properties, and may have at one time led onto the street frontage.
- 4.2.34 Surface **302**, and its counterparts **325** and **326**, was divided by a series of upright shale slabs, **327**, each measuring up to 0.95m by 0.64m by 0.06m. These formed a thin wall between the surfaces on the south-western and north-eastern sides (Fig 7).
- 4.2.35 Two structures, **319** and **323**, were observed directly to the north-east of wall **321**. Structure **319** was located 1m north-west of the junction between walls **321** and **308**, extending in a north-easterly direction for 0.84m before being truncated. The structure formed a brick arch physically 0.12m wide, but occupying an area in plan amounting to 0.30m width. Structure **323** was located beneath wall **321**, forming what was potentially a similar arch. This structure was 0.34m thick, 0.36m long (from its north-east extent to the south-west extent) and survived to a discernible width of 1.24m. Upon further investigation elsewhere on site (c.f. **112** and **115**) this type of feature was resolved to be a cellar wall on the south-west side of Cross Yard. Whereas **319** may have been backfilled with the rest of the structure (the void between the arch and the adjacent walls **318** and **317** was occupied by demolition rubble **301**), it appeared that the actual cellar had been backfilled as a separate event, as indicated by the nature of the fill material (**322**). This comprised largely kidney-shaped cobbles, with sandstone and brick rubble fragments.
- 4.2.36 The removal of the alley paving revealed a section of brick wall, **355**, in the north-western end of the trench, at the end of the 10m extension. This wall

was aligned north-west/south-east, and comprised hand-made bricks bonded with a reddish-white sand and lime mortar. The brick sizes were 0.24m by 0.11m by 0.07m. The wall was stratigraphically below the paving **329**, and directly above the natural subsoil, surviving to a height of 0.20m below the existing ground surface.

- 4.2.37 The same removal of the alley paving revealed a small section of brick wall, **330**, beneath the south-eastern end of the surface, **302**. This wall stretched for at least 0.80m away from wall **321** in a south-westerly direction on a north-east/south-westerly alignment, and was no more than 0.38m wide. Only one course survived (to a height of 0.06m), and the brick sizes were 0.24m by 0.12m by 0.06m. Their position beneath the alley may indicate that this was a yard wall that had been removed prior to the addition of, or alterations to, an existing alley structure. Trench 3 was entirely overlain by thick deposits of demolition debris, **301**, very similar in character to demolition debris, **101** described above.
- 4.2.38 **Trench 4:** formed an L-shape extending some 15m northwards from the northern end of Trench 1, and then turned 90 degrees south-westwards towards the centre of the development area to join with the north-western end of Trench 2 (Fig 5). The natural subsoil, **411**, was recorded at depths ranging between 0.15m and 0.30m below the existing ground surface.
- 4.2.39 Linear feature **407** was observed crossing the trench on a roughly north-east/south-west alignment. This feature was 0.80m wide and at least 1.20m deep, with vertical sides. It seemed to have been filled rapidly in a single backfilling episode (Plate 12). The fill, **408**, comprised a mixed orangey-red clay/sand deposit characteristic of re-deposited natural subsoil, and yielded no finds. The south-western part of the feature was truncated by pit **409**.
- 4.2.40 Trench 4 contained a series of three very similar large, circular, or sub-circular pits, **404**, **406**, and **409** (Fig 6). Pit **409** was exposed in the south-eastern end of the trench, extending north-eastwards from the section by 0.90m (Plate 13). The pit measured 3.40m along its north-west/south-east axis, and was in excess of 1.20m deep; the bottom of this feature was not encountered. The single fill, **410**, comprised a mixed deposit of re-deposited natural clay and sand with few inclusions (below 5% small sub-rounded stones to 20mm), perhaps indicative of rapid backfilling of the feature from the surrounding ground surface.
- 4.2.41 Pit **404** was located at the north-western end of the trench, extending from the trench section edge by 1.00m. The pit was 2.80m wide, and contained two fills; **402** comprised mixed redeposited clays and sands to a depth of 1.25m, and **403** which had a similar although slightly more silty consistency. Neither of these fills contained any artefacts.
- 4.2.42 Pit **406** was located adjacent to pit **404** (Fig 6), and extended from the trench section edge for a distance of 0.65m. Along the section edge the feature measured 2.90m, and was excavated to a depth of 1.30m. The fill, **405**, comprised mixed re-deposited clay and sand with few inclusions, similar to

403, suggesting that both pits had been backfilled at the same time. Again, no artefacts were recovered.

- 4.2.43 Wall **412**, and an associated sandstone step component, **413**, were located across the south-eastern end of the trench. Wall **412** was at least 2.00m long, and the combined structure measured 1.20m at its maximum width. The component bricks were all hand-made, and bonded with lime and sand mortar, and they measured on average 0.23m by 0.105m by 0.07m. The larger of the two sandstone blocks forming the step structure **413** measured 0.80m by 0.24m by 0.43m. It seems probable that these features were associated with the Golden Cross pub.
- 4.2.44 Wall **417** was located along the south-east section of the trench, although only 0.25m of its total width was exposed. The wall was constructed of hand-made bricks and bonded with buff sand and lime mortar, the bricks typically measuring 0.23m by 0.105m by 0.07m. A sandstone slab, **418**, was bonded to the north-west face of **417**; it measured 1.65m by 0.38m, and seemed to have been part of a step.
- 4.2.45 Directly to the north of step **418** was a further section of brick wall, **414**, measuring 0.60m (north-east to south-west) by 0.80m (north-west to south-east). The wall was constructed of hand-made bricks bonded with a buff lime and sand mortar, with brick sizes of 0.23m by 0.11m by 0.07m. The stratigraphic relationship of this feature to wall **417** had been removed by the insertion of modern services, **422**. Nevertheless, it would seem likely that the wall may have related to the rear of one of the buildings off the north-eastern side of Cross Yard, and may have been associated closely with wall **417** and step **418**.
- 4.2.46 Wall **419** was aligned north-east/south-west across the south-western part of the trench (Fig 6). The wall included a slight return towards the north-east on its south-eastern end, which butted sandstone slab **418** and wall **417**. Wall **419** was composed of hand-made bricks bonded with buff lime and sand mortar, with brick sizes of 0.23m by 0.11m by 0.07m. Bonded to, and extending south-west from, this context by 0.80m was a brick wall structure, **420**. This wall had an identical composition to **419** in terms of bonding material and brick sizes, and the pair of structures seem to correspond to the nineteenth century buildings on the north-eastern side of Cross Yard, as shown on Ordnance Survey mapping.
- 4.2.47 Across the north-eastern end of the 6m extension were brick wall **415** and paved surface **416**, both following a north-west/south-east alignment (Fig 6). Wall **415** was 0.50m wide, and surface **416** at least 1.10m wide (north-east/south-west). Wall **415** was constructed of hand-made bricks bonded with pinkish lime and sand mortar, while surface **416** was composed of neatly cut Yorkstone slabs. The unusually large width of wall **415** suggests that it may have been a freestanding structure at the side of a yard for which **416** was likely to have been the surface.

- 4.2.48 A wide service trench, **422**, crossed the 6m extension on a north-west/south-east alignment. The construction of this trench was clearly of a modern date and had removed the south-western edge of pavement **416**.
- 4.2.49 The most recent deposit encountered within the trench was a spread of demolition material, **401**. This was present across the extent of the trench, covering every feature to a depth of between 0.05m and 0.35m.
- 4.2.50 **Trench 5**: this trench measured 11m by 3m, and was aligned north-east/south-west across the centre of the study area (Fig 5). The clay subsoil, **529**, was exposed at a depth of 0.80m in the south-western part of the trench, but at a depth of only 0.50m at the north-eastern end, reflecting the natural topography of the development site.
- 4.2.51 A large sub-circular feature, **505**, was exposed in the centre of the trench. This feature measured at least 2m by 1.2m, with a depth of 2.2m, and appeared to represent a large pit (Fig 10). The lower three deposits (**523**, **522** and **521**) in the pit were all of a clayey-silt composition. As the intervention progressed deeper, these layers of clayey-silt were found to graduate from light grey (**521**), through mid-grey (**522**), to dark grey at the base (**523**). While these three deposits were all relatively free of stony inclusions (less than 5% small stones in each case), an unusually high level of animal waste and other organic matter was present in each of the fills. In addition, fill **522** yielded a single sherd of medieval pottery, which has been ascribed a twelfth or thirteenth century date (4.3 below).
- 4.2.52 A stratigraphically later pit feature, **504/520**, had been cut into the southern part of pit **505**. This pit was 0.86m long by 0.25m wide, and was cut to a depth of 0.40m. It contained a greyish-brown clayey-silt deposit, **503/519**, which possibly represented domestic waste derived from the buildings on the street front.
- 4.2.53 Pit **530** was located in the centre of the trench, cutting the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.50m. The pit was filled by a mixed orange-brown sandy-clay deposit, **531**. The pit had been heavily truncated on all sides by subsequent pit feature **527** and wall **514**, which prevented its characterisation.
- 4.2.54 A similar feature, **527**, was located in the north-eastern corner of the trench, cutting the natural to a depth of at least 0.54m. This seemed to represent another pit, but was stratigraphically later than **530**. Pit **527** was at least 0.85m wide (north-west/south-east) by at least 2.00m long (north-east/south-west), itself being truncated by **514** along its north-eastern edge. The pit was very steep-sided, and was filled by a sequence of deposits, **524**, **525** and **526**. Deposit **524** yielded fragments of pottery dated to the seventeenth or eighteenth centuries, whilst two sherds of a medieval date were recovered from fill **525**. The medieval pottery was almost certainly residual, but had perhaps been deposited originally in pit **530** (4.2.53 above).
- 4.2.55 Another pit was revealed in the north-eastern corner of the trench. This pit (**533**) was cut into the natural clay, **529**, with steep sides to a depth of at least 0.95m. The intervention was 1.20m wide, and the base appeared only to rise

very slightly in the north-east, suggesting that the feature was much wider. The pit was at least 2.50m long (north-east/south-west) and may even have been the same pit as **530**, although the heavy disturbance of these features by the later sandstone wall **514** prevented a definite correlation of the two.

- 4.2.56 The pits within the north-eastern part of Trench 5 were overlain by a thin layer of clinker-type material, **506**. Small discrete patches of similar material were revealed to the south-west of pit **505**, but these patches were quite ephemeral and can be taken as disparate occurrences of the same context. It seems a reasonable conclusion that the layers represented the deposition of levelling material, possibly during the seventeenth century. This capping and/or levelling activity was prior to the construction of the sandstone walls in this trench (4.2.57 below), indeed it may have been closely associated with them, as walls built directly onto pit fills may not have been particularly stable.
- 4.2.57 A short series of stone walls (**514**, **515**, **516** and **517**), exposed within the north-eastern part of the trench, formed a small but substantial square structure (Fig 8). Wall **517** comprised blocks of sandstone, and projected from the south-eastern side of the trench, and continued for a distance of 1.25m where it was bonded to **514**. Wall **514** was similarly composed of sandstone, and was aligned north-east/south-west along the centre of the trench. It was bonded to sandstone wall **515** at its north-eastern extent, which formed a return to **514**, heading south-east along the trench section. At its south-eastern end, the wall had been robbed out and some of the stones were used to cap a brick drain on a north-west/south-east alignment. Wall **516** formed a return to wall **515**, and appeared in the south-east section of Trench 5 towards the north-eastern end, at the corner of which it joined **515**. All these dry stone walls had very similar dimensions with the exception of those that had been truncated (cf **517**). The walls were all 0.75m-0.80m wide, and all survived to 0.10m below the existing ground surface, except **517** which had been truncated heavily except in section, and **514** which was badly disturbed by a “mole”-dug service trench that had been backfilled with concrete. This had punched a hole through the centre of wall **514** and had deposited stone and demolition rubble in the trench. The walls were all poorly and irregularly coursed, roughly dressed, and made purely of sandstone with the exception of **514** which appeared to have vestiges of brown clay bonding material, **507**. None of these walls correspond closely with the structures depicted upon relevant cartographic sources, which may imply that they date from the early eighteenth century at the latest. Similarly, bonding **507** yielded a fragment of pottery to which a probable late seventeenth century date has been ascribed.
- 4.2.58 The most recent feature encountered within the trench was a rectangular brick structure (**534**), which continued north-westwards beyond the limit of excavation (Fig 8). This appeared to have been associated with the garage and car showroom, erected during the mid-twentieth century, and is likely to have been a vehicle inspection pit. The entire trench was overlain by demolition debris, **501**, which had a maximum depth of 0.80m.
- 4.2.59 **Trench 6:** this trench was placed along the north-eastern boundary of the site, and measured 10m by 2m (Fig 5). Relative to the rest of the site, the trench had poor survival of *in situ* sub-surface remains. The natural subsoil (**605**) was

exposed at a depth of 0.60m below the modern ground surface. As was noted elsewhere across the site, the subsoil comprised reddish-brown boulder clays with bands of sand.

- 4.2.60 A brick wall, **602**, composed of hand-made bricks and bonded with sand and lime mortar, was exposed along the centre of the trench (Fig 8); it was 0.32m wide, and survived to a height of 0.50m. Wall **602** then returned in a north-easterly direction as wall **604**, which was of similar width and composition. Directly to the south-west of wall **602** was a stone-lined drain, **603**, which followed the same alignment and terminated at the same point as **602**. This drain was cut into the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.13m, and included occasional brick fragments as part of its construction. The trench was entirely covered by demolition debris, **601**.
- 4.2.61 **Trench 7:** the trench was placed parallel and adjacent to the north-western boundary of the study area, and was excavated for a distance of 10m (Fig 5). The natural subsoil, **705**, was exposed at a depth of 0.40m below the existing ground surface (Fig 9).
- 4.2.62 A large sub-circular feature (**704**), seemingly representing a substantial pit, was exposed against the north-western section of the trench (Fig 9). The pit had steep sides, and a flat though irregular base at a depth of 1.20m. Pit **704** was excavated by machine due to considerable contamination within the trench, presumably derived from the use of the site as a garage. Numerous fragments of poorly-fired and heavily sooted fragments of clay were produced from the fill, identical to those recovered from feature **207** (Trench 2).
- 4.2.63 Two brick walls (**702** and **703**), seemingly of a contemporary date, were exposed at the north-eastern end of the trench. Wall **703** crossed the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment, surviving to a depth of 0.15m below the existing ground surface. Wall **702** was 0.40m wide, survived to a depth of 0.15m below the existing ground surface, and was bonded to wall **703** in the north-west corner of the trench. Both walls appeared to be composed of hand-made bricks bonded with sand and lime mortar. They possibly represented the south-eastern corner of the large structure shown on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map of the site (Fig 4).
- 4.2.64 A layer of demolition debris and rubble, **701**, formed the uppermost horizon within the trench. This contained numerous coarse components indicative of modern deposition.

4.3 FINDS

4.3.1 **Introduction:** in total, 355 artefacts and ecofacts were recovered from the site, the majority of which were ceramic, comprising fired clay encrusted with sooting deposits, medieval and post-medieval pottery, ceramic building material, and clay tobacco pipe. The remaining artefacts were metal (copper alloy and iron), copper slag, and glass, and the ecofacts recovered were animal bones and marine shell. The bulk of the finds were retrieved from demolition debris (contexts **101, 201, 301, 401, 501, 601, and 701**) and the fills of discrete features (contexts **102, 120, 202, 303, 336, 337, 346, 402, 403, 502, 503, 522, 524, 525, 535, and 536**) within the seven trenches excavated. In addition, finds were retrieved from structures, backfills of structures, and general layers (contexts **107, 203, 308, 322, 323, 506, 507, 511, 512, and 702**). The finds are catalogued in *Appendix 3*, and the type of finds recovered from demolition debris, pit and linear fills, and structures, backfills of structures, and deposits, are summarised in Table 2, below.

Material	Demolition debris 101, 201, 301, 401, 501, 601, and 701	Pit and linear fills 102, 120, 202, 303, 335, 336, 337, 346, 402, 403, 502, 503, 522, 524, 525, 535, and 536	Structures, backfills of structures, and deposits 107, 203, 308, 322, 323, 506, 507, 511, 512, and 702	Total
Bone	2	1	5	8
Ceramic building material	4	3	1	8
Ceramic mould?	17	116	6	139
Clay tobacco pipe	23	0	7	30
Copper alloy	4	2	0	6
Copper slag	2	3	1	6
Glass	11	0	0	11
Pottery (medieval)	0	10	0	10
Pottery (post-medieval)	86	7	42	135
Iron	1	0	0	1
Shell	0	0	1	1
Total	150	142	63	355

Table 2: Type of finds from different contexts

4.3.2 All the artefacts appeared to fall into a date range between the medieval period and the twentieth century, with the pottery fragments providing the most reliable dating evidence. Details of the pottery are set out below, followed by a brief record of the other categories of finds.

4.3.3 **Ceramic Vessels, Medieval Pottery:** a small assemblage of medieval pottery, comprising 10 fragments, was recovered from stratified deposits during the course of the evaluation. Analysis of the pottery was based solely on visual inspection of individual sherds, and has been described using the terminology

developed by Orton *et al* (1993) and the Medieval Pottery Research Group (1998).

4.3.4 In general terms, the material was in poor condition, with many fragments having been clearly abraded and rolled, and included few diagnostic features such as rims. The poor condition of the pottery suggests some post-depositional disturbance, although the absence of any post-medieval pottery found in association is of note, indicating that the excavated features were sealed with little, if any, disturbance during the post-medieval or modern periods.

4.3.5 A late twelfth to fifteenth centuries date may be suggested for the medieval pottery assemblage as a whole, although this may be split into two broad groups, based on clear variations in the fabric types, and is described accordingly. The date ranges suggested for these fabrics are approximate, and are based on parallels from excavations elsewhere in the North West (Davey 1977).

- *Fabric 1*: a hard, coarse fabric with rough surfaces and a hackly fracture. It contains moderate, ill-sorted, sub-rounded to sub-angular quartz inclusions up to 1mm across, red iron ore, fragments of rock, and moderate mica. Wall surfaces are a pale orange with no evidence of a glaze, and the core is reduced to a mid-grey. May be described as being of the Northern Gritty Tradition. Date range: approximately twelfth to thirteenth centuries.
- *Fabric 2*: a fairly fine sandy, oxidised fabric with an irregular fracture. There are frequent tiny inclusions with sparse larger sub-rounded quartz inclusions up to 0.5mm across, and moderate mica. The wall surfaces are oxidised to orange, with a core reduced to a mid-grey. There is no indication of a glaze. Date range: approximately fourteenth to fifteenth centuries.

4.3.6 Fabric 1 was represented by six sherds, which were derived from an estimated four vessels. Two of these were recovered from a fill (303) of pit 304 (Trench 3), and a fill (525) of pit 527 (Trench 5) yielded two sherds from a single vessel whilst a fill (522) of feature 505 (Trench 5) yielded a single sherd. The sherds recovered from fill 525 were too small and abraded to furnish any details of the vessel form. One of the vessels recovered from fill 303 appeared to be of medium proportions, possibly with a cylindrical profile and a sagging base. It is likely that the vessel was a simple jar, although this cannot be confidently asserted without diagnostic rim sherds. The second vessel was represented by a single body sherd, which was recovered from fill 522, and comprised part of an everted-angle rim with a rounded edge, with an apparent seat for a lid. The exterior surface of the sherd had traces of a soot deposit, again indicative of use as a cooking pot. None of the Fabric 1 vessels bore any indication of a glaze or having been embellished with decoration.

4.3.7 Fabric 2 was represented by four sherds, which were seemingly derived from a total of two vessels. Three small sherds were recovered from a fill (337) of pit 304, (Trench 3), a single sherd was recovered from a fill (346) within pit 304

(Trench 3). All of the sherds from fill **337** were small, although each had traces of a soot deposit on the exterior surface, suggesting the vessel to have been used as a cooking pot. The shape of the vessel base appeared to have been flat, but little other detail of the form could be ascertained. The sherd recovered from fill **346** was very small and abraded, but clearly represented a thin-walled vessel. Neither of the vessels bore any indication of a glaze or having been embellished with decoration.

- 4.3.8 The likely sources of pottery used in Wigan during the medieval period are as yet not well known, and the fabrics present in the Standishgate assemblage cannot be ascribed to a specific source. It is most likely, however, that they are the product of a local source. The production of pottery in the town is implicit in a document of 1310, which refers to 'Adam the potter of Wigan' who held a house and half an acre of land on Marking Place (cited in Powell 1998, 7-8). Moreover, archaeological excavations on Hallgate in 1991 yielded fragments of ceramic wasters from medieval deposits, providing reasonable evidence for a pottery kiln to have been in the vicinity (GMAU 2001).
- 4.3.9 **Ceramic Vessels, Post-medieval Pottery:** a large quantity of post-medieval pottery was recovered, comprising kitchenware, tableware, an ornamental figure, and a piece of sanitary ware. The majority of the kitchenware was brown-glazed red earthenware, and was dated to the late seventeenth to early twentieth century. The vessels identified included crocks, jars, pancheons, jugs, and a skillet. It is unusual to find a ceramic skillet as late as the seventeenth or eighteenth century, but the other vessel types recovered are common in domestic assemblages from sites in north-west England. A single cross-join was identified between fragments of pottery from layer **511** and pit fill **535** (Trench 5). Grey-bodied stoneware vessels, glazed olive or metallic brown, were also recovered, and included jars.
- 4.3.10 A range of tablewares from the seventeenth to eighteenth century was represented, with various fabrics, for example beige, orange, or cream earthenware, and a range of decoration, including slipware, mottled ware, and beige, brown, red, or black glaze. The vessel types identified were bowls, platters, and a double-handled mug.
- 4.3.11 An interesting fragment of a Blackware vessel was recovered from wall **203**, Trench 2. This comprised a body fragment of a jug or large cup, with a strap handle and a dipped lead glaze. Absolute dating of this fragment is difficult, although it is likely to be derived from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. Pottery of a similar date was recovered from layer **511**, which produced a group of 34 fragments. These included large and unabraded fragments of a thin-walled jar with an everted rim, and a large, globular-bodied cup with a small vertical loop handle. Both vessels had a dark lead glaze, and were of a late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date. The group also included a single fragment of a trailed slipware vessel, possibly a charger, and a small fragment of a tin-glazed earthenware vessel with a bluish glaze, to which a late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date may also be ascribed. This vessel may have been a product of the Delftware industry in Liverpool, which was well established by the early eighteenth century (Davey 1987).

- 4.3.12 Pit fill **524** yielded a fragment of mottled, or manganese speckled, ware; a buff-bodied earthenware covered with a streaked, mottled brown lead glaze. Other fragments of mottled ware were recovered from clay bonding material **507** and layer **201**. It is conceivable that the mottled ware was manufactured at Prescott, Merseyside, where such wares were produced from the early eighteenth century (Davey 1987).
- 4.3.13 The later tablewares (late eighteenth to twentieth century) were mainly white earthenware, with a small quantity of porcelain, and a single piece of olive-glazed cream earthenware. The white earthenware was decorated in painted cobalt blue, slip-decorated patterns (cable, mocha, banded, and rouletted), transfer-prints (including Willow), moulded decoration (including feather edge), and moulded and painted decoration (including green shell edge). The vessel types identified were tankards, bowls, plates, ashets, an egg cup, and a child's plate. The child's plate had a moulded and painted border of leaves, and a black transfer in the centre with the text '...] Albert [...]' around the edge. The porcelain, comprising tea cups and a cream jug, was all of nineteenth or twentieth century date, and was decorated with transfer-printing and painting.
- 4.3.14 The single piece of olive-glazed cream earthenware mentioned above was a lid which was probably from a type of toast-water pot. In a toast-waterpot, burnt toast is steeped in water, and then the charcoal-rich water is poured out to be drunk by invalids. The strainer in the pouring lip of the pot, combined with the lid, prevents the toast from being poured out. The olive-glazed lid in question has a deep lip with strainer holes, and is likely to have been for a toast-water pot with a different arrangement - the strainer would have been part of the lid, not part of the pouring lip. An impressed heart on the top surface of the lid would have allowed the strainer to be lined up with the pot's pouring lip.
- 4.3.15 Deposits **507** and **524** can be dated to the seventeenth to eighteenth century since they contained pottery of this date. Layer **511** contained post-medieval pottery dating to the seventeenth to eighteenth century, and also to the eighteenth to twentieth century. Based on the pottery evidence, the following contexts can be dated to the seventeenth to twentieth century since they produced post-medieval pottery, although that was not particularly diagnostic: **107**, **203**, **322**, **502**, **506**, and **512**. The demolition deposits (**101**, **201**, **301**, **401**, **501**, **601**, and **701**) contain post-medieval pottery with a range of different dates.
- 4.3.16 **Ceramic building material and window glass:** the ceramic building material was recovered from demolition debris: the lower fill **403** of pit **404** (which produced no other finds), and clinker layer **511**, from which a large quantity of post-medieval pottery was also recovered. The building material comprised tiles, drains, possible brick, part of a gamekeeper's sink, and an unidentified fragment, and all of it was dated to the post-medieval period. Two fragments of window glass dated to the nineteenth to twentieth century were recovered from the demolition debris.
- 4.3.17 **Clay tobacco pipe:** all the fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered were stems, and since bowls tend to be more diagnostic in terms of dating, only

broad date ranges could be assigned to the stems. Twenty-three of the thirty pipe stems were recovered from demolition deposits, and the rest came from wall **308**, clinker layer **506**, and clinker layer **512**, all of which also produced post-medieval pottery. The only fragment with a maker's mark was recovered from demolition debris **501**, and text read 'H.TUNSTAL...'. Similar styles of text and text boxes have been found on clay tobacco pipes dated using documentary evidence to the mid-eighteenth to early nineteenth centuries (Barker and Barker 1984, 90, 104, 125 fig 17 no. 14).

- 4.3.18 **Glass bottles:** small numbers of glass bottles and glass bottle fragments were recovered from the demolition debris. They included milk bottles from two different dairies, 'Hanson's Dairies', and 'Grimshaw & Culshaw Ltd, Wigan & Scorton', and unmarked brown beer bottles and a colourless screw top bottle, which would have originally had paper labels. The bottles were produced in moulds which incorporated the lip as well, and they were dated to the twentieth century. Two green bottle fragments had no diagnostic features and could not be closely dated. The manufacturers of two of the milk bottles were C.T.G. (Canning Town Glass; Ashurst n.d., 64) and U.G.B. (United Glass Bottle).
- 4.3.19 **Copper alloy and iron:** six copper alloy objects were recovered, the first of which, from upper fill **120** of pit **119**, was a highly corroded lump, and could not be identified. No other finds were recovered from this context. The second copper alloy object was retrieved from fill **202** of pit **207**, and was a small, rectangular scrap of thin sheet. Large numbers of fragments of possible ceramic bell mould were the only other finds from this context.
- 4.3.20 The remaining copper alloy objects were a two-part copper alloy button stamped with a royal crest; a ring of unknown purpose, which was round in section and not a complete circle; part of a spoon; and a heavy hand bell missing its clapper. A corroded iron disc, possibly a lid, was also recovered. The ring, spoon, hand bell, button, and iron disc or lid were retrieved from demolition debris, which contained post-medieval pottery but no medieval pottery. The ring, button, and disc or lid were dated to the nineteenth or twentieth century, and the spoon and the hand bell to the post-medieval period generally.
- 4.3.21 **Ceramic bell mould and copper slag:** large quantities of possible ceramic bell mould fragments were found during the evaluation. Fragments were found in association with post-medieval pottery in demolition debris **201**, **301**, **401**, and **501**, and in backfill **322** of structure **323**, and in clinker-type layers **506** and **512**. It was also found in contexts that produced no other finds (black pit fill **201**, pit fill **536**, and brick wall **702**), and in association with medieval pottery in pit fill **522**. No evidence was found on site for a bell casting pit such as the one discovered at Norton Priory (Greene 1989, 119, fig 64). It is not clear how large a bell may have been produced on the Standishgate site, but it has been noted that for large bells such as church bells the bell makers travelled to the customer (*op cit*, 119). A foundry and bell casting pit would then be constructed on site, thus limiting the distance the heavy and easily damaged bell had to travel (*ibid*).

- 4.3.22 Copper slag was found in demolition debris **301** and **501**, in pit fill **336** with no other finds, in redeposited infill **507** in association with post-medieval pottery, and in linear fill **335** in association with ceramic bell mould only. The dating evidence for the copper slag and the ceramic bell mould is inconclusive, and could be medieval in date, but is more likely to date to the seventeenth to eighteenth century.
- 4.3.23 **Bone and shell:** all the bone fragments recovered were from large mammals, comprising cattle, cattle/red deer, sheep/goat, and horse. One fragment, the proximal end of a cattle tibia from demolition debris **401**, showed signs of butchery, as the rest of the shaft had clearly been sawn off to remove the lower part of the back leg. An almost complete horse skull, but with no mandibles, was recovered from layer **512**. The maxillary teeth on this individual are extremely worn, and comparison to the data in Levine (1982) suggests an age of 19 years or older. Other finds from this deposit were dated to the post-medieval period. Green staining on the cranium may suggest some contact with cess deposits, or residues from copper or metal alloy working. Bone was also recovered from demolition debris **301** in Trench 3, and from arched brick ceiling **323** and its backfill **322**. A single cockle shell fragment was recovered from clinker layer **512**.
- 4.3.24 **Discussion:** the finds are of interest as a domestic, mainly post-medieval, assemblage from Wigan. Given the location of the site on the outskirts of the known boundary of the medieval town, the recovery of a small quantity of stratified medieval pottery is significant as it implies medieval occupation of the area. The small number of sixteenth and early seventeenth pottery fragments is also interesting; whilst pottery of this period is present within the assemblage, it is not in abundance, suggesting a relatively 'low status' occupation. Similarly, the pottery of this period that is present within the assemblage, whilst hinting at trading links with Liverpool, appears to have been manufactured largely within the region. This situation contrasts with the pottery assemblage produced from recent excavations along Millgate, nearer Wigan town centre, which included Staffordshire slipwares and imported German stonewares (OA North forthcoming).
- 4.3.25 The non-domestic elements, comprising the ceramic bell mould and evidence of possible copper working, appear to date to the seventeenth to eighteenth century, although the evidence is inconclusive; the potential for the radio-carbon dating of the fragments of the putative moulds was assessed, but it was concluded that they were not suitable for such analysis.
- 4.3.26 It is likely that the moulds and the evidence for copper working relate to different industrial activities, since bell metal is a different copper alloy from other alloys used to make different objects. This implies some diversification of the metal-working trades that had been active on, or very close to the site during the post-medieval period.

4.4 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

- 4.4.1 **Quantification:** three environmental bulk samples (0.5 to 1 litre in volume), taken from medieval pit fills **340** and **351** (pit **304**, Trench 3), and **522** (pit **505**, Trench 5), were assessed for charred and waterlogged plant remains.
- 4.4.2 **Results of assessment of plant remains:** the fill (**340**) of medieval pit **304** contained charcoal in small quantities but no charred plant remains. The flot contained a range of other material, which included fungal *sclerotia*, charred amorphous material and coal. Modern insect remains, seeds including *Sambucus* (elder) and amorphous plant remains, were recorded.
- 4.4.3 Samples 2 and 3 from pit fills **351** and **522**, contained some well preserved waterlogged plant remains. The plant assemblage from context **351**, an organic layer in pit **304**, included weed seeds of grassland eg sorrel (*Rumex*), ruderals eg hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) and wet ground e.g. lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*). In addition, this assemblage included taxa that have broad ecological requirements eg common hemp-kettle (*Galeopsis tetrehit*), buttercups (*Ranunculus repens*-type), knotgrasses (*Polygonum* sp.) and seeds provisionally identified as belonging to the stitchwort/campion family (Caryophyllaceae) and the dandelion/daisy family (Asteraceae).
- 4.4.4 The plant assemblage recorded in context **522**, the fill of medieval pit **505**, only included two weed seed types: goosefoot/ orache (Chenopodiaceae), a ruderal, and knotgrasses (*Polygonum* sp) which are found in a broad range of ecological communities. The matrix of the samples from contexts **351** and **522** consisted of a range of materials, which included abundant quantities of *monocotyledonous* stem fragments. In addition, context **351** included bryophyte fragments, insect remains, coal and earthworm egg cases.
- 4.4.5 **Discussion:** this assessment has demonstrated that some waterlogged plant remains were preserved in the fills of the medieval pits **304** and **505**, although no economic or food plants were recorded in any of the samples. Context **351**, an organic layer in the fill of pit **304**, contained a richer assemblage of plant types than either **340** or **522** and this assemblage suggests that a number of different plant communities were present when the fill was accumulating. None of the plant taxa recorded suggest what the function of the pit may have been although hemlock, a common plant, is known to have been used both as a medicinal plant and a poison (Grieve 1982, 391-394).
- 4.4.6 The function of the medieval pits **304** and **505** remains inconclusive after the assessment of the charred and waterlogged plant remains from fill deposits **340**, **351** and **522**.

Context/Sample No.	340/1	351/2	522/3
Sample size (l)	1	0.5	0.5
Flot size (ml)	10	50	100
Matrix Components			
Amorphous organic	++		
Monocot fragments		++	++
Charcoal	+		
Fungal sclerotia	++		
Amorphous charred plant remains	++		
Bryophyte fragments		+	
Insect remains	+	++	
Coal	+	+	
Earthworm egg cases		+	
Modern contamination (weed seeds)	+		
Grassland			
<i>Rumex</i> sp.		+	
Ruderals			
Chenopodiaceae undiff- goosefoot/ orache			++
<i>Conium maculatum</i> - hemlock		+	
Wet Ground			
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i> – Lesser Spearwort		+	
Broad			
Caryophyllaceae undiff - stitchwort and campion family		+	
Asteraceae - dandelion and daisy family		+	
<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i> - common hemp-nettle		+	
<i>Polygonum</i> sp.		+	+
<i>Ranunculus repens</i> -type-buttercups		+	
Total Seeds	-	+	++

Table 3: Assessment of charred and waterlogged plant remains from the fills of medieval pits **304** and **505**

Key

+ indicates items were present to frequent

++ indicates items were common to abundant

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The desk-based assessment of the study area, undertaken as part of the building investigation (OA North 2004), concluded that there was a low potential for deposits of a pre-Conquest date to exist within the development site, although the boundaries of the Roman settlement at Wigan are unknown. The results of the evaluation have confirmed that the earliest anthropogenic activity within the study area pertains to the medieval period.

5.2 MEDIEVAL ACTIVITY (TWELFTH – SIXTEENTH CENTURIES)

- 5.2.1 The archaeological investigation did not provide any physical evidence for medieval buildings on the site, nor for the existence of burgage plot boundaries, which are frequently manifested by shallow ditches. This is perhaps unsurprising as the location of the burgage plots would most probably have been limited to the centre of the town. Nevertheless, the earliest remains encountered during the evaluation appear to represent activity between the twelfth and sixteenth centuries. These remains comprised pit features located within the southern (Trench 3) and central (Trench 5) parts of the study area. The function of these pits remains uncertain, and whilst it is tempting to suggest that they were intended as repositories for domestic rubbish, firm evidence is lacking.
- 5.2.2 The material culture represented by the small group of medieval artefacts recovered from the evaluation suggests domestic occupation either on the site, or in the immediate vicinity. The absence of any structural features within the excavated area implies that any medieval buildings that had occupied the site were of an insubstantial nature. In a similar vein, the results of palaeoenvironmental sampling hint at the area having a semi-rural character, whilst the absence of cereal plants suggest that the area was not agricultural, and perhaps formed the urban fringe.

5.3 EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL ACTIVITY (SIXTEENTH – SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES)

- 5.3.1 Based on the results of the building investigation of 130-130a Standishgate (OA North 2004), it is probable that buildings occupied the study area during the seventeenth century. The surviving physical remains of any such structures was fragmentary, although seemingly present. These included walls **107**, **203**, **206** and **207**. A more intact structure ascribed to this period was exposed in Trench 5, comprising stone walls **514** – **517**. This appeared to represent the remains of a privy, which would confirm that the site was occupied during this period. However, the small assemblage of seventeenth century pottery recovered from the site implies the occupation of the site during this period to have been relatively low status.
- 5.3.2 A suite of other features may also be ascribed to this period on stratigraphic evidence, although a paucity of artefacts recovered from sealed contexts has precluded close dating. Potentially, the earliest post-medieval remains

included a series of shallow and irregular pit-type features (**124 – 127** (Trench 1) and **404, 406** and **409** (Trench 4)). It is possible that these were associated with features **119, 207, 331, 341, 533** and **704**, each of which yielded fragments of ceramic moulds that appear to represent the casting of metal alloy objects. Similarly, small fragments of industrial residues indicate copper working to have been undertaken on the site during this period. Wigan is well attested from historical sources to have been an important centre for such industries during the early post-medieval period, and the results of the evaluation have provided additional evidence for the geographical extent of these trades within the town.

5.4 LATER POST-MEDIEVAL ACTIVITY (EIGHTEENTH – TWENTIETH CENTURIES)

- 5.4.1 This period is characterised by numerous brick walls, associated with the development of the street frontage and urban expansion along Standishgate. Many of the exposed walls may be correlated with buildings shown on the series of historic maps, and their functions may be traced from entries in historical documents, such as trade directories. The activity on the site during this period represents the expansion of Wigan during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which reflects the development of other towns in the north-west of England during this period.

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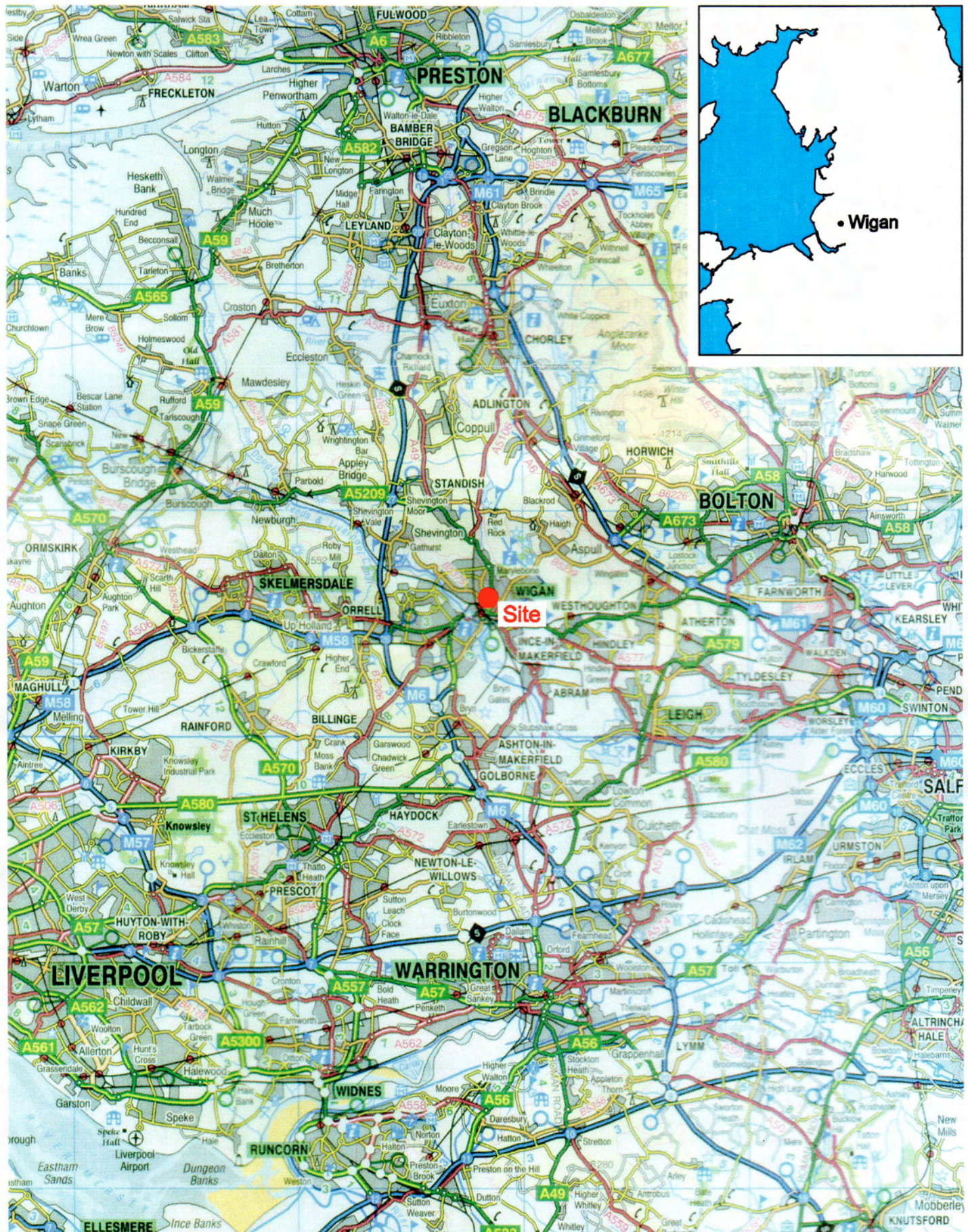
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based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:250,000
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0 5000
metres

Figure 1: Location map

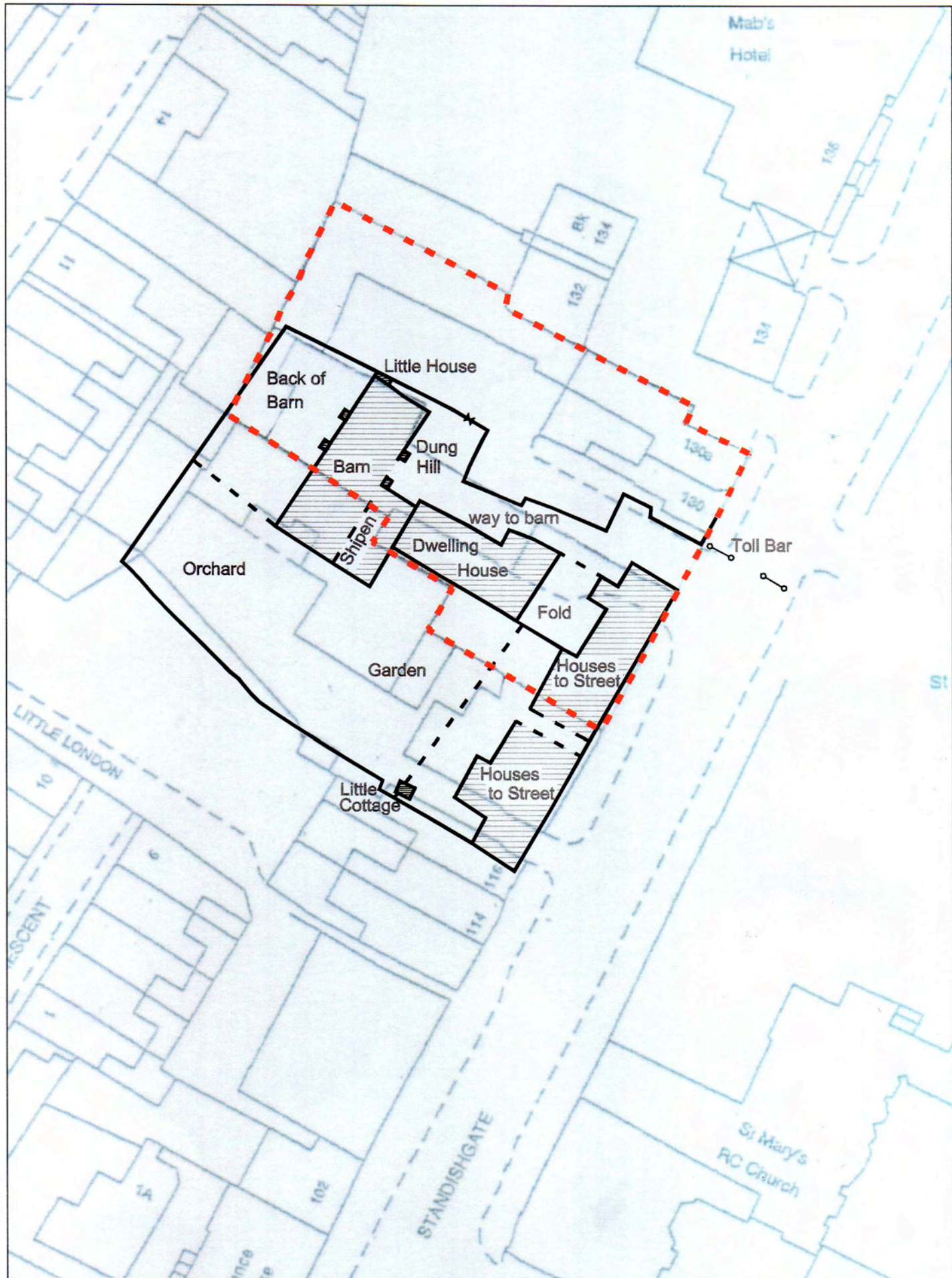
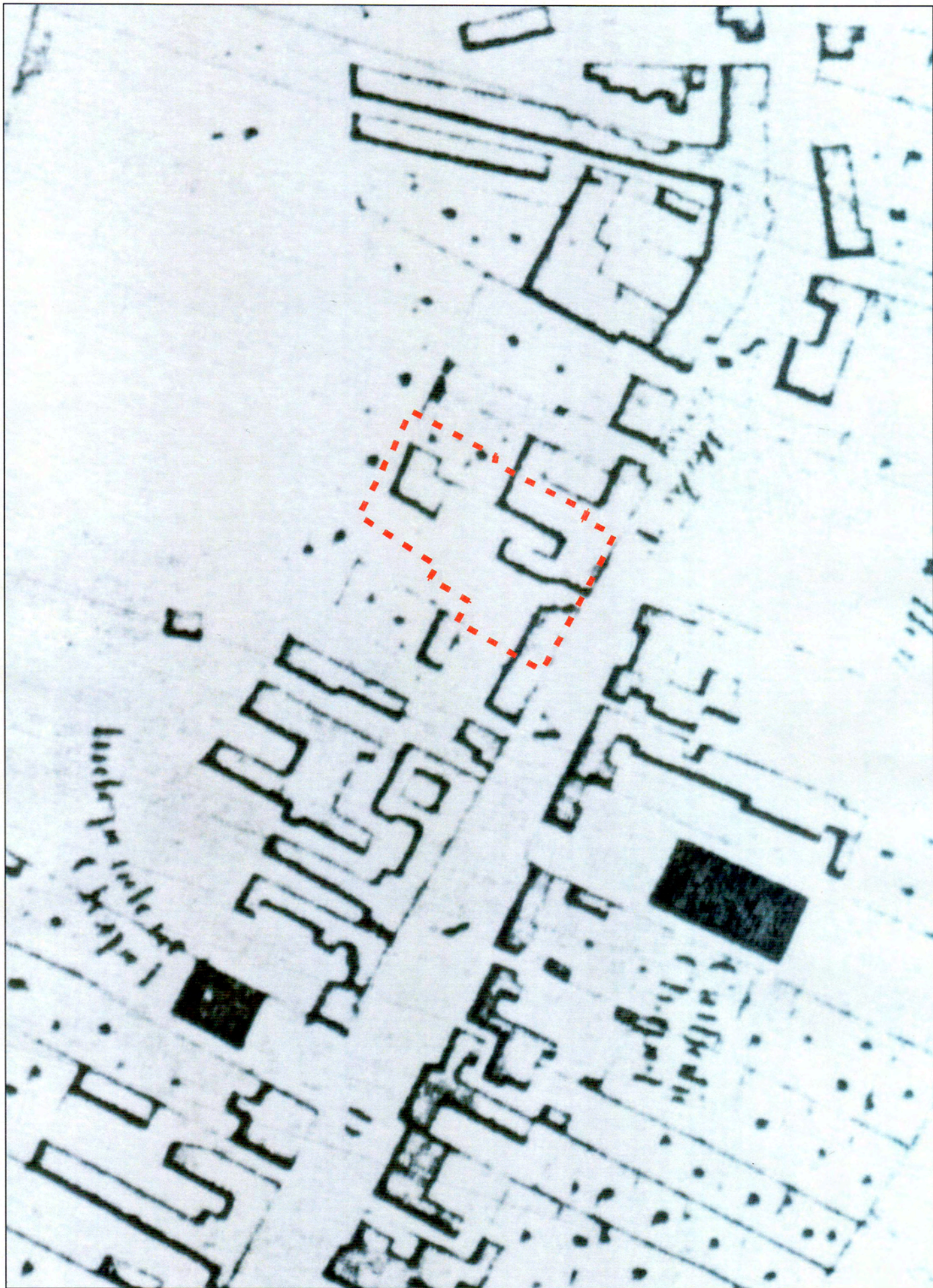


Figure 2: Copy of a plan of 'Naylor's Houses' undated, but probably eighteenth century (DDSc 129/47 n.d.) showing the development area



development area



0 20m
Scale 1:1000 @ A4



Figure 3: Part of Mather's plan of 1827 showing the development area

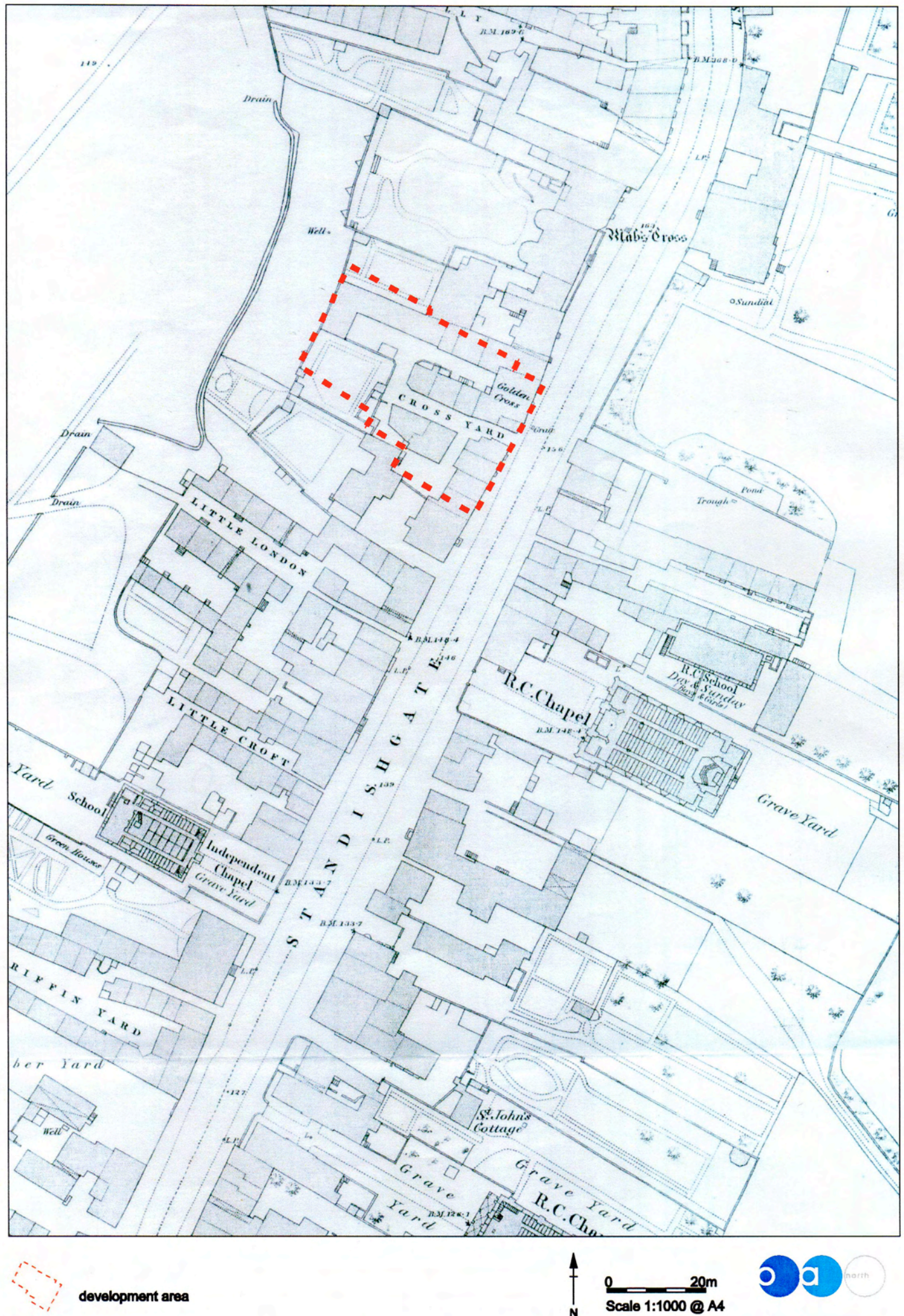


Figure 4: Part of the Ordnance Survey plan of 1847 showing the development area



406300N

358400E

based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:2500
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development area

0 20m
Scale 1:1000 @ A4



Figure 5: Trench location

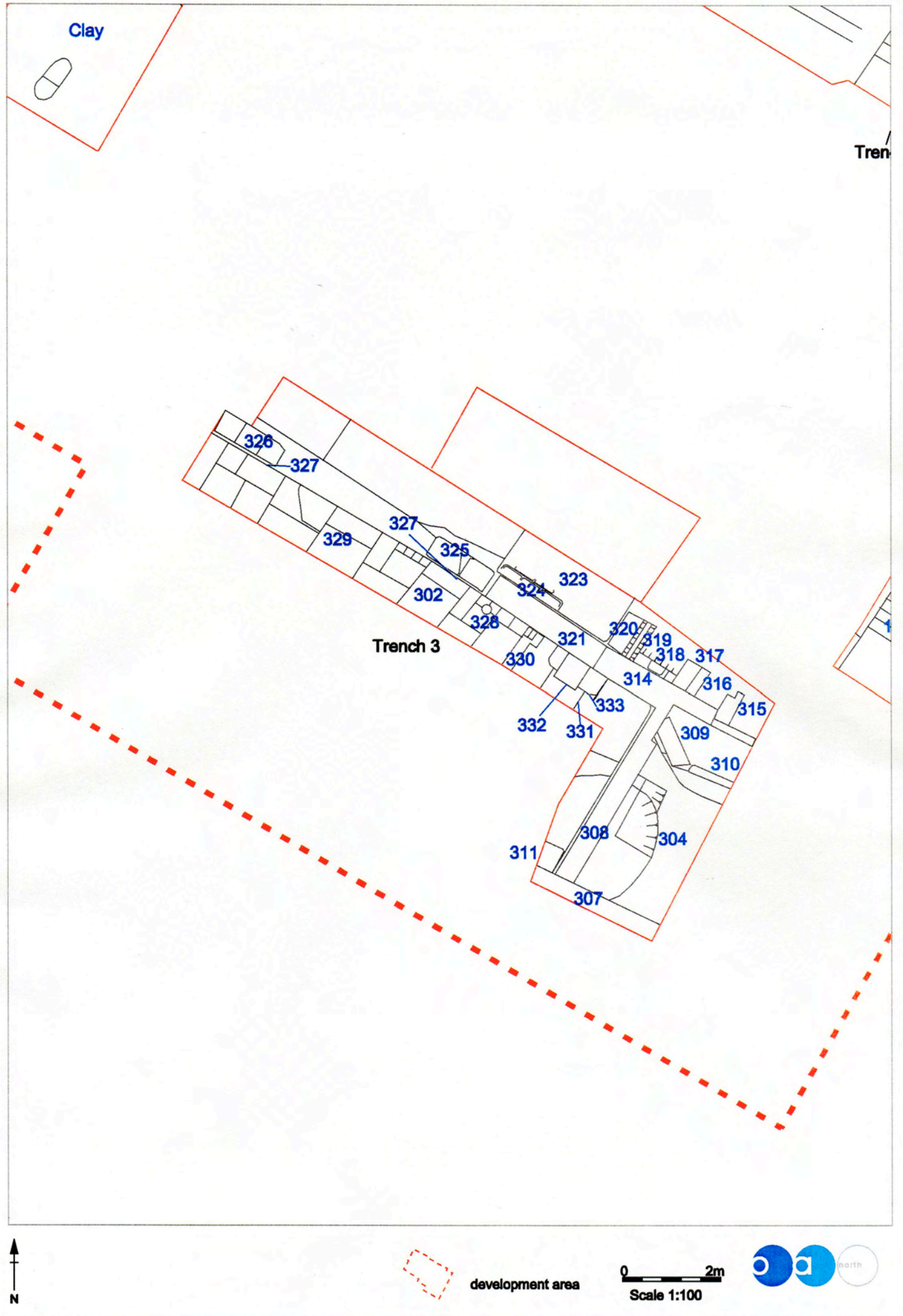


Figure 7: Trench 3

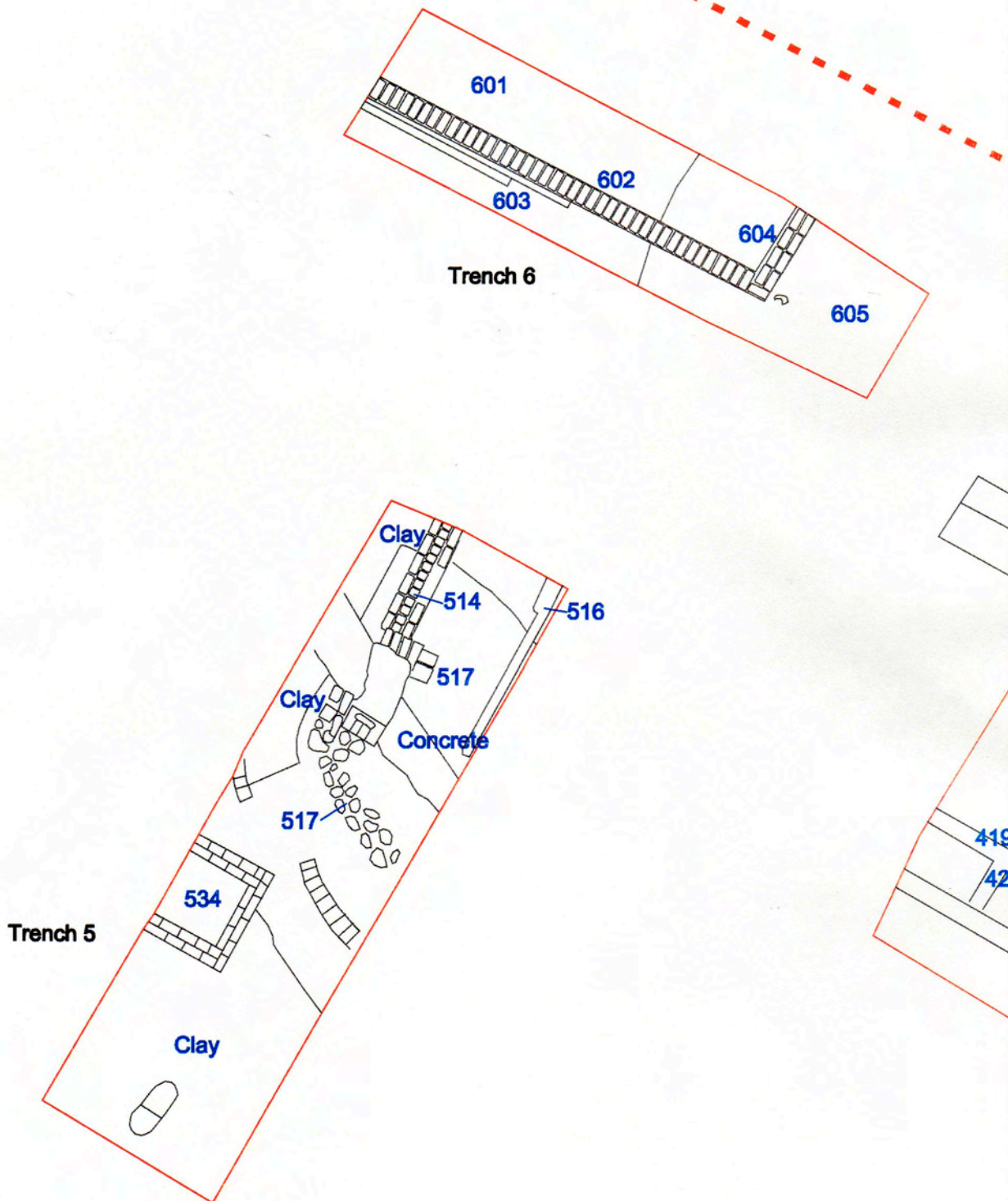


Figure 8: Trenches 5 and 6

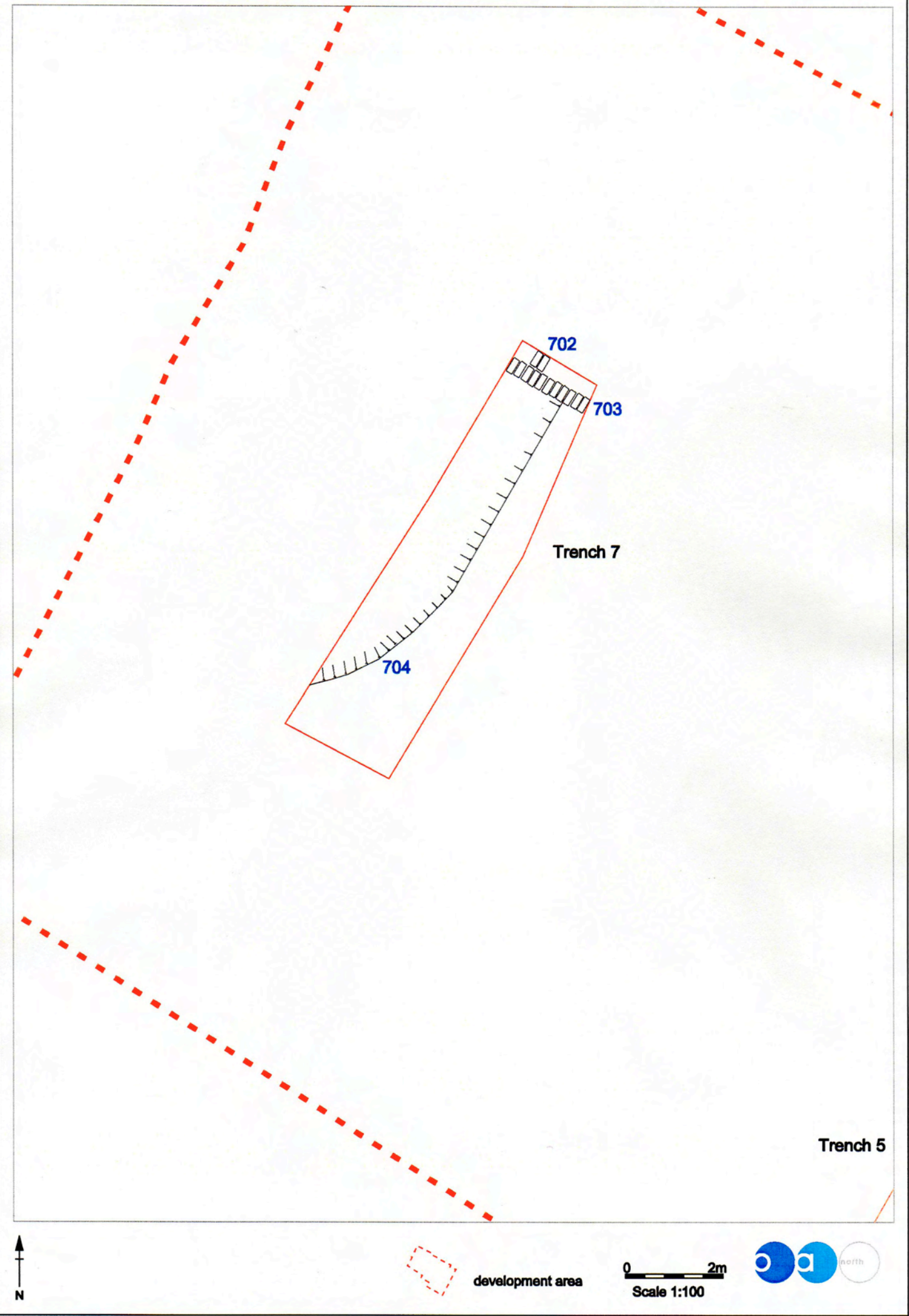
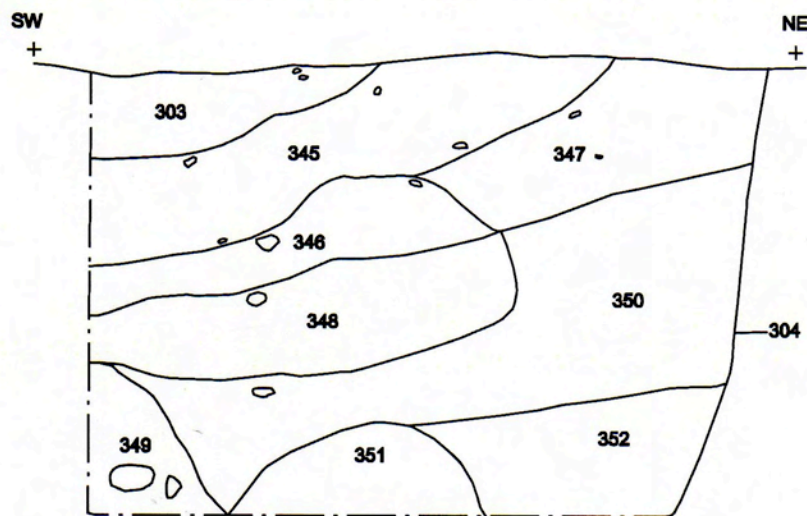
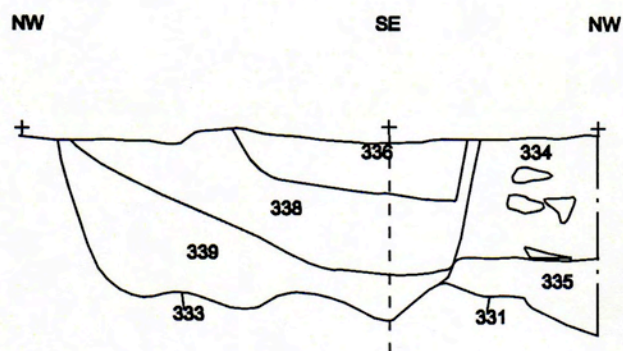


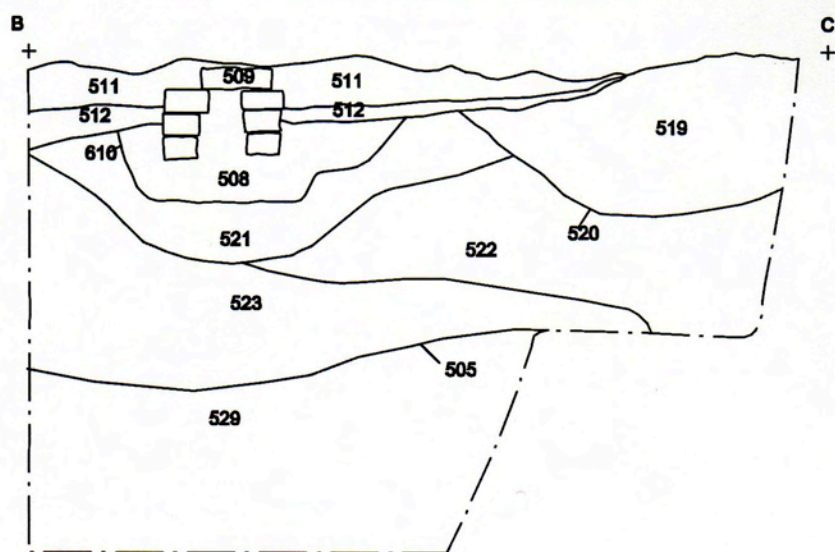
Figure 9: Trench 7



Section across pit 304



Section across pit 333 and feature 331



Section across pits 505 and 520

Scale 1:20

0 1m



Figure 10 : Sections across pit 304, pit 333, feature 331 (Trench 3), and pits 505 and 520 (Trench 5)



Plate 1: General view of the north-eastern end of Trench 1, showing shallow pit features *124*, *125*, *126*, and *127*, and clay subsoil *133*



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Plate 9: Pits 332 and 333, Trench 3



Plate 10: North-east-facing elevation of wall 355, Trench 3



Plate 11: Drain **328** within surface **302**, Trench 3



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Plate 13: Pit **409**, Trench 4



Plate 14: General view of Trench 5, looking north-east



Plate 15: General view of Trench 5, looking south-west



Plate 16: Walls *514* and *515*, and pit fill *518*



Plate 17: Walls *514*, *515*, *516*



Plate 18: General view of Trench 7, looking south-west

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

July 2004

**Oxford
Archaeology**

North

**130 - 130A,
STANDISHGATE,
WIGAN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION PROJECT DESIGN

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr Sean Flynn, of B&D Croft Ltd, for an archaeological evaluation at 130 -130A Standishgate, Wigan.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 5.3.1 Following the granting of planning permission to B & D Croft Ltd to redevelop the site of 120-130 Standishgate Wigan for housing (centred on SD 5848 0623), which would include the demolition of 130-130a, a brief for a programme of archaeological recording was issued by the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, in conjunction with the Wigan Conservation Officer. This was to include a rapid desk-based assessment of the known historical and archaeological resource for the whole development area, and a RCHME level-III type survey (RCHME 1996) of the surviving building remains. OA North was commissioned to undertake the work, which was completed during May and June 2004, and was supplemented by an archaeological watching brief in July 2004.
- 5.3.2 The site is situated at the north end of one of the main medieval streets of Wigan, and it is likely that the site was original part of a group of burgage plots. It is positioned close to the site of Mab's Cross, which is closely connected to the legend of Sir William and Mabel de Bradshaigh. Available archive sources pertaining to the site demonstrate that the burgage plots were constantly redeveloped during the 18th and 19th centuries, and included farm buildings comprising a barn and shippon, as well as a malt kiln, brew house and smithy. The general area saw a great deal of construction and expansion during the late 18th century and early 19th century, and the development area was clearly no exception.
- 5.3.3 The building investigation identified a complex series of alterations that had been made to the standing remains of 130-130a. The earliest building on the site was probably a 17th century cottage, which was extended to the rear, and further altered in the 18th and 19th centuries. As a result of the desk-based assessment and building investigation, the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester has recommended that a programme of evaluation trenching be undertaken in advance of the site's development.

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology has over 30 years of experience in professional archaeology, and can provide a professional and cost effective service. We are the largest employer of archaeologists in the country (we currently have more than 200 members of staff) and can thus deploy considerable resources with extensive experience to deal with any archaeological obligations you or your clients may have. We have offices in Lancaster and Oxford, trading as Oxford Archaeology North (OA North), and Oxford Archaeology (OA) respectively, enabling us to provide a truly nationwide service. OA is an Institute of Field Archaeologists Registered Organisation (No 17), and is thus bound by the IFA's Code of Conduct and required to apply the IFA's quality standards.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The main objective of the evaluation, given the commercial nature of the development, will be to characterise the survival of the archaeological remains across the site, and to provide a good understanding of their potential. The objectives of the project may be summarised as:

- to assess the nature, date, density, extent, function and state of preservation of archaeological remains;
- to assess the potential of any surviving remains to inform a greater understanding of the development of land use in the area;
- to formulate a strategy for appropriate mitigation, in consultation with the other relevant parties.

2.2 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION

2.2.1 The site records, finds and any samples from the programme of archaeological works outlined below will form a checked and ordered site archive as outlined in the English Heritage guideline document *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd edition, 1991) (hereafter MAP 2). Following compilation of the project archive a report will be produced detailing the results of these investigations.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 The following work programme is submitted in line with the objectives summarised above, and in accordance with a verbal project brief supplied by the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist.

3.2 The site will be investigated initially via seven trenches, which will be placed the positions suggested in Figure 1. Following the excavation of these trenches, a further 10m of trenching will be placed across the site, the precise locations of which will depend upon the results of the initial trenches. The rationale behind the locations of the initial trenching is as follows:

- **Trench 1:** will measure 20m in length, and will be placed close to the street frontage and parallel to Standishgate. This will examine elements of medieval and post-medieval buildings within the south-eastern part of the site, and determine the level of survival and character of these structures. This trench will also investigate the level of survival of archaeological remains beneath the former Cross Yard.
- **Trench 2:** will measure 20m in length, and will be placed at a right angle to Trench 1. This will also examine elements of medieval and post-medieval buildings within the site, and determine the level of survival and character of these structures.

- **Trench 3:** will measure 10m in length, and will be orientated north-west/south-east across the southern part of the site, with a 6m extension orientated north-east/south-west at the south-eastern end. It will aim to investigate the large structure shown on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map, and determine the level of survival and character of this structure.
- **Trench 4:** will measure 10m in length, and shall be placed along the eastern boundary of the site, with a c6m extension placed at a right angle, linking this trench with the north-western end of Trench 2. The trench will be aimed at examining the area beneath the former Cross Yard to determine the presence or absence of medieval burgrave boundaries.
- **Trench 5:** will measure 10m in length and will be orientated north-west/south-east close to the northern boundary of the site. The trench will aim to investigate the building depicted on Mather's 1827 plan of the site, and determine the level of survival and character of this structure.
- **Trench 6:** will measure 10m in length and will be orientated north-west/south-east close to the northern boundary of the site, to the north-west of Trench 4. The trench will aim to investigate the building depicted on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map, and determine the level of survival and character of this structure.
- **Trench 7:** will measure 10m in length and will be orientated north-east/south-west across the northern part of the site. The trench will aim to investigate the building depicted on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map, and determine the presence or absence of medieval burgrave boundaries.

3.3 **Methodology:** excavation of the uppermost levels of modern overburden/demolition material will be undertaken by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological level. The work will be supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Spoil from the excavation will be stored adjacent to the trenches, and will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological works.

3.4 Machine excavation will then be used to define carefully the extent of any surviving foundations, floors, and other remains. Thereafter, structural remains will be cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. It should be noted that no archaeological deposits will be entirely removed from the site. If the excavation is to proceed below a depth of 1.2m, then the trenches will be widened sufficiently to allow the sides to be stepped in.

3.5 **Recording Systems:** all information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

- 3.6 Results of the evaluation will be recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets, which will comprise a written detailed description and interpretation of each structure and deposit encountered.
- 3.7 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts will be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation will be generated. Photography will be undertaken using 35mm cameras on archivable black and white print film as well as colour transparency, and all frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Extensive use of digital photography will also be undertaken throughout the course of the fieldwork for interpretative and presentation purposes. Photograph records will be maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.
- 3.8 The precise location of the trenches, and the position of all archaeological structures encountered, will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process will generate scaled plans and sections within AutoCAD 14, which will then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings will be generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. All information will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 3.9 ***Finds policy:*** finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. OA has close contact with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the University of Durham and, in addition, employs in-house artefact and palaeoecology specialists, with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation, and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Emergency access to conservation facilities is maintained by OA North with the Department of Archaeology, the University of Durham.
- 3.10 Any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996.
- 3.11 Human remains are not expected to be present, but if they are found they will, if possible, be left *in situ* covered and protected. If removal is necessary, then the relevant Home Office permission will be sought, and the removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity as required by the *Burials Act 1857*.
- 3.12 Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate. OA North employs palaeoecology and soil micromorphology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and analysis of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

3.2 OTHER MATTERS

- 3.2.1 Access to the site will be arranged via the Client/main contractor.
- 3.2.2 The Client will be responsible for the provision of a secure enclosed area for the archaeological work to take place within.
- 3.2.3 The Client is asked to provide OA North with information relating to the position of live services on the site. OA North will use a cable detecting tool in advance of any machine excavation.
- 3.2.4 The Client will provide a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

3.3 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.3.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Safety Policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (3rd Edition, 1997). OA North will liaise with the Client/main contractor to ensure all health and safety regulations are met. A risk assessment will be completed in advance of any on-site works.
- 3.3.2 OA North has professional indemnity to a value of £2,000,000, employer's liability cover to a value of £10,000,000 and public liability to a value of £15,000,000. Written details of insurance cover can be provided if required.
- 3.3.3 Normal OA North working hours are between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday, though adjustments to hours may be made to maximise daylight working time in winter and to meet travel requirements. It is not normal practice for OA North staff to be asked to work weekends or bank holidays and should the Client require such time to be worked during the course of a project a contract variation to cover additional costs will be necessary.

3.4 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION

- 3.4.1 **Archive:** the results of the fieldwork will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.
- 3.4.2 The paper and finds archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site will be deposited with the nearest museum which meets Museums' and Galleries' Commission criteria for the long-term storage of archaeological material (MGC 1992). This archive can be provided in the English Heritage

Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files (as appropriate). The archive will be deposited with an appropriate museum within six months of the completion of the fieldwork.

3.4.3 A synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and a copy of the publication report) will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record. A copy of the index to the archive will also be available for deposition in the National Archaeological Record in London.

3.4.4 **Report:** two copies of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Further copies will be sent to the Assistant County Archaeologist, the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record, Wigan Borough Conservation Officer, and the appropriate museum. It will include:

- a non-technical summary
- the site's historical and archaeological background
- an outline methodology of the archaeological investigation
- summary of results, including location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features and deposits encountered, with sufficient plans, sections and photographs
- an assessment of the significance of the remains and finds
- recommendations for any further mitigation work and details of the final deposition of the project archive will also be made.

3.4.5 A summary of the results produced from the archaeological investigation will be published in the CBA North West magazine.

3.4.6 **Confidentiality:** the final report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

4.1 A ten day period is required to complete the fieldwork as detailed above.

4.2 A report will be submitted within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

4.3 OA North can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the Client.

5. STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The project will be under the overall charge of **Ian Miller BA** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 5.2 The fieldwork will be undertaken by **Chris Healey BA** (OA North Project Supervisor). Chris will be assisted by two technicians.
- 5.3 The processing and analysis of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be carried out by **Elizabeth Huckerby BA, MSc** (OA North Project Officer), who has extensive experience of the palaeoecology of the North West, having been one of the principal palaeoenvironmentalists in the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.
- 5.4 Assessment of any finds from the evaluation will be undertaken by OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA, MIFA** (OA North Finds Manager). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England.

6. MONITORING

- 6.1 Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist.
- 6.2 Access to the site for monitoring purposes will be afforded to the Client, Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist and the Conservation Officer for Wigan Borough, or their representatives, at all times.

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Context No	Trench	Description
102	1	Black fill of pit (=202)
103	1	Fill of pit 104
104	1	Circular pit, associated with 105
105	1	Service trenches Crossing Trench 1
106	1	Various fills of 105
107	1	Stone fill of 108
108	1	N/S Sandstone wall cut
109	1	Brick wall for cellar
110	1	Brick wall bonded to 109
111	1	Brick cellar dividing wall bonded to 109
112	1	Arched cellar ceiling section bonded to 109
113	1	Brick wall for cellar bonded to 114
114	1	Brick cellar wall
115	1	Arched cellar ceiling section bonded to 113 and 116
116	1	Brick wall bonded to 114
117	1	Redeposited clay fill of 118
118	1	Foundation cut for 109
119	1	Cut of pit/ditch terminus
120	1	Upper fill of 119
121	1	Primary fill of 119
122	1	Brick floor surface
123	1	Brick wall at north-eastern end of trench
124	1	Cut for pit
125	1	Cut for pit
126	1	Cut for pit
127	1	Cut for pit

Context No	Trench	Description
128	1	Redeposited natural overburden across 124 , 125 , 126 and 127
129	1	Dark grey clayey-silt fill of 124
130	1	Dark grey clayey-silt fill of 125
131	1	Dark grey clayey-silt fill of 126
132	1	Dark grey clayey-silt fill of 127
133	1	Natural subsoils comprising reddish-brown boulder clays with bands of sand
134	1	Linear spread of clinker-type material
201	2	Demolition debris (= 101)
202	2	Black fill of pit 207
203	2	Stone wall at south-eastern end of trench
204	2	Natural subsoil
205	2	Brick wall
206	2	Dry-stone wall section in south-eastern end of trench
207	2	Pit feature seen in the north-eastern section
208	2	Modern service trench
301	3	Demolition debris
302	3	Paving slabs forming alleyway surface
303	3	Top fill of pit 304
304	3	Circular pit
305	3	= 303
306	3	= 304
307	3	Brick wall
308	3	Brick wall
309	3	Yorkstone step at north end of 308
310	3	Small brick wall
311	3	Brick structure bonded to 307
312	3	Fine orange sand layer

Context No	Trench	Description
313	3	Reddish-brown boulder clay
314	3	Brick wall bonded to 308
315	3	Brick wall bonded to 314
316	3	Brick Wall bonded to 311
317	3	Brick Wall bonded to 314 and 316
318	3	Footings for 321
319	3	Arched brick structure runs bonded to 321
320	3	Brick wall, bonded to 321
321	3	Brick wall along centre of trench
322	3	Rubble backfill of structure 323
323	3	Arched brick ceiling below 321
324	3	Wall footing below wall 321
325	3	Yorkstone slabs forming a surface associated with 329
326	3	Yorkstone Slabs forming a surface associated with 329
327	3	Upright shale slabs along edge of 329
328	3	Drain hole within 329
329	3	“Ginnel” or alleyway formed by Yorkstone slabs (= 302)
330	3	Brick structure beneath 329
331	3	Linear feature
332	3	Cut of square-shaped pit
333	3	Cut of sub-square shaped pit
334	3	Upper fill of 331
335	3	Lower fill of 331
336	3	Upper fill of 333
337	3	Fill of 304 below 303 (= 353)
338	3	Mixed purple clay fill of 333
339	3	Mixed fill of 333
340	3	Grey fill of 304 , below 337

Context No	Trench	Description
341	3	Cut of medieval pit
342	3	Top fill of 341 - mid-brownish grey silt
343	3	Fill of 341 below 342 - light to mid-brownish grey silty-clay
344	3	Fill of 341 below 343 - light greyish-brown clayey-silt
345	3	Deposit in pit 304
346	3	Clay deposit in pit 304
347	3	Sandy deposit in pit 304
348	3	Organic deposit in pit 304
349	3	Organic deposit in pit 304
350	3	Clay / sand deposit in pit 304 (redeposited natural?)
351	3	Organic deposit in pit 304
352	3	Clay and organic deposit in pit 304
353	3	Sandy-clay deposit in pit 304
354	3	Sandy-clay deposit in pit 304
355	3	Brick wall at north-western end of trench
401	4	Demolition debris (= 101)
402	4	Top fill of pit 404
403	4	Lower fill of pit 404
404	4	Cut of sub-circular pit
405	4	Fill of pit 406
406	4	Cut of sub-circular pit
407	4	Cut of linear feature
408	4	Fill of linear feature 407
409	4	Cut of sub-circular feature
410	4	Fill of feature 409
411	4	Natural subsoil
412	4	Brick wall at south-eastern end of trench
413	4	Sandstone slabs forming steps within 413

Context No	Trench	Description
414	4	Small section of brick wall bonded to 418
415	4	Brick wall
416	4	Modern paving slabs directly to south-west of wall 415
417	4	Brick wall
418	4	Sandstone slab (forming a step?) directly to north-west of wall 417
419	4	Brick wall bonded to wall 420
420	4	Brick wall
421	4	Ephemeral clinker spread
422	4	Trench for modern services
501	5	Demolition debris (= 101)
502	5	Coal-rich deposit, fill of 505
503	5	Greyish fill of feature 504 (= 519)
504	5	Cut of sub-circular feature (= 520)
505	5	Cut of sub-circular feature
506	5	Black clinker-type layer above 536
507	5	Redeposited clay infill of wall 514
508	5	Backfilled material with drain 509
509	5	Brick drain
510	5	Cut for brick drain 509
511	5	Dark grey ash-clinker layer above 508
512	5	Purple-brown clinker layer above 519
514	5	Sandstone wall in middle of trench
515	5	Sandstone wall at north end of trench. bonded to 514
516	5	Sandstone wall in section of trench, bonded to 515
517	5	Sandstone wall bonded to 514
518	5	Blue-grey fill (= 536)
519	5	Greyish-brown fill of pit 520
520	5	Cut of circular pit

Context No	Trench	Description
521	5	Light grey fill of 505
522	5	Mid-grey fill of 505
523	5	Dark grey fill of 505
524	5	Black clinker-rich fill at north end of trench, top fill of 527
525	5	Mixed clay deposit beneath 524 , fill of 527
526	5	Grey clayey-sand beneath 525 , fill of 527
527	5	Cut of sub-circular pit
528	5	Mixed clay deposit beneath wall 514 (=531)
529	5	Reddish-yellow boulder clay (Natural subsoil)
530	5	Cut below 527
531	5	Mixed (redeposited?) clay fill of 530 , cut by 527 , same as 528
532	5	Gas service trench cutting 524
533	5	Cut of large circular pit
534	5	Brick structure – vehicle inspection pit
535	5	Black fill of 533
536	5	Mixed clay fill of 533 above 535
537	5	Mixed grey-brown clay deposit below 535
538	5	Blackish-grey silty-sand deposit below 537
601	6	Demolition layer
602	6	Brick wall along centre of trench
603	6	Stone/brick drain to south-west of 602
604	6	Return wall of 602
605	6	Natural clay subsoil
701	7	Demolition layer
702	7	Brick wall
703	7	Brick wall
704	7	Cut of large pit
705	7	Natural subsoil

APPENDIX 3: FINDS CATALOGUE

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
101	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
102	Ceramic	?Mould	12	Fragments	Not closely dateable
107	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
120	Copper alloy	Object/lump	1	Very corroded	Not closely dateable
201	Ceramic	?Mould	2	Fragments	Not closely dateable
201	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem with medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
201	Ceramic	Pottery	2	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock rims	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
201	Ceramic	Pottery	2	Black-glazed red earthenware thin-walled hollow-ware vessels	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
201	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed beige earthenware bowl rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
201	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Reddish-brown glazed red earthenware platter rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
201	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Mottled ware holloware base	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
201	Copper alloy	Object	1	Ring	Nineteenth - twentieth century
202	Ceramic	?Mould	61	Fragments	Not closely dateable
202	Copper alloy	Object	1	Thin sheet scrap	Post-medieval
203	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
301	Bone	Animal	1	Sheep/goat radius, proximal shaft and end splinter	Not closely dateable

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
301	Copper alloy	Object	1	Two-part button, top half impressed with royal crest	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Brown-glazed drain pipe	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Unidentified	Post-medieval
301	Ceramic	?Mould	6	Fragments	Not closely dateable
301	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	5	Stems with medium and medium-wide bores	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	7	Porcelain tea cup decorated with enamelled chinoiserie scene	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Porcelain tea cup rim with single gilded line	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Porcelain cream jug rim with brown transfer	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	4	White earthenware slipware tankard	Late eighteenth - nineteenth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware slipware bowl	Late eighteenth - nineteenth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	3	White earthenware ashet with blue painted edge	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware egg cup? rim, transfer-printed with Willow pattern	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware bowl/cup base, painted with cobalt decoration	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware plate base with blue transfer print	Late nineteenth - early twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware cup/bowl rim with blue transfer print	Nineteenth century

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
301	Ceramic	Pottery	7	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock and pancheon rim and bases	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Black-glazed red earthenware, possibly fineware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
301	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Olive-glazed cream earthenware lid from lidded jug	Nineteenth - twentieth century?
301	Copper	Slag	1	Vesicular lump of copper rake-type slag	Not closely dateable
301	Glass	Bottle	2	Colourless 'Hanson's Dairies' milk bottles, one manufactured by UGB	Twentieth century
301	Glass	Bottle	2	Brown beer bottles	Twentieth century
301	Glass	Bottle	2	Green cylindrical bottles	Nineteenth - twentieth century
301	Glass	Bottle	1	Colourless 'Grimshaw & Culshaw Ltd, Wigan & Scorton' milk bottle, manufactured by C.T.G. (Canning Town Glass)	Twentieth century
301	Glass	Bottle	1	Colourless screw-top bottle	Twentieth century
301	Iron	Object	1	Corroded disc, possibly a lid	Nineteenth - twentieth century
303	Bone	Animal	1	Large mammal unidentified fragment	Not closely dateable
303	Ceramic	Pottery	3	Northern Gritty Ware	Twelfth – thirteenth century
308	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem with wide bore	Seventeenth - early twentieth century
308	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Mottled ware base	Seventeenth – eighteenth century
322	Bone	Animal	1	Cattle mandible fragment	Not closely dateable

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
322	Bone	Animal	1	Cattle tibia, proximal shaft and end splinter, stained green	Not closely dateable
322	Bone	Animal	1	Large mammal unidentified fragment, stained green	Not closely dateable
322	Ceramic	?Mould	3	Fragments	Not closely dateable
322	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock/jar	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
323	Bone	Animal	1	Cattle/red deer mandible fragment	Not closely dateable
335	Ceramic	?Mould	38	Fragments	Not closely dateable
335	Copper	Slag	2	Lumps of charred plant remains with copper vesicular slag adhering to them	Not closely dateable
336	Copper	Slag	1	Vesicular lump of copper rake-type slag	Not closely dateable
337	Ceramic	Pottery	3	Fine Sandy Ware	Thirteenth – fifteenth century
346	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Fine Sandy Ware	Thirteenth – fifteenth century
401	Bone	Animal	1	Cattle tibia, proximal end only. Unfused young shaft, sawn off rest of shaft in dismembering the back leg	Not closely dateable
401	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Green-glazed fire place or wall tile with relief decoration	Nineteenth - early twentieth century
401	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Brown-glazed gamekeeper's sink with impressed decoration	Nineteenth - twentieth century
401	Ceramic	?Mould	8	Fragments	Not closely dateable
401	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem with medium-wide bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
401	Ceramic	Pottery	12	Brown-glazed red earthenware globular jar	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
401	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
401	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Metallic-brown-glazed grey stoneware	Eighteenth - twentieth century
401	Copper alloy	Object	1	Heavy hand-bell, missing clapper	Post-medieval
402	Ceramic	Pottery	3	Brown-glazed red earthenware jar/crock	Late seventeenth - eighteenth century
403	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Tile or brick	Post-medieval
501	Ceramic	?Mould	1	Fragments	Not closely dateable
501	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	11	Stems with medium and very wide bores, one with impressed maker's mark: H.TUNSTAL...	Seventeenth - early twentieth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Biscuit porcelain figure fragment	Nineteenth - twentieth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	2	White earthenware slipware bowl	Late eighteenth - nineteenth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White earthenware child's plate base, with moulded and painted leaves on rim and black transfer in well with acorn and oak leaf border and text '[...] Albert [...]'	Nineteenth - early twentieth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	9	Brown-glazed red earthenware crocks and jug	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware skillet handle	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed orange earthenware base	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed orange earthenware platter rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Black-glazed orange earthenware jar/pancheon	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed creamy-orange earthenware crock rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	4	Mottled-glazed beige earthenware	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
501	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Streaky-red-glazed reddish-orange earthenware	Seventeenth - eighteenth century?
501	Copper	Slag	1	Vesicular lump of copper rake-type slag with fuel residue attached	Not closely dateable
501	Copper alloy	Object	1	Part of spoon	Post-medieval
501	Glass	Bottle	1	Dark olive green	Post-medieval
502	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock/jar	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
503	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	2	Fragments	Not closely dateable
506	Ceramic	?Mould	1	Fragments	Not closely dateable
506	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	2	Stems with medium-wide bores	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
506	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock/jar	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
507	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware crock/jar	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
507	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Mottled-glazed orangish-cream earthenware rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
507	Copper	Slag?	1	Copper or copper rake-type slag	Not closely dateable
511	Ceramic	Ceramic building material	1	Drain or tile	Post-medieval

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
511	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	3	Stems with medium and narrow bores	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	5	Brown-glazed red earthenware jar with everted rim	Late seventeenth - eighteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	2	Brown-glazed red earthenware handled globular vessel	Late seventeenth - eighteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	11	Brown-glazed red earthenware crocks/jars	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Mottled-glazed beige earthenware globular vessel	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed beige earthenware	Seventeenth - twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware with internal white slip coating and external white slip stripes	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed orange earthenware with internal white slip coating	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed orangish-pink earthenware bowl base with white slip decoration on interior	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Tin-glazed earthenware fragment with bluish tinge to the glaze	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	5	White earthenware bowl/cup base, plate rim, feather edge plate rim, and painted cobalt base	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	4	White earthenware green shell-edge plate rim, slipware hollow-ware vessel, blue transfer-printed flatware rim	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century
511	Ceramic	Pottery	1	White glazed stoneware sanitary ware?	Nineteenth - twentieth century
512	Bone	Animal	1	Horse's skull	Not closely dateable

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
512	Ceramic	?Mould	1	Fragments	Not closely dateable
512	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem with medium-wide bore	Seventeenth - early twentieth century
512	Shell	Marine bivalve	1	Cockle fragment	Not closely dateable
512	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
522	Ceramic	?Mould	1	Fragments	Not closely dateable
522	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Northern Gritty Ware	Twelfth – thirteenth century
524	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
524	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed beige earthenware platter?	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
525	Ceramic	Pottery	2	Northern Gritty Ware	Twelfth – thirteenth century
535	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware jar with everted rim	Late seventeenth - eighteenth century
536	Ceramic	?Mould	4	Fragments	Not closely dateable
601	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	4	Stems with medium and wide bores, one with green-glazed end	Seventeenth - early twentieth century
601	Ceramic	Pottery	2	Brown-glazed red earthenware jar/crock and jar rim	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
601	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-slip-coated cream earthenware plate rim	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
601	Ceramic	Pottery	3	White earthenware slipware hollow-ware vessel and plain base	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
601	Glass	Sheet	1	Window pane	Nineteenth - twentieth century

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
701	Ceramic	Clay tobacco pipe	1	Stem with wide bore	Seventeenth - early twentieth century
701	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Brown-glazed red earthenware pancheon rim	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
701	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Self-glazed beige earthenware mug handle?	Seventeenth - eighteenth century
701	Ceramic	Pottery	1	Olive-glazed grey stoneware jar	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
702	Ceramic	?Mould	1	Fragments	Not closely dateable