

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT
BOWLAND LODGE, BENWELL,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE,
TYNE AND WEAR**

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**An Archaeological Evaluation at Bowland Lodge, Benwell,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tyne and Wear**

Central National Grid Reference: NZ 2557 6442

Site Code: BLB 04

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November 2004**

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at Bowland Lodge, Benwell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The central National Grid Reference for the site is NZ 2257 6442. The evaluation was commissioned by Alston Murphy Associates on behalf of Malhotra and Company, in advance of a proposed extension to Bowland Lodge. The fieldwork was undertaken on 6th-8th September 2004.
- 1.2 The proposed development site is located in an area of considerable archaeological sensitivity, due to its proximity to the Hadrian's Wall corridor. Accordingly, an archaeological trenching evaluation was required. In broad terms, the aim of the evaluation was to inform the Local Planning Authority of the character of archaeological deposits at the site. Specifically, the aim of the work was to ascertain whether the proposed development lies on the line of the Vallum associated with Hadrian's Wall.
- 1.3 The evaluation comprised two trenches, located in the garden area to the north of Bowland Lodge. Natural clay was encountered at depth of c. 0.50m below the existing ground level in the northernmost part of the site and up to c. 1.0m below the existing ground level in the southernmost part of the site. Several linear features, probably associated with agricultural use of the site and probably dating from the medieval or post-medieval periods, were recorded in the trenches. Landscaping deposits and features, associated with the construction of the houses and gardens on the site at the end of the 19th century, were also encountered in both trenches investigated.
- 1.4 No archaeological features or deposits of significance were encountered within the two evaluation trenches. No trace of the Vallum associated with Hadrian's Wall was recorded. The archaeological features and deposits encountered in the trenches indicated that this part of Benwell remained as undeveloped agricultural land from the medieval period through to 1880's, after which it was subsumed in the urban sprawl of the west end of Newcastle.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report describes the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (hereinafter PCA) on 6th-8th September 2004, in advance of the construction of a proposed extension to Bowland Lodge, Benwell, Newcastle upon Tyne. The central National Grid Reference of the site is NZ 2257 6442 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Alston Murphy Associates on behalf of Malhotra & Company (hereinafter the Client), who propose to construct a two-storey extension on the north side of Bowland Lodge.
- 2.3 PCA was contracted to undertake an archaeological evaluation in order to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The aim of the evaluation was to inform the Local Planning Authority, Newcastle City Council (hereinafter NCC), of the character of archaeological deposits at the site to allow the impact of the development proposals upon the archaeological resource to be assessed.
- 2.4 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken according to a Specification,¹ compiled by the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer (hereinafter the TWAO), and a Project Design,² prepared by PCA. Prior to the field evaluation, an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site's archaeological potential had been prepared.³
- 2.5 Bowland Lodge and its grounds cover an area of c. 4,250 m². The area investigated was confined to c. 1,200m² immediately north of Bowland Lodge, within the footprint of the proposed extension. The site is bounded to the north by Benwell Fire Station, to the east by the grounds of Croft House, to the south by Western Avenue, and to the west by Western Drive (Figure 2).
- 2.6 At the time of the evaluation, the site was located within the overgrown garden of Bowland Lodge. Trees and smaller vegetation, two disused fuel tanks and a brick retaining wall associated with garden terracing were the only features on the site at the time of the fieldwork. The archaeological trenches were sited to avoid these features, whilst gaining the maximum amount of information from within the footprint of the proposed extension.
- 2.7 At the time of writing, the entire project archive is housed at the Northern Office of PCA at Unit N19a, Tursdale Business Park, Durham, DH6 5PG. The completed project archive, comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited at The Museum of Antiquities, Department of Archaeology, Newcastle University, under the site code BLB 04.

¹ Newcastle City Council, 2004.

² PCA, 2004.

³ Tyne and Wear Museums, 2004.

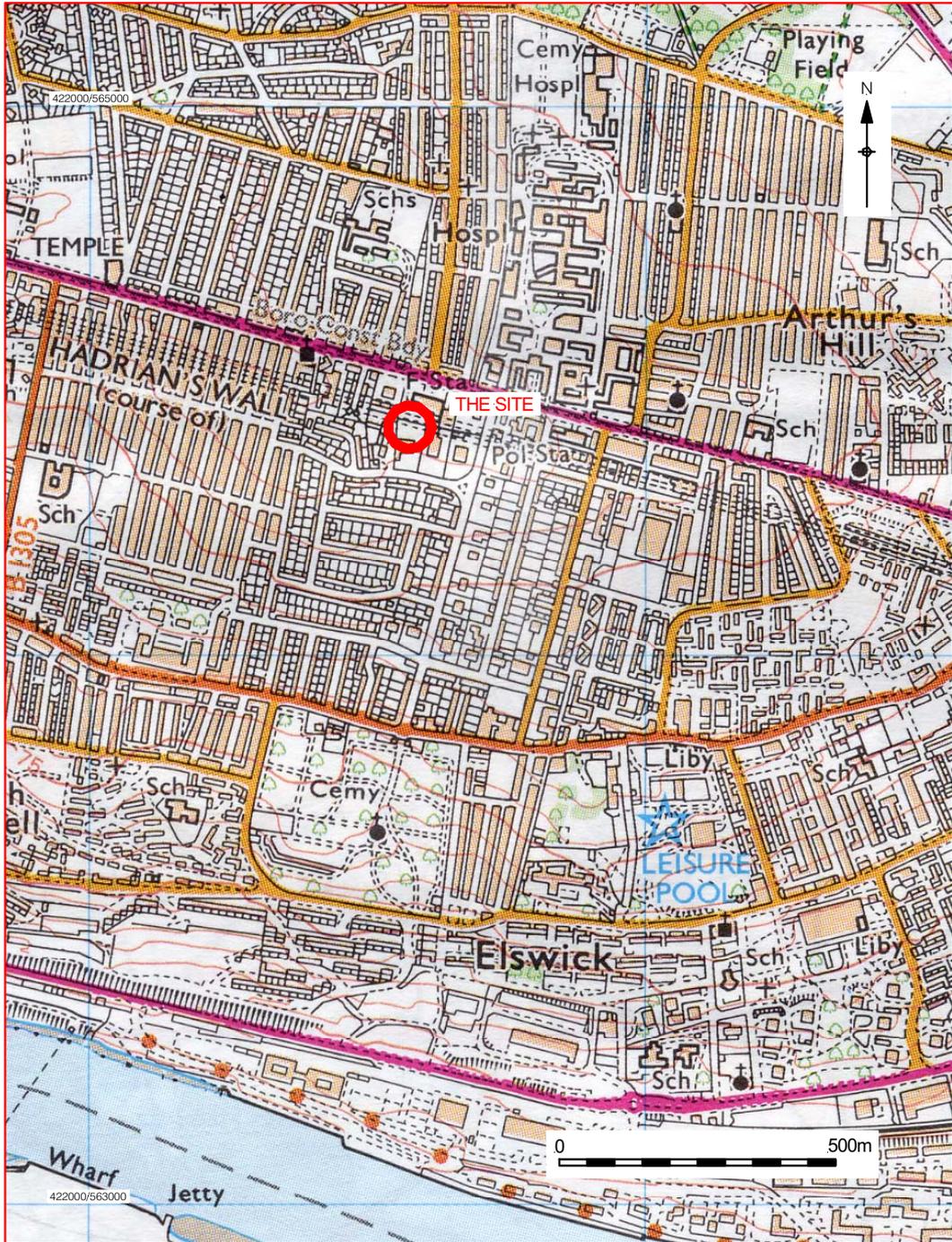


Figure 1. Site location
Scale 1:12,500

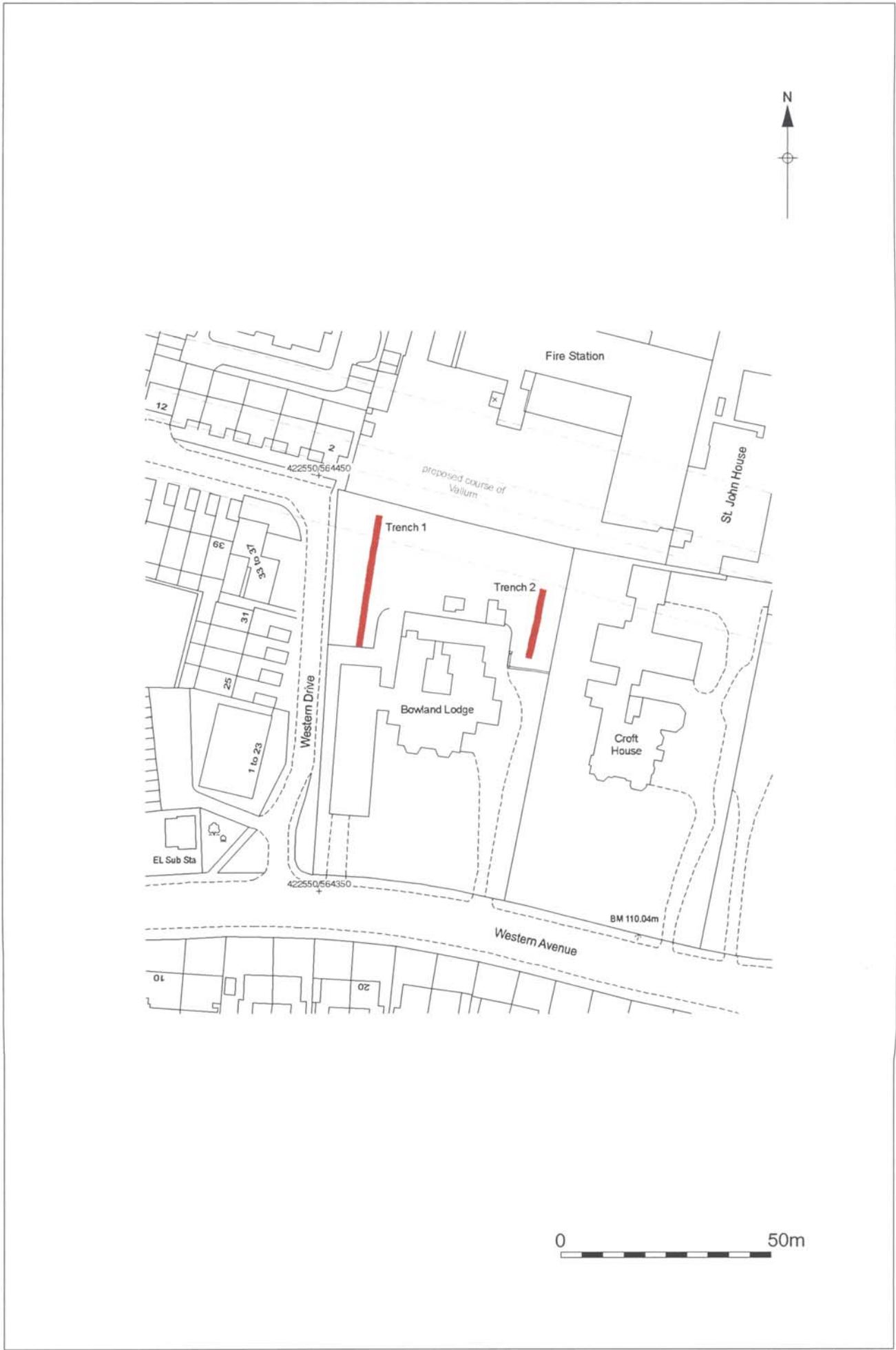


Figure 2. Trench location
Scale 1:1250

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 Planning Background

- 3.1.1 An application has been submitted for planning permission for the development of Bowland Lodge, Benwell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, through the addition of a two-storey extension. Bowland Lodge is now used as a residential care home, consisting of what were previously two substantial 19th century semi-detached houses. A modern single-storey extension adjoins the western side of the Bowland Lodge.
- 3.1.2 The need for early consultation in the planning process in order to determine the impact of development schemes upon the archaeological resource is identified in the document '*Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: 'Archaeology and Planning'*' (PPG 16).⁴ The TWAO attached to NCC has responsibility for archaeological development control in Tyne and Wear. The TWAO identifies planning proposals that will be subject to archaeological conditions.
- 3.1.3 Foundations for the proposed extension to Bowland Lodge could potentially threaten sub-surface archaeological remains. Accordingly, the TWAO determined that archaeology would be a material consideration in the determination of the planning application for the development of the site. It was the recommendation of the TWAO that a programme of archaeological assessment and evaluation should be undertaken at the site prior to determination of the planning application, in order to further inform the planning decision.
- 3.1.4 Initially, an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken on behalf of the Client. This assessment concluded that the land under consideration is located in an area of potential archaeological sensitivity. In summary, the site lies within the Hadrian's Wall corridor, which although not Scheduled in this particular area, is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Wall itself lies beyond the northern boundary of the site, probably under the existing West Road. Prior to the construction of Bowland Lodge in the early 1880's, cartographic evidence from 1743 showed that the site was open agricultural land. Previous archaeological work to the north of the development area produced no positive evidence of the Vallum, which suggested that it lies somewhere south of the position currently shown on Ordnance Survey maps, possibly crossing the area proposed for development at Bowland Lodge.
- 3.1.5 Accordingly, the TWAO prepared a Specification for field evaluation and a Project Design was prepared by PCA prior to the fieldwork and approved by the TWAO.

3.2 Research Objectives

- 3.2.1 In broad terms, the archaeological evaluation aimed to establish the date, nature, extent and significance of archaeological remains at the site as evidenced by any buried deposits and features and any artefactual and ecofactual evidence that they may contain.

⁴ Department of the Environment, 1990.

3.2.2 The specific objectives of the archaeological trial trenching were:

- to determine the presence/absence of the Vallum on the development site;
- to determine or confirm the approximate extent and date of any archaeological remains;
- to determine the condition and state of preservation of any archaeological remains;
- to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
- to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present;
- to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

3.2.3 Additional aims and objectives of the project are:

- to set out the background of the site, drawing together the results of previous archaeological, historical, and environmental work in the area;
- to compile a site archive consisting of all site and project documentary and photographic records, as well as artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material recovered;
- to compile a report that contains an assessment of the nature and significance of the stratigraphic, artefactual, archaeological and palaeoenvironmental data.

3.2.4 Trial trenches were used to investigate the archaeological potential and assess the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

3.2.5 The evaluation aimed to provide sufficient data to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be devised to minimise the impact of the proposed development upon the site's archaeological resource.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development was undertaken in March 2004. A summary of the site's archaeological and historical background is set out below. PCA gratefully acknowledges the research of those responsible.

4.1 Prehistoric

- 4.1.1 Evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is represented by one find, a perforated axe-hammer of Neolithic or early Bronze Age date, discovered c. 950m west of the site. As the provenance of this object is not secure, it cannot be taken as evidence of intensive activity in the immediate vicinity of the site.

4.2 Roman

- 4.2.1 The site lies c. 950m to the east of Benwell Roman fort, in the Hadrian's Wall corridor. Although not scheduled in this particular part of Newcastle, the Wall corridor as a whole has been designated as UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Wall itself lies to the north of the site, probably beneath the existing West Road; the foundations of the Wall were observed under the southern carriageway of West Road in 2002. Of particular relevance to the site are the defensive earthworks lying to the south of the Wall, collectively known as the Vallum.
- 4.2.2 Hadrian's Wall in the vicinity of the site consisted of a stone wall c. 5m high and c. 3m wide. About 6.50m to the north of the Wall was a V-shaped ditch, c. 10m wide and c. 4m deep. To the south of the Wall was the Military Way, a road intended to provide a means of communication and transport between sites on the Wall. In 2003, the Military Way was located, in well-preserved condition, c. 1km to the west of the site, running c. 30m to the south of the frontage of West Road. If this were the case in this part of Benwell, the Military Way would run to the north of the site.
- 4.2.3 The main component of the Vallum was a massive flat-bottomed ditch, c. 6.50m wide and c. 3.0m deep. About 10m either side of this ditch, large linear mounds were created from the upcast material from the ditch. These measured c. 2m in height by c. 6m wide. The interval between the mounds and the ditch is known as the 'berm'. The standard width of the Vallum features – including all the above elements – is 36.60m (this distance is the equivalent of 120 feet, the Roman surveying unit known as an *actus*). The precise line of the Vallum is uncertain, since the distance between the Vallum ditch and the Wall itself is variable along the Wall corridor. The commonly accepted interpretation of the Vallum is that it represented a demarcation of the militarised zone from civilian land to the south.
- 4.2.4 In 2002, an archaeological evaluation at Prospect House, c. 150m east of the Bowland Lodge site, aimed to locate the Vallum ditch and northern mound as depicted by the Ordnance Survey, running at a distance of c. 80m from the expected line of the Wall under the West Road. No evidence of the features was found, suggesting that the Vallum ditch lies to the south of the line shown on the Ordnance Survey, perhaps at a distance nearer to 100m, which would be consistent with antiquarian and earlier map evidence. This would indicate the line of the Vallum probably crosses the Bowland Lodge development area.

4.2.5 A detailed summary of antiquarian accounts of the Vallum in the vicinity of Benwell fort is given in the desk-based assessment report.

4.2.6 In summary, it is the high potential for remains of the Roman period, particularly those associated with the Vallum, that underlie the requirement for archaeological evaluation at the site.

4.3 Medieval

4.3.1 Remains of the early medieval period were not expected at the site, although two Anglo-Saxon brooches were recovered east of the fort at Benwell.

4.3.2 After the Norman Conquest, Elswick formed part of the barony of Bolam and may have formed part of the lands held by Tynemouth Priory from the early 12th century. There are documentary references from the medieval period suggesting that the priors held an estate in Elswick until the Dissolution in 1539. It is likely that a manor house or tower formed the focus of a small village in the area. Documents also record coal mining from as early as the late 13th century in Elswick.

4.4 Post-medieval

4.4.1 Map regression, undertaken as part of the desk-based assessment, indicated that the site lay in essentially undeveloped land, to the south of the Wall corridor, until the late 19th century. The earliest detailed plan of Elswick to be consulted was Thompson's survey of 1743. Interestingly, this indicates that fields bordering the south side of the West Road (marked 'road from Hexham to Newcastle') are composed of narrow plots of land apparently constricted by and respecting the line of the Vallum.

4.4.2 Bowland Lodge is in use as a residential care home and consists of what were originally two substantial late 19th century semi-detached houses. A large modern single-storey extension occupies the western driveway of the property.

4.4.3 The property does not appear on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map from 1860. The main body of the property is unaltered from that depicted on a plan of 1885, which indicated proposed side-wings to be added to the two original semi-detached houses.

5. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Geology

- 5.1.1 The underlying geology of the site comprises Carboniferous Coal Measures overlain by glacial drift deposits.

5.2 Topography

- 5.2.1 At the time of the evaluation, the area of the development footprint was situated on very slightly sloping (down from north to south) ground, at c. 112m OD, immediately north of Bowland Lodge but separated from the building itself by a sharp drop in ground level of c. 0.75m. This terracing was created in the 19th century at the time of the construction of the two houses currently known as Bowland Lodge. A range of small outbuildings stood to the rear of the original semi-detached dwellings, although these now been demolished, the only remnant being the eastern gable wall of a former structure. The approximate footprint of the former outbuildings can be traced as an indistinct earthwork. Two metal fuel tanks occupy the site of the former outbuildings; these are surrounded by a low brick wall.
- 5.2.2 At the time of the evaluation, the original terrace retaining wall to the rear of the property survived almost completely to the east, surmount by a decorative cast iron railing. The corresponding wall to the west survived only partially. The rear garden – the site of the evaluation – was generally overgrown, with mature trees along its boundaries and further trees along the former boundary between the original two houses. Original brick garden walls surrounded the site to the north, east and west. There was no visible trace of the Vallum or associated features within the site.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 Trial Trenching

- 6.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork at Bowland Lodge was undertaken in accordance with the relevant standard and guidance document of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.⁵ Archaeological investigations were conducted within two trenches during the field evaluation described within this report (Figure 2). The trench locations were suggested in the Specification for the work prepared by the TWAO.
- 6.1.2 Trench 1, located in the western part of the proposed development footprint, measured 31.70m north-south x 1.80m wide. It was not possible to excavate the trench further to the south since a fire escape route had to be maintained from the western extension of Bowland Lodge. Trench 2, located within the eastern side of the development footprint, measured 16.80m north-south x 1.80m. In accordance with the Specification, the trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of c. 0.90m, the depth of the proposed foundations for the development.
- 6.1.3 A back-acting 180°, JCB-type, mechanical excavator using a wide-blade ditching (non-toothed) bucket was used to remove overburden and non-archaeologically significant material gradually in spits of approximately 100mm thickness, down to the first significant archaeological horizon, the undisturbed natural sub-stratum or the level of the proposed foundation depth, whichever came first. Spoil was mounded away from the trenches by the machine. All work was directed by the supervising archaeologist.
- 6.1.4 Subsequent excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with recognised archaeological practice and following methodology set out in PCA's field recording manual.⁶ Following machine clearance, the sections and the base of each trench were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Any archaeological features were investigated through hand-excavation. One long section of each trench and sections through archaeological features were drawn to scale. The trenches were planned to scale and located relative to the Ordnance Survey grid.
- 6.1.5 Archaeological deposits were recorded using a 'single context recording' system. Features, deposits and structures were recorded on *pro forma* context record sheets. A 'Harris Matrix' stratification diagram to record stratigraphic relationships was compiled and checked during the course of the fieldwork.
- 6.1.6 Within appropriate archaeological horizons, partial excavation, the recovery of dating evidence or cleaning and recording of deposits was preferred to full excavation, and was practised wherever possible.
- 6.1.7 A photographic record of the investigations was compiled using SLR cameras. This comprised black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm film), illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. All photographs included a legible graduated metric scale.

⁵ IFA, 1999.

⁶ PCA, 1999.

6.1.8 A Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) was established on the site from the Ordnance Survey Bench Mark (110.04m OD) located on Western Avenue. The TBM had a value of 111.92m OD. The height of all principal strata and features were calculated relative to Ordnance Datum and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

6.2 Post-Excavation

6.2.1 The site's stratigraphic data is represented by the written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 52 archaeological contexts were defined in the evaluation trenches (Appendix B). Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records, grouping contexts and phasing the stratigraphic data (Appendix A). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described below in Section 7.

6.2.2 The artefactual material from the site comprised a small assemblage of pottery, clay pipe and ceramic building material. The material was washed, dried, marked and packaged as appropriate and according to relevant guidelines.⁷ Specialist assessment was undertaken on the ceramic material (see Appendix C).

6.2.3 No other categories of inorganic artefactual material were represented.

6.2.4 The project's palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy was to recover bulk samples where appropriate, from well-dated (where possible), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation and the range of feature types represented, with specific reference to the objectives of the evaluation. To this end, no features of significance were encountered to warrant the recovery of bulk samples.

6.2.5 Survival of all materials from archaeological fieldwork depends upon suitable storage. The complete project archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records (including all material generated electronically during post-excavation) and all 'finds' will be packaged for long term curation according to relevant guidelines.⁸ None of the material recovered required specialist stabilisation or an assessment of its potential for conservation research. The depositional requirements of the receiving body, in this case The Museum of Antiquities, Department of Archaeology, Newcastle University, will be met in full.

⁷ Watkinson and Neal, 1998; UKIC, 1983.

⁸ UKIC, 1990.

7. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

Note: Discrete stratigraphic entities (e.g., a cut, a fill, a deposit) were assigned unique and individual archaeological 'context' numbers, and these are indicated in the following text as []. The archaeological sequence at the site has been described by stratigraphic phases, detailing the progression of deposition. Standard archaeological phase numbers have been allocated to each of the deposits encountered even where these may have formed as part of the natural geological sub-strata. These phases are indicated by Roman numerals (e.g., III).*

7.1 Phase I: Natural Sub-stratum

- 7.1.1 The natural sub-stratum, comprising sandy clay with occasional lenses of gravel and sand, was encountered in both trenches investigated. In Trench 1, the level at which the natural sub-stratum, [1], was encountered sloped down from a level of 111.78m OD in the north to 111.29m OD towards the southern end of the trench. The natural clay was not exposed in the southern most 10.0m of Trench 1 as it extended below the required limit of excavation. In Trench 2, the natural sub-stratum, [30], was exposed in the northern half of the trench, sloping down from a height of 111.53m OD in the north to 111.39m OD in the south.
- 7.1.2 These deposits are interpreted as boulder clays of glacial derivation, representing the natural sub-stratum. The level at which the deposits were encountered sloped down gradually from north to south, representing the natural topography of the area prior to landscaping.

7.2 Phase II: Medieval - Post-medieval

- 7.2.1 Towards the southern end of Trench 1, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by a deposit, [37], comprising mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay. This extended across the width of the trench and was recorded for a maximum distance of 3.40m north-south. Its maximum excavated thickness was 0.24m, to the south it continued below the limit of excavation. The highest level at which it was recorded was 111.33m OD, and the upper interface of the deposit sloped down from north to south reflecting the underlying topography. It has been interpreted as a developed agricultural soil and two sherds of pottery recovered from this deposit date from the medieval period and probably the 17th century, indicating that the deposit developed and was subject to re-working over a long period.
- 7.2.2 In Trench 2, the natural sub-stratum was overlain by a deposit, [24], comprising mid-dark brown clayey silt. It was excavated for a maximum thickness of 0.52m, continuing below the limit of excavation, and extended across the width of the trench for a distance of c. 4.0m north-south, truncated to the south. The highest level at which it was recorded was 111.51m OD. The deposit is interpreted as a developed agricultural soil, similar to the deposit encountered to the west in Trench 1.

7.2.3 In Trench 1, a linear feature, [7], truncated the natural sub-stratum towards the centre of the trench (Figures 3 and 5). It was orientated east-west and extended across the width of the trench. Its maximum width was 2.06m and its maximum depth was 0.18m. A 0.54m wide section was excavated through the feature, revealing a shallow, U-shaped profile, slightly steeper to the north than the south. The highest level at which the feature occurred was 111.80m OD. Its fill, [6], comprised mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay, from which an abraded sherd of pottery, broadly datable to the medieval period, was recovered. This feature is interpreted as a water channel or drainage gully, presumably associated with the agricultural use of the site. Assigned to Phase II on the basis of the small amount of dating evidence recovered, the feature could equally belong to Phase III.

7.3 Phase III: Post-medieval

7.3.1 In Trench 1, deposit [37] was partially overlain by a deposit, [40], comprising yellowish brown sandy clay (Figures 3 and 5). This extended across the trench and measured c. 0.80m north-south, its maximum thickness was 0.06m. It is interpreted as re-deposited natural boulder clay, probably a dump deposit. No dating evidence was recovered from this deposit.

7.3.2 An extensive deposit, [36], comprising brownish grey sandy clay was recorded across the southern portion of Trench 1, overlying the earlier deposits and the natural sub-stratum. This was recorded for a maximum distance of c. 4.0m north-south, continuing to the south beyond the limit of excavation, and had a maximum excavated thickness of 0.48m. The highest level at which it occurred was 112.0m OD. The deposit is interpreted as dumped material of post-medieval date, evidently pre-dating 19th century development of the area.

7.3.3 Towards the centre of Trench 1, deposit [36] was truncated by an east-west orientated linear feature, [10]. This measured 2.08m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.88m, continuing below the limit of excavation. It had an irregular-sided profile, steeper to the south than the north. The highest level at which the feature occurred was 111.92m OD. Its primary fill, [9], comprised mid orange brown sandy clay, from which a sherd of 18th or 19th century pottery was recovered. The upper fill, [8], comprised dark greyish brown sandy clay, which yielded pottery of probable 18th century date. This feature is interpreted as a boundary or drainage ditch, associated with agricultural use of the land prior to 19th century development.

7.3.4 In Trench 1, an east-west orientated linear feature, [3], truncated the natural sub-stratum towards the northern end of the trench (Figures 3 and 7). Its maximum width was 0.66m and its maximum depth was 0.08m. A section 0.48m wide was excavated, revealing a shallow, U-shaped profile. The highest level at which the feature occurred was 111.80m OD. Its fill, [2], comprised mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay. A short distance to the south, another east-west orientated feature, [5], truncated the natural sub-stratum (Figures 3 and 7). This was 0.93m wide and 0.26m deep and also had a U-shaped profile. Its fill, [4], comprised mid-dark orange brown sandy clay. These linear features are interpreted drainage or boundary ditches, presumably associated with the agricultural use of the site. No dating evidence was recovered from either feature.

- 7.3.5 Towards the northern end of Trench 2, the natural sub-stratum was truncated by an east-west orientated linear feature, [29]. Its maximum width was 0.68m and its maximum depth, seen in section, was 0.32m (Figures 4 and 6). The feature had moderately sloping sides and a flat base, at a height of 111.41m OD. Its primary fill, [28], comprised brown silty clay. A deposit [19], recorded in section and comprising mid brown clay silt, is interpreted as the probable upper fill of feature [29]. However, this is not certain, since it was truncated to the north and south by later features and may have been a later layer (Figure 6). The feature is interpreted as a linear drainage or boundary ditch, probably associated with post medieval agricultural use of the site.
- 7.3.6 In Trench 2, the Phase II developed soil, [24], was truncated by an east-west orientated linear feature, [27], recorded at a maximum height of 111.51m OD. The feature was 3.10m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m, continuing below the limited of excavation. Its primary fill, [26], comprised greyish brown silty clay pebbles. The upper fill, [25], comprised soft dark brownish grey silty clay, which yielded a small assemblage of medieval and post-medieval ceramic material, broadly indicating an 18th-19th century date for final infilling of the ditch. This feature is interpreted as a drainage or boundary ditch, also probably associated with the post-medieval agricultural use of the site. On the basis of form, alignment and location, ditch [27] can be reasonably equated with ditch [10] in Trench 1.

7.4 Phase IV: Post-medieval (19th-20th Century)

- 7.4.1 In the central portion of Trench 1, a layer, [38], comprising mid-dark brown sandy clay, sealed the upper fill of feature [10] and extended across the width of the trench for a distance of 8.34m north-south. It was up to 0.34m thick and was recorded at a maximum height of 112.05m OD. Layer [38] has been interpreted as a dump deposit, probably levelling material associated with the landscaping of the gardens in the late 19th century.
- 7.4.2 In the southern portion of Trench 1, was a layer, [35], comprising mid brownish grey sandy clay. This extended across the width of the trench and was recorded for a distance of c. 7.0m north-south, continuing to the south beyond the limits of excavation. It had a maximum thickness of 0.35m and was recorded at a maximum height of 111.90m OD. This is interpreted as a dump deposit, again probably levelling material associated with late 19th century landscaping.
- 7.4.3 Deposit [38] was cut through by an east-west orientated land drain, [42], which had evidently been positioned along the line of the infilled ditch, [10]. It measured 0.26m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.88m. Its fill, [41], comprised greyish brown sandy clay and towards the base of the feature the cylindrical ceramic drain pipes were exposed, but not fully excavated. To the north, deposit [38] was cut through by an east-west orientated probable land drain, [44]. This was 0.21m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.43m, which did not expose the drain pipes in the lower part of the feature.

- 7.4.4 The land drains described above and features [3] and [5] were truncated by a NW-SE orientated linear feature, [50]. This was traced in plan for a distance of 14.60m, where it extended to the NW and SE beyond the limit of the excavation. Its maximum width was 0.78m and it is interpreted as a possible land drain of 19th or 20th century date. Its fill, [49], comprised firm dark greyish brown sandy clay.
- 7.4.5 In the northern portion of Trench 1, was a layer, [39], which sealed feature [50]. It was recorded in section for a distance of c. 11.0m north-south, continuing to the north beyond the limit of excavation. This comprised mid brownish grey sandy clay and had a maximum thickness of 0.28m. Ceramic building material observed in this deposit suggests that it was a dump levelling deposit of 19th or 20th century date, probably associated with landscaping of the gardens.
- 7.4.6 Towards the northern end of Trench 1, dump deposit [39] was truncated by two east-west orientated probable land drains, [48] and [46]. These measured 0.39m and 0.24m wide, respectively, and were excavated to a maximum depth of 0.32m and 0.26m. Both features had near-vertical sided profiles and can be reasonably interpreted as land drains of 19th – 20th century date. The drains described above were presumably inserted after the land was turned over to residential development in the late 19th century.
- 7.4.7 In Trench 2, the Phase II developed soil, [24], was truncated by a NW-SE aligned feature, [23], at a maximum height of 111.39m OD (Figures 4 and 6). This was recorded for a maximum distance of c. 3.80m north-south, continuing to the south beyond the limit of excavation. The maximum exposed depth of the feature was 0.26m deep, continuing below the limit of excavation. A steep-sided profile was observed in section on the northern side of the feature and its fill, [22], comprised dark brownish grey clayey silt. This feature is interpreted as being associated with landscaping, probably contemporary with the construction of the residential properties now comprising Bowland Lodge, and dating to the late 19th century.
- 7.4.8 In Trench 2, infilled ditch [27] was partially overlain by a deposit, [20], comprising brownish grey clayey silt mixed with grey silty clay and greyish brown silt. This extended across the width of the trench for a distance of c. 6.50m north-south and was up to 0.40m thick, recorded at a maximum height of 111.86m OD. To the north, beyond several linear intrusions, the deposit probably continued as deposit [33]. Deposit [33] was overlain by layer [18], comprising yellowish brown sandy clay, up to 0.10m thick. This extended across the trench for a distance of c. 1.40m, continuing to the north beyond the limit of excavation. To the south, deposit [20] was overlain by a deposit, [21], comprising brownish yellow sandy clay. This extended for c. 9m at the southern end of Trench 2, continuing to the south beyond the limit of excavation. It was up to 0.62m thick and was recorded at a maximum height of 111.79m OD. Deposits [20] and [21] probably represent dump layers associated with landscaping at the time of construction of the residential properties now comprising Bowland Lodge, and therefore date to the late 19th century.

7.4.9 In the southern half of Trench 2, an east-west orientated land drain, [52], was recorded in section, with the cylindrical ceramic drain pipes exposed at the base of the feature. The drain trench measured 0.34m wide at the top and was 0.75m deep. It had been positioned along the line of infilled ditch [27] and, on that basis, the feature can be reasonably equated with drain [42], recorded in Trench 1. A similar feature, [32], was recorded to the north, cutting through deposit [20] in section. It was 0.32m wide, with a near-vertical sided profile. Although it was not excavated where exposed in plan cutting into the natural sub-stratum, the feature can be reasonably interpreted as a land drain, broadly contemporary with feature [52]. At the northern end of the trench, deposit [18] was truncated in section by another east-west orientated feature, [15]. It was 0.28m wide, with a near-vertical sided profile. Again it was not excavated below the level of the natural sub-stratum, but has been interpreted as a land drain of late 19th or 20th century date.

7.5 Phase IV: Modern

7.5.1 In the northern part of Trench 2, a linear feature, [17], was recorded in section only. It has been interpreted as a possible modern hedge line. Its fill, [16], comprised friable to soft mixed silt and clay deposits, disturbed by frequent root action.

7.5.2 In Trench 1, topsoil, [34], comprised a dark grey clayey sand deposit, up to 0.38m thick. It was recorded at a maximum height of 112.34m OD towards the northern end of the trench, falling away imperceptibly to the south, to a height of 112.04m OD.

7.5.3 In Trench 2, topsoil, [13], comprised a dark grey clayey silt deposit, up to 0.34m thick. It was recorded at a maximum height of 112.14m OD towards the northern end of the trench, falling away imperceptibly to the south, to a height of 111.86m OD.

7.5.4 In Trench 2, a modern tree bole, [12], cut through the topsoil. Its loose silty fill, [11], contained concrete, brick and glass, amongst other modern rubbish.



Figure 3. Trench 1, plan
Scale 1:75

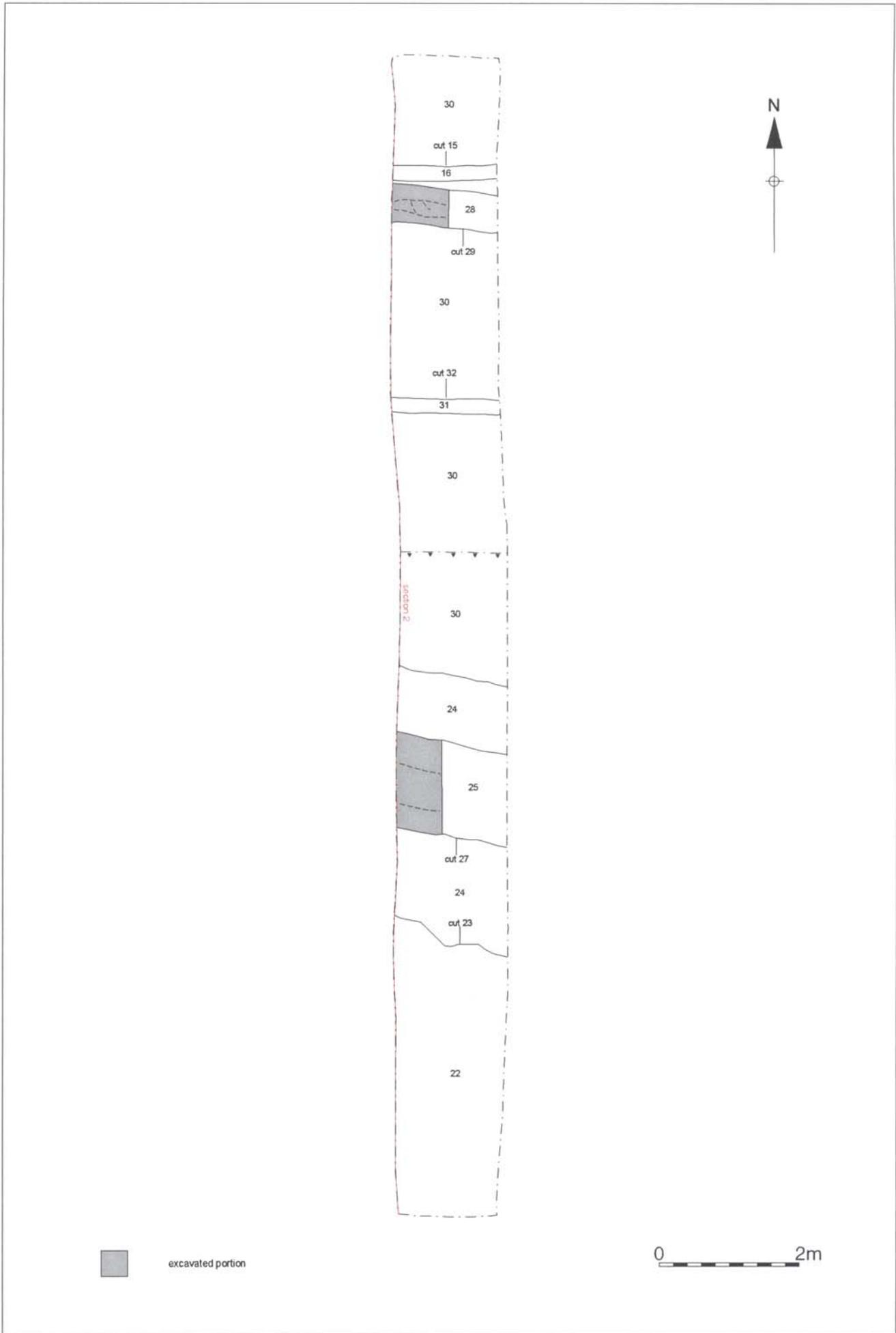
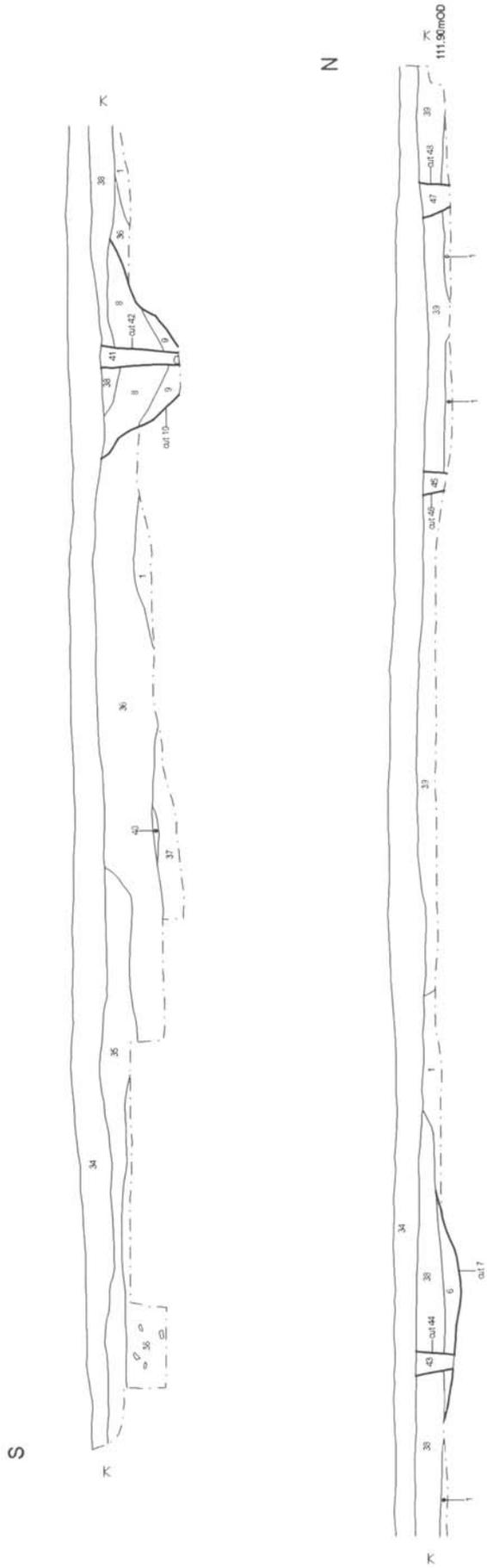
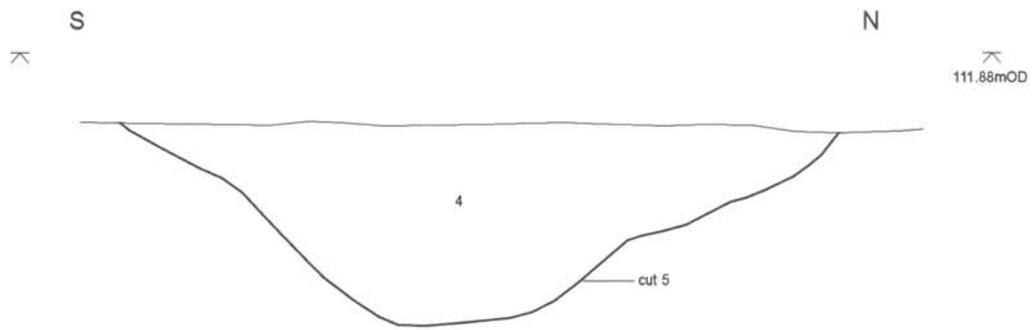


Figure 4. Trench 2, plan
Scale 1:75

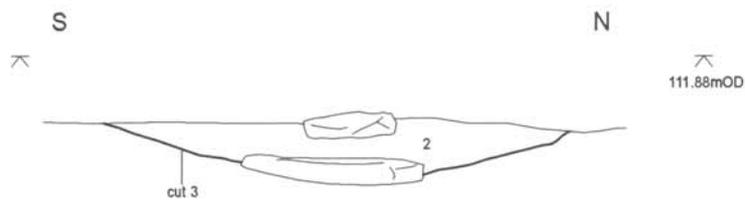


Section 1. East facing section, Trench 1.

Figure 5. Section 1
Scale 1:75



Section 3. East facing section, feature [5].



Section 4. East facing section, feature [3].



Figure 7. Sections 3 and 4
Scale 1:10

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The archaeological evaluation undertaken at Bowland Lodge did not reveal any significant archaeological remains within the areas investigated.
- 8.2 Features and deposits associated with probable agricultural use of the site, and dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods, were encountered in both trenches investigated. These comprised agricultural soils, drainage gullies, and drainage or boundary ditches. The archaeological evidence is consistent with documentary and cartographic evidence, which indicates that the area was used only as agricultural land before the 19th century.
- 8.3 Deposits representing terracing and ground make-up were also observed in both trenches. These have been interpreted as landscaping, probably dating from the early 1880's, associated with the construction of the original two houses that now form Bowland Lodge.
- 8.4 No evidence for the Vallum associated with the Hadrian's Wall corridor was encountered above the maximum permitted depth of excavation within the areas investigated. Furthermore, no artefactual material pre-dating the medieval period was recovered, even residually in context, during the fieldwork. It is surmised, therefore, that the line of the Vallum probably does not cross the proposed development area.

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10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS

Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Alston Murphy Associates for commissioning the work described in this report on behalf of Malhotra & Company. The liaison role of Mr I.A. Murphy is acknowledged.

The input of Jennifer Morrison, the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer, is also acknowledged.

PCA Credits

Fieldwork: Emma Allen, Adrian Bailey, Robin Taylor-Wilson (Site Supervisor)

Report: Sam Potter and Robin Taylor-Wilson

Project Manager: Robin Taylor-Wilson

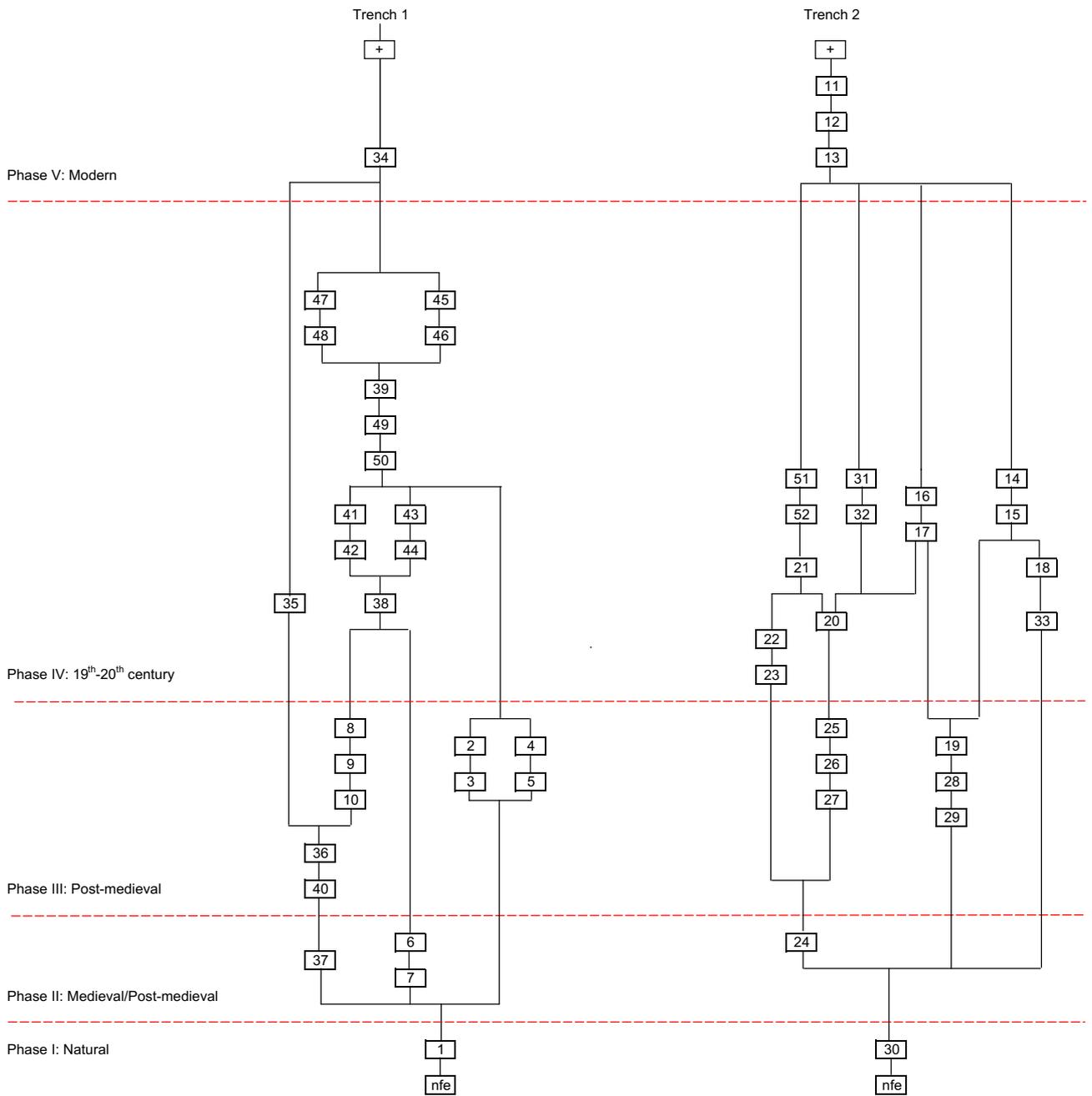
Post-Excavation Management: Jennifer Proctor

CAD: Adrian Bailey.

Other Credits

Ceramic Assessment: Jenny Vaughan (NCAS)

**APPENDIX A
STRATIGRAPHIC MATRIX**



**APPENDIX B
CONTEXT INDEX**

| Context | Trench | Type | Type | Phase | Description | Interpretation |
|---------|--------|---------|---------|-------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | I | Firm; light brownish yellow; clay with occasional lenses of gravel and sand; extends across Trench 1, recorded for distance of 24m N-S | Natural boulder clay |
| 2 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; mid-dark greyish brown; sandy clay; freq flecks of coal and charcoa; one small concentration of sandstone frags | Fill of [3] |
| 3 | 1 | Cut | Linear | III | Linear; orientated E-W; gradually sloping sides; U-shaped base; 0.66m wide x 90mm deep | Drainage gully |
| 4 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; mid-dark orange brown; sandy clay; freq charcoal flecks; occ coal and sandstone frags | Fill of [5] |
| 5 | 1 | Cut | Linear | III | Linear; orientated E-W; gradually sloping sides; U-shaped base; 0.93m wide x 0.26m deep | Drainage gully |
| 6 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | II | Firm; mid-dark greyish brown; sandy clay; freq flecks of coal and charcoal | Fill of [7] |
| 7 | 1 | Cut | Linear | II | Linear; orientated E-W; shallow, U-shaped profile; slightly steeper to the north than the south; 2.06m wide x 0.18m deep | Drainage gully |
| 8 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ fine sub-rounded pebbles; freq flecks of charcoal; 0.31m thick | Upper fill of [10] |
| 9 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; mid orange brown; sandy clay; occ small frags of coal; 90mm thick | Primary fill of [10] |
| 10 | 1 | Cut | Linear | III | Linear; orientated E-W; irregular-sided profile steeper to the south; base not seen; 2.08m wide x 0.88m maximum excavated depth | Drainage/boundary ditch |
| 11 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | V | Loose; black; clayey silt; freq root disturbance; mod large frags of concrete; occ small frags of brick, glass, chalky mortar and coal; 0.90m thick | Fill of [12] |
| 12 | 2 | Cut | Unknown | V | Seen in section only; moderately sloping southern side and slightly steeper northern side; flat base; 3.90m N-S x 0.90m deep | Tree bole |
| 13 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | V | Friable; dark grey; clayey silt; mod root disturbance; mod fine and medium rounded and sub-angular pebbles; occ flecks of coal and ceramic building material; maximum thickness 0.34m | Topsoil |
| 14 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Soft; mixed deposits of mid-dark brownish grey silty clay, light-mid brown yellow sandy clay and dark grey clayey silt; occ fine sub-angular pebbles and flecks of coal | Fill of [15] |
| 15 | 2 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; aligned E-W; almost vertical sides; base not seen; 0.28m wide x 0.30m maximum excavated depth | Land drain |
| 16 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | V | Friable to soft; mixed deposits of mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with lenses of light grey sandy clay and mid greyish brown clayey silt; freq root action; occ fine sub-angular pebbles and flecks of coal | Fill of [17] |
| 17 | 2 | Cut | Linear | V | Seen in section; probably E-W linear; steep sides; flat base; 1.36m wide x 0.26m deep | ?Former hedge line |
| 18 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Friable; light yellowish brown sandy clay mixed with greyish brown sandy silt; occ lenses of dark grey clayey silt, fine and medium rounded and sub-angular pebbles and flecks of coal; 1.42m N-S at the northern end of trench; up to 60mm thick | Dump |
| 19 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; mid brown; clayey silt; occ small frags of sandstone and coal; occ fine sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles; 0.23m thick | Upper fill of [29] |
| 20 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Friable; mid brownish grey; clayey silt mixed with grey silty clay and mid-dark greyish brown silt; occ lenses of light yellowish brown silty clay; occ small frags of sandstone, fine rounded and sub-angular pebbles, flecks and small pieces of coal and small pieces of chalky mortar; extends at least 6.50m N-S x 0.40m thick | Dump |
| 21 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Soft; mixed deposit, 75% redeposited natural, light brownish yellow sandy clay; occ lenses of mid-dark brownish grey clayey silt and mid grey silty clay; occ sandstone frags, brick and coal flecks; 9.0m N-S x up to 0.62m thick | Ground raising dump |
| 22 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Friable; dark brownish grey; clayey silt; mod small sandstone frags; occ flecks and small frags of charcoal, coal and slag; at least 0.34m thick | Fill of [23] |
| 23 | 2 | Cut | Unknown | IV | Possibly linear, although only part of north side seen; vertical sides; base not seen; at least 4.50m N-S x 1.80m E-W x 0.35m maximum excavated depth | Landscaping feature |
| 24 | 2 | Deposit | layer | II | Firm; mid-dark brown; clayey silt; occ frags of charcoal and sandstone; occ fine sub-angular pebbles; max thickness 0.52m | Developed soil |
| 25 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | III | Soft; dark brownish grey; silty clay; occ small sandstone frags, flecks and small fragments of coal and fine sub-angular pebbles; 0.70m thick | Upper fill of [27] |
| 26 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | III | Firm; light-mid greyish brown; silty clay; mottled with iron pan; occ frags of coal and fine sub-rounded pebbles; 0.20m maximum excavated thickness | Primary fill of ditch [27] |
| 27 | 2 | Cut | Linear | III | Linear; E-W aligned; steep sides; base not seen; 3.10m wide x 0.80m maximum excavated depth | Drainage or boundary ditch |
| 28 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | III | Soft; light-mid brown; silty clay; lenses of dark grey silty clay; occ small sandstone frags, charcoal flecks and fine sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles; up to 100mm thick | Primary fill of [29] |
| 29 | 2 | Cut | Linear | III | Linear; E-W aligned; concave sides; flat base; 0.68m wide x 0.32m deep | Drainage or boundary ditch |
| 30 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | I | Firm; mid brown orange; sandy clay; occ lenses of gravel and sand | Natural boulder clay |
| 31 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Mixed deposit; mid-dark grey silty clay, light-mid brownish grey sandy clay, light brownish orange clay; occ sandstone frags, fine and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles, flecks of coal; at least 0.40m thick | Fill of [32] |
| 32 | 2 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; near vertical sides; base not seen; 0.40m wide x 0.40m maximum excavated depth | Land drain |
| 33 | 2 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Friable; mid brownish grey; clayey silt mixed with grey silty clay and mid-dark greyish brown silt; occ lenses of light yellowish brown silty clay; occ small frags of sandstone, fine sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles, flecks and small frags of coal, small frags of chalky mortar; extends at least 1.45m N-S x 0.22m thick | Dump |
| 34 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | V | Firm; dark grey; clayey sand; freq root action; occ sandstone frags; maximum thickness 0.38m | Topsoil |
| 35 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Firm; mid brownish grey; sandy clay; occ clay pockets; mod small coal and sandstone frags; maximum thickness 0.35m | ?Dump |
| 36 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | III | Firm; mid brownish grey; sandy clay; freq small sub-angular sandstone frags; occ lumps of redeposited natural clay; frequent root action; maximum thickness | ?Dump |
| 37 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | II | Firm; mid-dark greyish brown; sandy clay; freq small charcoal frags; occ small sandstone frags; maximum thickness 0.24m | Developed soil |
| 38 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Firm; mid-dark brown; sandy clay; freq coal and charcoal; occ sandstone frags; seen for 8.34m; maximum thickness 0.34m | Dump |
| 39 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | IV | Firm; mid brownish grey; sandy clay; freq coal; occ lenses of re-deposited natural clay; occ small sub-angular sandstone and cbm frags; maximum thickness 0.28m | Dump |
| 40 | 1 | Deposit | Layer | III | Firm; yellowish brown; sandy clay; occ charcoal flecks and sandstone frags; maximum thickness 90mm | Colluvium? |
| 41 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ flecks of coal and charcoal; ceramic land drain exposed within fill but not excavated | Fill of [42] |
| 42 | 1 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; near vertical sides; base not seen; 0.13m wide x 0.44m maximum excavated depth | Land drain |
| 43 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ flecks of coal and charcoal; not excavated | Fill of [44] |

| Context | Trench | Type | Type | Phase | Description | Interpretation |
|---------|--------|---------|--------|-------|---|----------------|
| 44 | 1 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; not excavated; 0.10m wide | Land drain |
| 45 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ flecks of charcoal; not excavated | Fill of [46] |
| 46 | 1 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; not excavated; 90mm wide | Land drain |
| 47 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ coal and charcoal; not excavated | Fill of [48] |
| 48 | 1 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; not excavated; 0.11m wide | Land drain |
| 49 | 1 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; occ charcoal flecks; not excavated | Fill of [50] |
| 50 | 1 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated NW-SE; not excavated; 0.18m wide | ?Service |
| 51 | 2 | Deposit | Fill | IV | Loose; light-mid brownish grey; crushed and fragmented chalky mortar, with silty sand; occ fine and medium sub-rounded pebbles, occ flecks of charcoal; up to 0.75m thick; run of cylindrical ceramic drain pipes housed in base of feature | Fill of [52] |
| 52 | 2 | Cut | Linear | IV | Linear; orientated E-W; near vertical sides; base flat; 0.34m wide x 0.75m deep | Land drain |

APPENDIX C
CERAMIC ASSESSMENT

CERAMIC ASSESSMENT

By *Jenny Vaughan (NCAS)*

Introduction

A small assemblage of ceramic material, consisted of eleven fragments of pottery, one chip of roof tile and two clay pipe stems, was recovered during the evaluation at Bowland Lodge, Benwell.

Discussion

Two of the pottery fragments were medieval, but were so small and abraded as to have little significance. A small handle fragment from context [37] is in a fairly soft orange fabric and may be 17th century. The three other redware fragments are the harder darker type made in the region from the early/mid 18th century through to the 20th century. However, the presence of white salt glazed stoneware, and the absence of refined white earthenwares, suggests an 18th rather than 19th century date here. A stem bore of 5/64" for the clay pipe is not inconsistent with this date. The assemblage is too small to lend itself to further interpretation, although the material may suggest broad date ranges for the relevant deposits.

Catalogue

| Context | Ceramic type | No. | Wt (g) | Comment |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------|---|
| 6 | Medieval | 1 | 2 | Abraded pink/buff fragment |
| 8 | White salt gl stoneware | 3 | 18 | Small ring base ?cup |
| 9 | Black gl redware | 1 | 38 | 18 th /19 th c. type, flat fragment |
| 25 | White salt gl stoneware | 1 | 4 | - |
| 25 | Brown gl redware | 2 | 6 | 18 th /19 th c. |
| 25 | Medieval | 1 | 3 | Small discoloured fragment |
| 25 | Red tile | 1 | 7 | Small chip |
| 25 | Clay pipe stems | 2 | 8 | Stem bore 5/64" |
| 37 | Medieval | 1 | 5 | Abraded sandy, light brown with grey core |
| 37 | Glazed redware | 1 | 8 | Small side handle. 17 th c.? |

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