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Anthony Walker Contractor + Partners	
County Cumbria	
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**A66 TRUNK ROAD
TEMPLE SOWERBY BYPASS
AND IMPROVEMENT TO WINDERWATH**

PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DRAFT SEPTEMBER 1993

**ANTHONY WALKER AND PARTNERS
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NE2 1TP**

A66 TEMPLE SOWERBY BYPASS AND IMPROVEMENT TO WINDERWATH

INITIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL

Introduction

An initial archaeological appraisal of the proposed route of this road scheme was undertaken in September 1993 by Anthony Walker and Partners. It should be noted that this work and following report is preliminary in nature and does not constitute a full desk-top assessment.

The village of Temple Sowerby (centred on NGR NY 611270) is situated midway between Penrith and Appleby on the A66 Trunk Road, in the valley of the River Eden. The area under consideration stretches from Whinfall House, approximately 3km north-west of Temple Sowerby, to Spitals, 1km to the south-east of the village. The area is predominantly attractive undulating agricultural land, overlooked from the east by the Pennine escarpment. Most of the fields are arable or improved pasture, with a few rough pasture fields. The River Eden passes approximately 0.5km to the west of the village, in a steep-sided valley bottom. Three route options for the bypass (A-C) have already been rejected; this appraisal therefore only considers the fourth, route option D, which passes to the south and west of the village.

Data Sources

The information recorded below is derived from the Cumbria County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), held by Cumbria County Council Planning Department in Kendal, an inspection of 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps held in the Cumbria Record Office in Kendal, and from an initial walkover survey conducted by Anthony Walker and Partners. A list of the sources consulted is given as Appendix 1.

Archaeological Background

The fertile valley of the River Eden has been a favoured location for human occupation since prehistoric times. Agricultural operations over many years have ensured that few early settlement sites are recognisable above the ground surface, but many sites of prehistoric and/or Roman date can be recognised from the air as cropmarks, formed by the differential growth of crops over buried archaeological features. The nature of cropmark evidence is such that it often represents no more than a fraction of the true extent and complexity of each site. A number of cropmark sites lie close to Temple Sowerby and route option D.

The modern rural settlement pattern was largely established during the period between the end of the Roman occupation in the early 5th century AD and the Norman Conquest in the 11th century. Settlements dating from this period are sometimes covered by more recent villages and towns. In many cases, aspects of their formation and development can be traced through place-name evidence and the recognition of relict features in the landscape, such as patterns of field division and settlement morphology.

Many features which no longer exist can be identified on maps which predate the intensive agricultural activities of this century. Although the earliest buildings in Temple Sowerby date from the 17th century, the layout of the village is characteristic of many medieval villages. The first element of its name probably refers to a connection with the medieval crusading order of the Knights Templar while the second element is Scandinavian in origin, suggesting that a settlement existed here in the 9th to 11th centuries.

The Archaeology of Route Option D

The County SMR records only two sites which are directly affected by the proposed route option D.

The present course of the A66 lies approximately on the alignment of High Street Roman Road (SMR 1809). Cropmark evidence from a site to the north-west of Eden Bridge suggests that the Roman bridging point over the River Eden may have been located further to the south than the present bridge, closer to Route D (see SMR 3910). A Roman milestone stands near Spitals, on the north side of the present A66 south-east of Temple Sowerby, and is a scheduled ancient monument.

SMR 6178 (centred on NGR NY 617265) is a cropmark site representing two sides of a square enclosure. Its date, importance and significance is not known at present due to the low level of available information, but it is likely to represent part of an Iron Age or Romano-British settlement or field system. This site has been identified in Volume 1 of the Site Inspection Report submitted to the Landscape Advisory Committee, but it covers the whole of the field rather than the smaller area shown on Figure 4 of that report.

In addition to the above, a rectangular cropmark enclosure (SMR 5130, centred on NGR NY 621261) lies adjacent to the south-eastern end of the route option. At present, its spatial extent and importance is unknown.

A comparison of the modern 1:10,000 maps with 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 25" and 6" maps, made around the turn of the century, reveals that the field pattern to the south of the village and through which the route option passes is virtually unchanged, as are the routes of the footpaths and bridleways. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey 25" maps of approximately 1859, where available, also show very little change and this field system is likely to have been established at the time the open medieval fields were enclosed in 1773.

The fields immediately adjacent to Temple Sowerby show a distinctive pattern of long narrow strips positioned at right angles to the main street. These probably represent the "crofts" associated with houses located along the medieval street frontage, and their ends mark the division between the medieval village and the outlying fields. The field pattern suggests two possible lines for this division, both of which are crossed by route option D. It should be noted that the remnants of the medieval field system extends beyond the "hazard" zone identified in the Site Inspection Report submitted to the Landscape Advisory Committees (volume 1, figure 4).

Conclusions and Recommendations

Although the effects of the proposed scheme on the known archaeological resource appear not to be severe, the proposals will directly affect one archaeological site listed in the SMR. It also passes close to at least one other site whose extent is unknown, and affects the probable south-western fringe of the medieval village of Temple Sowerby. The course of the Roman road is unclear to the north-west of the village, and there are indications that its route, and the position of the Roman crossing of the Eden, may be further to the south than the present Eden Bridge and closer to route option D.

More importantly, an appraisal report such as this cannot fully determine the archaeological implications of the route option or the archaeological potential of the study area, and there is a likelihood that some archaeological deposits will extend into the areas of proposed works.

In order to assess the impact the proposals might have on the archaeological resource, it is recommended that a full and detailed desk-top survey be carried out in line with Stage 2 of the various stages of archaeological assessment work identified in the DOT's Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (volume 11). This work should collate all existing archaeological data including aerial photographic information and make appropriate recommendations for a programme of field evaluation. The results of this work would then allow a detailed evaluation of impact to be made, leading to an appropriate mitigation strategy in line with current DOT, DOE and County Council requirements.

Appendix 1: List of Sources Consulted

Cumbria County Sites and Monuments Record, County Offices, Kendal

Ordnance Survey maps seen at Cumbria Record Office, Kendal:

OS 25" map sheets

- 4.11 1st ed. (approx. 1859) and 2nd ed. (1899)
- 4.15 1st ed. (approx. 1859)
- 4.16 1st ed. (approx. 1859) and 2nd ed. (1899)
- 8.3 1st ed. (approx. 1859)
- 8.4 1st ed. (approx. 1859)
- 8.8 1st ed. (approx. 1859) and 2nd ed. (1898)

OS 6" map sheets:

- 4 SE 2nd ed. (1900)
- 8 NE 2nd ed. (1899)

Appendix 2: Additional Relevant Sources Identified In Cumbria Record Office, Kendal

Tithe Maps and Apportionments

Temple Sowerby (1840)
Brougham (1839)

WDRC/8/68 & 68a
WDRC/8/19

Enclosure Maps and Awards

Temple Sowerby (1773/4) WQR/I 87
Brougham Moor and Sandwath (1776) WD/K 332
Cliburn Ling (1836/67) WQR/I 16

Old County Maps

"Westmorlandiae Comitatus Qui Olim Spectavit Ad Brigantes"
Christopher Saxton, 1610
"The Countie Westmorland and Kendale the Chief Town Described" John
Speed, 1676
"Westmorland" Richard Blome, 1672-1673
"Westmorland" Robert Morden, 1695
"The County of Westmorland" (1" = 1 mile) Thomas Jeffereys, 1770
"Westmorland" C and J Greenwood, 1824
"Westmorland" Thomas Hodgson, 1828

Other sources

Ordnance Survey Book of Reference for Kirkby Thore (1861) WDX/87
District Valuer's Books (1910)
WT/DV/2 (Temple Sowerby)

Note: The 2nd edition 25" maps are annotated in relation to the District Valuer's books

INDEX DATA	RPS INFORMATION
Scheme Title Kirkby Thore, Cumbria	Details Summary report on Archaeological evaluation
Road Number	Date 1 December 1999
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County Cumbria	
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**SUMMARY REPORT ON AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT KIRKBY THORE, CUMBRIA**

**For Lancaster University
Archaeological Unit**

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KIRKBY THORE, CUMBRIA

SUMMARY REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 THE BRIEF

- 1.1 Lancaster University Archaeological Unit invited Carlisle Archaeology Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the A66 trunk road in advance of a road widening by Mouchel Amey.
- 1.2 The brief required a programme of trenching (see 3 below), followed by 'the production of either a summary or a full evaluation report dependant on whether or not there is considered to be a need for full excavation.' Archaeological remains have been discovered, and there is considered to be a need for full excavation. This report is, accordingly, presented as a summary only.
- 1.3 As the site was identified as potentially containing human burials associated with the Roman settlement, the brief required the contractor to obtain a Home Office License. This was done before work commenced, and is held at Carlisle Archaeology's offices.
- 1.4 The work was undertaken between 15th and 26th November 1999 under the day-to-day supervision of the present writer, assisted by six Archaeological Workers and Rachel Grahame, Assistant Archaeological Field Officer. The work was carried out under the overall direction of John Zant, BA, AIFA.
- 1.5 In the Carlisle Archaeology archive, the site is identified by the code CAR 99 KIT A.

2 LOCATION

- 2.1 The site is located at a height of approximately 107m OD on the south-eastern side of the village of Kirkby Thore, Cumbria (NY 6372 2522), approximately 250m south of the Roman fort of *Bravoniacum*. The fort and part of the *vicus* are separated from the present site by the course of the Trout Beck, a tributary of the River Eden.
- 2.2 The land identified for evaluation purposes includes the present roadside verge and a strip within a field on the north side of the A66 trunk road.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The method of investigation, determined in the brief, included the excavation of two trenches, 5m by 1.8m, on the roadside verge, and eight trenches, 10m by 1.8m, in the field. A mechanical excavator was used to remove the overburden, and the trenches were then cleaned down and investigated by hand. All recording was undertaken according to Carlisle Archaeology's *Excavation Manual* (Version 2.1). The work was monitored by Dr Richard Newman, Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 Trenches 1 and 2, both on the verge, yielded no archaeological features and no finds.

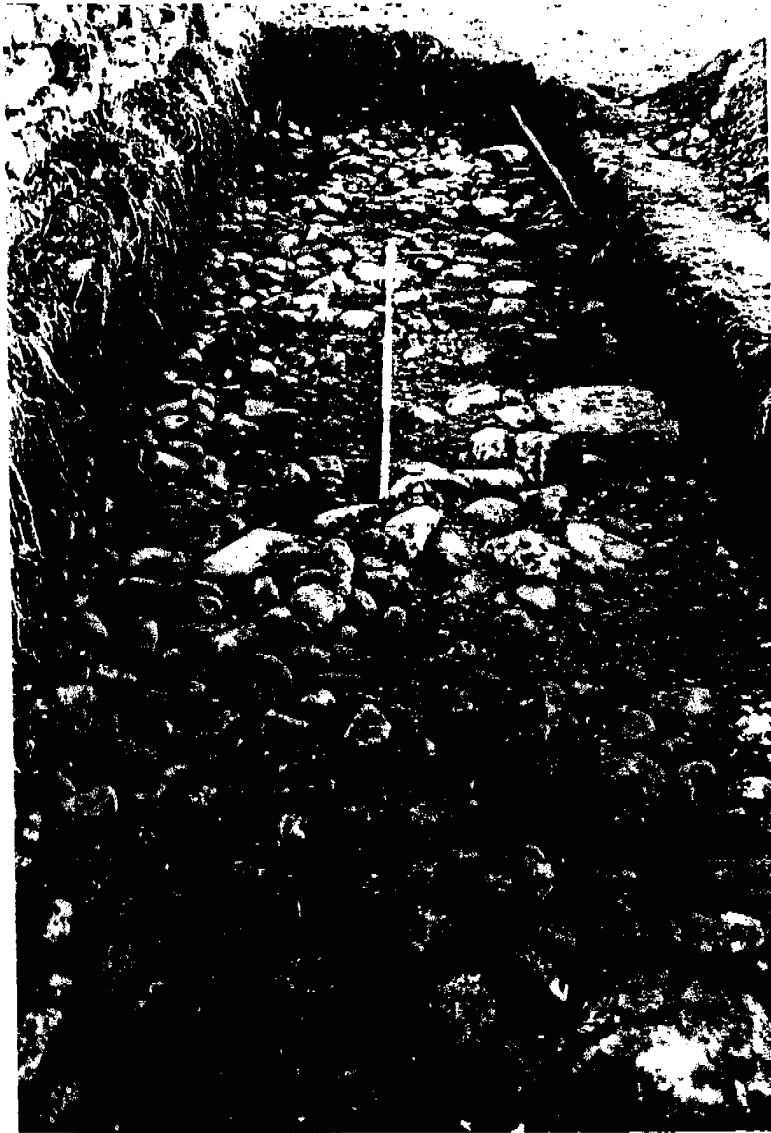


Fig 1 Trench 5, showing a spread of cobbles

- 4.2 Trench 3 contained only a deposit of silty clay, some 0.15m thick, overlying the natural subsoil.
- 4.3 Trenches 9 and 10 produced no archaeological features and no finds.
- 4.4 Trenches 4-8 contained archaeological deposits, varying in character and up to 1m deep. They include a possible Roman road surface, aligned NW/SE, apparently cut by several cobble-filled features. Elsewhere, areas of cobbling were interpreted as yards and wall foundations (Figs 1 and 2). In Trenches 7 and 8 three phases of activity were recorded, the earliest being a ditch.

5 FINDS

- 5.1 The finds have been rapidly assessed. Although further work is required for the evaluation report, a preliminary assessment has identified some 95 sherds of Roman pottery, including samian ware, mortaria, amphorae and miscellaneous

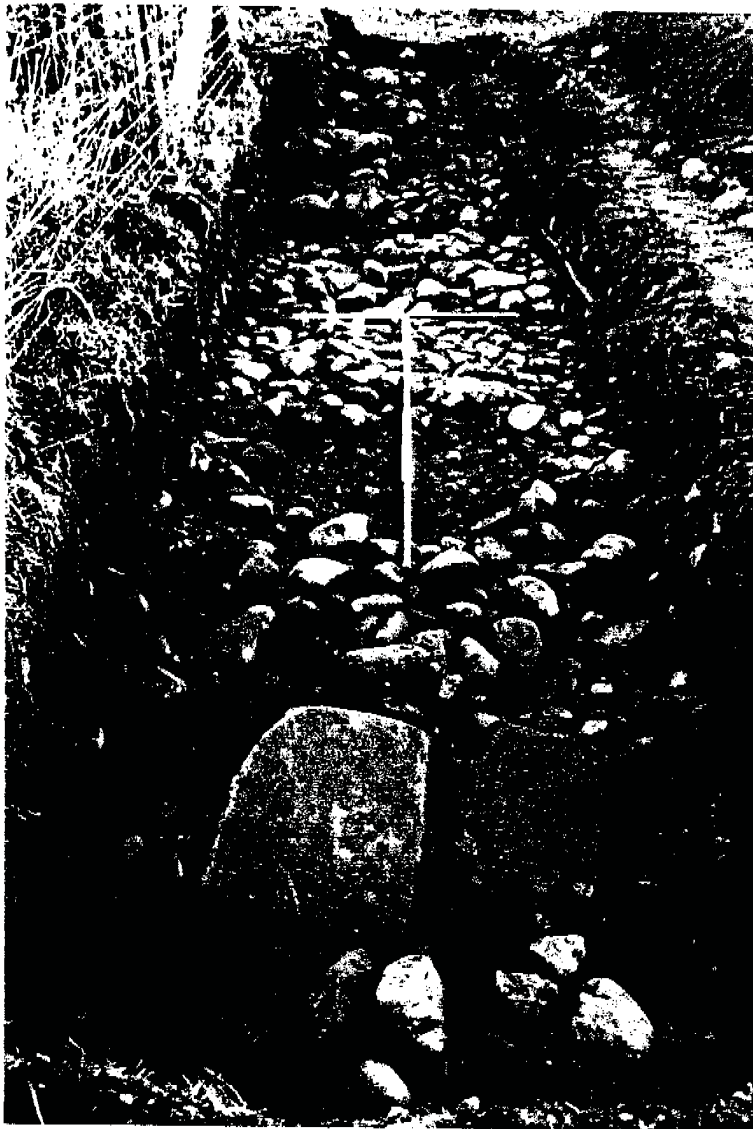


Fig 2 Trench 7, showing cobble spreads and possible pad-stones for a timber building

coarse wares. There were three fragments of medieval pottery and 12 of post-medieval date.

- 5.2 Other finds included very small numbers of ironwork and copper alloy objects, including a fitting decorated with an anthropomorphic or zoomorphic device (?a lion's head), glass, mammal bone, brick and tile. No human remains were identified. Some of these finds are Roman in date, but some are almost certainly recent.

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No recognisably prehistoric finds or features were identified.
- 6.2 The site produced clear evidence for at least three phases of activity attributed on the basis of pottery to the Roman period. Although the investigation was not sufficiently extensive to yield much detailed information, the simplest hypothesis

is to regard the remains as being associated with Roman properties, including a road, yards and buildings, in the *vicus* to the south of the Roman fort.

6.3 Apart from a small amount of medieval and post-medieval pottery in plough soil, there is no evidence for post-Roman or medieval occupation at this site.

6.4 The stratified remains of at least three phases of Roman activity is an important addition to the small corpus of information about Roman Kirkby Thore. It is recommended that future development at this site should include provision for archaeological excavation.

6.5 A detailed evaluation report will be produced at the earliest opportunity, and forwarded to Lancaster Archaeological Unit.

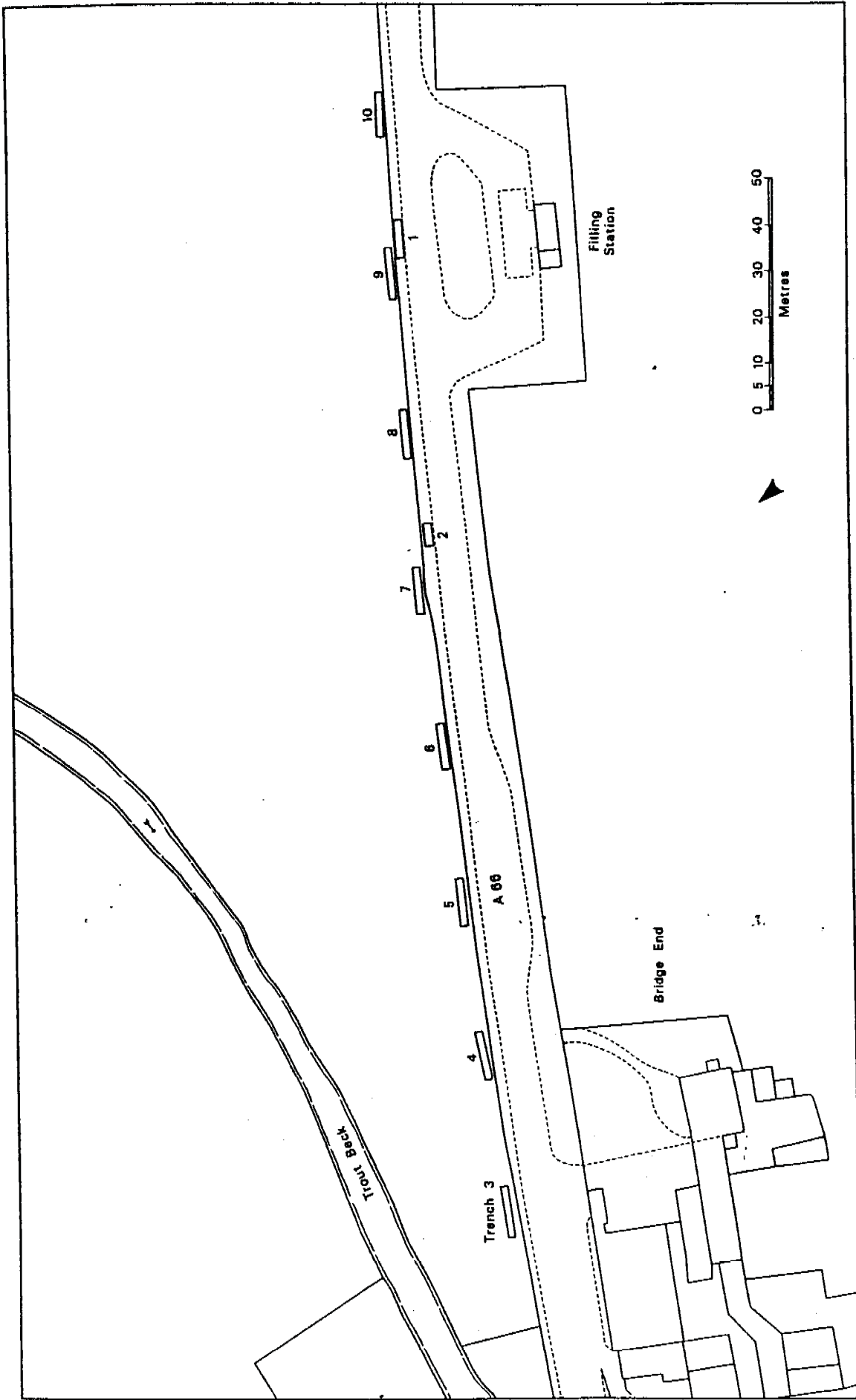


Fig 3 Kirkby Thore: location of evaluation trenches (scale 1:1250)