



# **81 PENNY STREET, LANCASTER Lancashire**

## **Excavation Assessment Report**



**Oxford Archaeology North**

May 2003

**Paul D Lawrence Associates**

Issue No.: 2002-03/108

OA(N) Job No.: L9167

NGR: SD 4773 6158

**Document Title:** 81 PENNY STREET, LANCASTER, LANCASHIRE

**Document Type:** Fieldwork Report

**Client Name:** Paul D Lawrence Associates

**Issue Number:** 2002-2003/108

**OA Job Number:** L9167

**National Grid Reference:** SD 4773 6158

**Prepared by:** Vix Hughes  
**Position:** Project Supervisor  
**Date:** January 2003

**Checked by:** Emily Mercer  
**Position:** Project Manager  
**Date:** May 2003

**Approved by:** Jamie Quatermaine  
**Position:** Project Manager  
**Date:** May 2003

Signed.....  
Signed.....

**Document File Location** Jamie/Projects/9167penn/report

**Oxford Archaeology North**

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

w: [www.oxfordarch.co.uk](http://www.oxfordarch.co.uk)  
e: [info@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordarch.co.uk)

**© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd 2003**

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

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

**Disclaimer:**

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

---

## CONTENTS

---

<b>SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Contract background .....	4
1.2 Location and topography .....	4
1.3 Archaeological and historical background .....	5
1.4 Previous excavations on the site.....	7
1.5 Other excavations within the vicinity.....	7
<b>2. METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>10</b>
2.1 Project design .....	10
2.2 Excavation.....	10
2.3 Human remains.....	10
2.4 Archive .....	11
<b>3. EXCAVATION RESULTS.....</b>	<b>12</b>
3.1 Introduction .....	12
3.2 Results .....	12
<b>4. DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
4.1 Roman activity .....	16
4.2 Post medieval activity .....	16
4.3 Post Demolition of 81 Penny Street .....	16
4.4 Conclusion.....	16
<b>5. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY CONTEXT LIST.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>APPENDIX 3: FINDS LIST .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>ILLUSTRATIONS.....</b>	<b>27</b>
Figures.....	27
Plates .....	27

---

## SUMMARY

---

An archaeological excavation was carried out on the site of 81 Penny Street, Lancaster (SD 4773 6158) by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) on behalf of Paul D Lawrence Associates in January 2003 due to the proposed redevelopment of the site for residential use. It followed on from an earlier excavation of adjacent plots beneath 77-79 Penny Street undertaken by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) in 1996. The current project consisted of the excavation of a small open area extending parallel to George Street, which was mechanically excavated down to the level of the highest significant archaeological horizon and was then subject to manual excavation.

The area has been densely built on since the second half of the eighteenth century and this considerable post-medieval disturbance was demonstrated by a cellar cut through the archaeological deposits in the westernmost part of the excavation area.

Although the 1995 and 1996 archaeological work produced excellent results, including three Roman cremations and a significant amount of archaeological information and finds, this was not the case in 2003. The area beneath 81 Penny Street had been truncated across the eastern part of the site by the subsequent removal of demolition and collapsed building rubble after the 1996 excavation. This has had a serious impact on the archaeological resource and although there was one Roman cremation it is clear that much information had already been lost prior to the 2003 excavation.

Following on from this programme of recording the archaeological deposits have now been subject to mitigation recording and the construction works will not have an impact on extant unrecorded features or deposits. The next stage of the programme is the dissemination of the results within an appropriate publication.

---

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

OA North would like to thank Peter Spencer of Paul D Lawrence Associates for commissioning the work, and Forester plant hire for expertly undertaking the machining. Thanks must also go to Peter McCrone of Lancashire County Archaeological Service for his support and assistance in the course of the project.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Martin Sowerby and Dave Tonks and supervised by Vix Hughes who also wrote the report, with finds comments from Sean McPhillips. The report was edited by Emily Mercer and Jamie Quartermaine who also managed the project.

---

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 CONTRACT BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 The area of land formerly occupied by 81 Penny Street, Lancaster (centred on SD 4773 6158 (Fig 1)) is to be developed for residential use by CityBlock. The northern part of the site (77-79 Penny Street) was subject to mitigation excavation in 1995 and 1996 (LUAU 1996), in the course of which a number of Roman cremations were revealed. At some time following the investigation, the adjacent building to the north (81 Penny Street) partially collapsed and was then completely demolished. The present development site includes 77-79 Penny Street, which has been mitigated, and also 81 Penny Street, which had not previously been subject to archaeological investigation.
- 1.1.2 On the basis of the results from 77-79 Penny Street and the finding of substantial numbers of other Roman cremations between Penny Street and King Street, including several at recent excavations on the former site of Streamline Garage, it was considered that there may be a high risk for the recovery of further cremations within the extent of 81 Penny Street. It was therefore required by the Lancashire County Archaeological Service, via a verbal brief, that a programme of archaeological investigation be undertaken on the southern part of the site on behalf of Paul D Lawrence Associates (hereafter the client).
- 1.1.3 OA North was commissioned to carry out the excavation which was undertaken in January 2003, monitored by LCAS. The excavation was guided by a project design (*Appendix 1*) designed to fulfil the full terms of the verbal brief.
- 1.1.4 This report presents the initial results of the investigation. The final report will reflect more detailed analysis and will be presented as a publication in a format that will be subject to further discussion between OA North and LCAS

### 1.2 LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 The site (Fig 1, SD 4773 6158) is situated at the southern end of the historic medieval core of the town of Lancaster and forms a narrow linear plot to the south-east of the junction of Penny Street and George Street. The current state of the site prior to the excavation was that it had several raised areas along the southern edge, next to 83 Penny Street, while the remainder of the site was flat but had a small area of spoil and a medium sized shrub growing in the south-eastern corner. The total area containing 77-81 Penny Street was approximately 240m<sup>2</sup>. The area occupied by 81 was approximately 75m<sup>2</sup> of which only c45m<sup>2</sup> could be investigated. This was due to restrictions of safety and the need to remain away from the standing structures around 81 keeping a minimum distance of 2.0m from the edge of 83 Penny Street. The overall height of the site was approximately 18.2m OD prior to the excavation, with the south-east corner surviving to a greater height.
- 1.2.2 The solid geology of Lancaster consists predominantly of Silesian (Upper Carboniferous) grey-brown or reddened, medium to coarse grained sandstones of the Pendle Grit Formation, which is part of the Millstone Grit Group (British Geological Survey 1992). These sandstones are thickly bedded with thin siltstone partings but

with mixed sandstone/siltstone units near the top. The drift geology for the site has been mapped as glaciofluvial sheet deposits of clayey sands and gravels.

- 1.2.3 The Soil Survey (1983) does not classify soils within urban areas but the results of test pits excavated in the adjacent MFI site on Aldcliffe Road (LUAU 1995), provide a guide to soil and drift geology present in the vicinity of the current site. The MFI site showed a sequence of soils from a dark-brown clay loam, probable plough soil, encountered c0.5m from the surface and with a depth of 0.45-0.7m, overlying a possible old ground surface layer of lighter-brown sandy loam 0.2-0.5m in depth. At the base of the sequence was a yellow-brown sandy clay overlain by a red-brown sandy gravel; both of these deposits were interpreted as natural drift geology. These results broadly coincided with the sequence identified at the Streamline excavation (LUAU 2000) although the deposits found on the present site in 1996 varied slightly.

### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 **Prehistory:** there is scarce evidence of prehistoric activity in and around Lancaster but the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) does show three find spots of Bronze Age burials in the immediate vicinity of the site (Fig 1; Sites 1, 4 and 5 (LUAU 1997)). This constitutes some of the best evidence for this period, reflecting the funerary aspect of the area, but gives little indication of settlement or other activities. The three sites were all found pre1900 and insufficient information was gathered to rule out the possibility of these being Romano-British burials rather than prehistoric.
- 1.3.2 **Romano-British:** a Roman fort was founded on Castle Hill in the AD 70s when the conquest and pacification of northern Britain by Cerialis was already under way. The fort was certainly in existence by the last years of that decade when Agricola, as Governor, pushed northwards along the west coast into Scotland. This was followed by a sequence of forts on the site (Shotton 1993, 92-92) and the latest of these, in the fourth century, seems to have been realigned parallel to the Lune. It has been suggested that its form was similar to the Saxon Shore forts of southern Britain and that it would potentially have served as a fleet supply base and ensured the security of the harbour (*ibid*).
- 1.3.3 Evidence from numerous excavations in Church Street, thought to have been the main road leading to and from the fort and linking it to the overall road system, suggests that the beginnings of extramural settlement were effectively contemporary with the foundation of the first fort, with a time lag of only a few years between the two. Few if any structures are known from this early activity and it may well have been less than robust leaving a somewhat nebulous impression of settlement rather than anything solid (Howard-Davis *et al* forthcoming). It was not until the early years of the second century, probably during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian, that the settlement grew and thrived. Archaeological investigation has focused on Church Street which is, as a result, relatively well-understood. The full extent of the Roman settlement is as yet unknown, but it seems to have extended almost as far as Cheapside to the east, and some distance south along the line of Penny Street, presumably filling in the angle between the two and running westwards as far as the fort, if not beyond (inhumation burials were excavated to the west of the fort in Westfield village during the 1930s (Penney 1981, 13). To the north the River Lune forms a natural boundary. It seems likely that the settlement continued in existence well into the fourth century when a drastic realignment of the fort seems to have coincided with a major contraction of the

town (Howard-Davis *et al* forthcoming). Whether it shrank progressively as its inhabitants withdrew to the safety of the fort walls (marked today by the Weary Wall on Castle Hill) in troubled times or was simply abandoned is not known but there is very little, if any, evidence for fifth century activity beyond the fort (Shotter 1993, 102).

- 1.3.4 Burials have been found in the southern part of the town including those excavated in 1996 at Penny Street (LUAU 1996 – Fig 1; Site 7), and individual burials between King Street and Penny Street (LUAU 1997 – Fig 1; Site 3) and another at St Thomas's Church (LUAU 1997 – Fig 1; Site 2). These seem to imply an arc of perhaps superimposed funerary activity extending around the southern side of the settlement and dating from the second to fourth centuries AD. It is now assumed that the tombstone of Apollinaris, found in Cheapside in the eighteenth century, was reused and did not mark the location of an eastern cemetery (Shotter and White 1990, 33). It is, however, of interest that continuing excavation on the Mitchell's Brewery site on Church Street in 1999 produced an inurned cremation (Howard-Davis *et al* forthcoming) and fragmentary human bones were recovered from a pit during the 1992 excavations on the same site. This raises the possibility that there was once a cemetery in the environs (*ibid*).
- 1.3.5 **The Early Medieval Period:** the early medieval period is represented archaeologically by a hoard of ninth century coins (Northumbrian stycas) found at Vicarage fields near to the church (Newman 1996, 102; Penney 1981, 13). Further evidence for activity during this period comprises fragments of stone crosses from the area of the Priory Church indicating the presence of an earlier church. This gave rise to the vill of *Chercaloncastre*, one of the two in Lancaster listed in Domesday Book (Faull and Stinson 1986, IL 2M).
- 1.3.6 **The Later Medieval Period:** by the later medieval period, place names and documentary sources provide the main source of evidence, although excavations have also provided an indication of the physical form of the settlement at Lancaster (Howard-Davis *et al* forthcoming; White 1988; Penney 1981). The Domesday reference to a church suggests that this formed the centre of a vill ('*Chercaloncastre*', Church Lancaster; Newman 1996, 98) which was at that time dependent on the manor of Halton (Penney 1981, 13-14). In addition, another vill existed (*Loncastre*) although its precise location is uncertain (White 1993, 11). The centre of Lordship was moved to Lancaster shortly after 1086 and Lancaster Castle, on the site of the earlier Roman forts, was established by 1094 along with a priory on the church site (*op cit*, 19). A borough was created in 1193 with Church Street, Market Street and Penny Street being the main thoroughfares (*op cit*, 11-14; 26-29). This may imply a continuation of settlement pattern, surviving from the Roman period, when activity was concentrated in these same areas.
- 1.3.7 **The Post-Medieval Period:** for the post-medieval period there is more extensive evidence from cartographic, documentary and excavation sources. The earliest map record is that produced by John Speed in 1610, which, although stylistic in character, shows Penny Street as a street/road with continuous building along the eastern side where the site is located indicating that it has been occupied since at least before 1610. Lancaster is fortunate that a large-scale map of the town was located in the Towneley family papers allowing a reconstruction of the town as it was in 1684 by Docton (Penney 1981, 44). This map again shows almost continuous settlement along what is



now Penny Street. Mackreth's map of 1778 shows the site as having remained unchanged since 1684, as does Clark's map of Lancaster from 1807. Binns' survey and map of 1821 indicates further building development around the area which is the trend throughout the nineteenth century. The large-scale OS map of 1893 shows each of the buildings, covered passageways and property boundaries on the site.

- 1.3.8 During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the trade directories note the names and occupations of many of the inhabitants of Penny Street, and in general most seem to be working class labourers.

#### 1.4 PREVIOUS EXCAVATIONS ON THE SITE

- 1.4.1 An evaluation was carried out on the site by C Salisbury and J Coupe over six days in June 1995. The area evaluated was below 77 and 79 Penny Street as 81 Penny Street was still standing at that time. The evaluation involved the mechanical excavation of upper layers in two trenches, A and B (Fig 2), and then excavation of the Roman features. Trench A was located in the western part of the site (Fig 2) and uncovered only the walls of a cellar. Trench B was located in the eastern part of the site (Fig 2) and uncovered two layers of cobbled surfaces and a Roman burial urn that was 80% complete. It was not clear during this evaluation whether there was a layer of redeposited 'natural' material overlying the burial or whether the cut could simply not be distinguished. The report (Salisbury and Coupe 1995) was not comprehensive and from the sketch section it would appear that the burial was located approximately 0.4m below the lower layer of cobbles.
- 1.4.2 Following this excavation LUAU were asked to carry out a larger excavation on the same area of land for Dalesmoor Homes, between September and October of 1996. This excavation identified the plot boundary between 77 and 79 Penny Street and several associated features indicative of outbuildings. These were attached to the properties which fronted Penny Street, together with external cobbled surfaces which were presumably the same as those identified the previous year. The structures dated to the nineteenth century and appeared to be typical infilling of open spaces within urban areas which was ongoing throughout this period. Below the post-medieval activity there was some scant evidence of soil accumulation. Earlier than this was a disturbed layer deposited in the Romano-British period and a number of features, all of which had been disturbed. A small quantity of burnt bone was retrieved from two discrete pits which were interpreted as cremations, one contained Roman pottery. Another two features, also of Romano-British date, were interpreted as possible boundaries to a burial plot. The outcome of this project was an outline report (LUAU 1996) detailing the basics of what had been found but not a full interpretation.

#### 1.5 OTHER EXCAVATIONS WITHIN THE VICINITY

- 1.5.1 *Penny Street:* (SD 4772 6170) beneath No. 1 Penny Street an exposed section of archaeological deposits was examined briefly prior to underpinning and rebuilding works; the recording work was carried out by the Lancaster City Museum staff in 1975 (White 1975). Although a cellar was encountered, deposits were found to survive in the uncellared area. The Roman deposits consisted of a road, with several phases of re-surfacing, and traces of burnt wattle and daub structures which appeared to date to the

later expansion of the vicus. No evidence of the expected Roman cemetery was recovered during the work.

- 1.5.2 **Streamline Garage, King Street, Evaluation:** (SD 4765 6135) an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by LUAU for Fairclough Homes and consisted of two phases of trench excavation, comprising a total of six trenches (Trenches 1-6), excavated in October 2000 (LUAU 2000). The trenches were mechanically excavated down to the level of the highest significant archaeological horizon and were then excavated manually. In the first trench two areas of dense charcoal and burnt bone concentrations were uncovered, one of which was fully excavated and was established as a cremation of probable Roman date. Although 416 fragments of bone were recovered, there were only five diagnostic fragments comprising one human, one pig and three goat/sheep fragments. In addition, a linear ditch was uncovered orientated approximately east/west. At the east end of the same trench and immediately to the south of this ditch was the truncated remains of a posthole, with a further posthole seen only in the north-facing section of the trench. No finds were recovered from these features to suggest a date but the stratigraphical relationships imply that they were medieval or earlier.
- 1.5.3 **Streamline Garage, King Street, Excavation:** (SD 4765 6135) the majority of the archaeology uncovered during the excavation was of secure Romano-British date (LUAU 2001). The earliest identified feature on the site was a large 'enclosure' ditch forming a sub-square feature measuring c12m by 14m, the corners of the enclosure being defined by sharp right-angles. The enclosure was orientated approximately on a north-north-east/south-south-west axis which aligns, in essence, with Penny Street which is believed to be of Roman origin and is diagonal to King Street. The majority of the enclosure consisted of a broad 'V'-shaped ditch with a squared base, although the western side had been severely truncated by the construction of the garage. At c4m along the western side from the south-eastern corner, a section of hard-packed stonework survived within the ditch. This stonework consisted of large water-worn rounded stones with no visible bonding, packed firmly into the base of the ditch. This was clearly a structural element and cannot be considered as simply a casual dump of stone. To the west of the south-eastern corner, a series of stakeholes was also identified. Five of these were aligned along, and immediately inside, the eastern edge of the ditch and three along the western edge. These elements suggest that there may have been some form of fence-type structure set into the side of this ditch. At some point during the life of the enclosure, the northern and eastern sides appear to have been remodelled. The nature of the ditch fills suggests that they were kept clean during use and were swiftly and deliberately backfilled once they became redundant. The finds from this fill were broadly dated to around the second century, which provides a *terminus ante quem* for the cutting of the ditches and indicates, perhaps, the approximate date for the backfilling. Upon backfilling, the ditches appear to have become a focal point for a cremation cemetery along the south and east sides of the enclosure. Those cremations on the east side terminated abruptly at a large post-medieval rectangular pit, suggesting that beyond this point the cremations may have been truncated.
- 1.5.4 The burials on the east side consisted of a cremation with a cinerary urn and a further vessel within a shallow pit (possibly a 'double'-cremation); a single inurned cremation inserted directly into a small cut; and, at the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, a

void filled with loose charcoal-rich soil and burnt bone. This latter cremation was set into an oval cut which had been backfilled with a much firmer deposit containing further bone remnants and charcoal suggesting material swept in from a pyre. It was found with iron nails which may suggest either that the cremation was in an organic receptacle, such as a box, or that these were hobnails from boots. The cremations on the south-west side consist of a 'double'-cremation with two urns lying adjacent to each other in a cut; a single cremation without an urn but with iron nails and burnt bone; and a dark charcoal-rich deposit set into a shallow cut, containing a small amount of bone. To the south of the enclosure, a small group of cremations was concentrated in a cluster, one of which was excavated during the evaluation (LUAU 2000) and the other was left *in situ*. This feature proved to be a thin spread of charcoal-rich soil with a high percentage of bone but only a small number of pottery fragments; a piece of burnt timber was also recovered from the deposit. The dearth of pottery fragments may suggest that the cremation was within an organic receptacle. No further cremations were encountered, but the possibility exists that there are further cremations to the south of the site along King Street. Initial assessment suggests that the pottery associated with the cremations was of second/third century date.

- 1.5.5 Overlying the Roman features was a medieval ploughsoil, which was confirmed by the excavation. Two features were identified with fills comparable to the ploughsoil and were probably medieval in date. The first was a posthole previously identified during the evaluation (LUAU 2000) and the second was a ditch which ran east/west. All finds recovered from this feature were of medieval date and it was interpreted as a boundary ditch associated with the clearly agricultural usage of the site during that period.

---

## 2. METHODOLOGY

---

### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by OA North in response to a verbal brief from Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS) for an archaeological excavation of the area. Following formal acceptance of the project design, OA North undertook the project and the work was carried out in accordance with the practices of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).
- 2.1.2 The only deviation from the brief was in the area excavated. The area specified was 45m<sup>2</sup> (3m x 15m) but the nature of the site necessitated a more suitable area totalling 50m<sup>2</sup> (5m x 10m). This did not impinge on any previous excavation area since a bulk had been left along their southern edge. In all other respects the work was undertaken in accordance with the project design.

### 2.2 EXCAVATION

- 2.2.1 The requirement of the present programme was to investigate the footprint of 81 Penny Street. Prior to archaeological work on site arrangements were made to remove the top 0.05m of material since the area had accumulated a large amount of potentially hazardous rubbish since 1996. In addition, a water tank mounted on a concrete/breeze-block foundation was removed together with a shrubbery which had become established. The remaining overburden was mechanically stripped off using a JCB with a toothless 1.8m ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. This mechanical excavation continued down to the level of natural subsoils at the eastern side and to the depth of significant archaeological deposits on the western side. Thereafter the site was manually investigated. The spoil, which contained no topsoil, was stored as a low linear heap along the northern side of the excavated area.
- 2.2.2 The western side of the site contained a deeply intrusive cellar and foundations. On the eastern side very little surviving archaeology was found. Following cleaning of the site, detailed excavation of the features was undertaken and the remains recorded. The site and all features were photographed using 35mm cameras with black and white print film as well as colour transparency (slides). The site was planned by hand at a scale of 1:20 and the most representative section drawn at 1:10 with individual features being drawn separately. The known heights were obtained by transferring Ordnance Survey Bench Mark information from two separate locations, one on the opposite corner of Penny Street and the other on the Town Hall. The features themselves were recorded using *pro-forma* sheets, in accordance with those used by CFA. Similar object record and photographic record *pro-formas* were used. All written recording of survey data, contexts, artefacts and ecofacts was cross-referenced from *pro-forma* record sheets using sequential numbering.

### 2.3 HUMAN REMAINS

- 2.3.1 A single feature which potentially contained burnt human remains was excavated in accordance with the requirements of a burial licence granted by the Home Office under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application for a burial licence was made by OA North for the study area and in accordance with its requirements the site was

screened from members of the public. A bulk sample was taken for the recovery of ecofactual evidence.

## 2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design and in accordance with current IFA and EH guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1991). The paper, finds and digital archive will be deposited, as appropriate, with Lancaster City Museums Service and the Lancashire Record Office, in agreement with the client.

---

### 3. EXCAVATION RESULTS

---

#### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 A single area was opened aligned east/west and to the south of the 1996 excavation area, allowing a small overlap. The overall area was 5m wide and 10m long and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m. The following provides a brief narrative of the excavated deposits, the context numbers do not overlap with those of the 1996 excavation (Fig 3).

#### 3.2 RESULTS

- 3.2.1 The trench was machine-excavated from east to west, taking deposits down in level spits, until significant archaeological deposits were encountered. The machining removed the overburden deposit **150**, from the length of the trench, as well as the backfill of a cellar **156**, at the west end.
- 3.2.2 The earliest deposit encountered in the excavated area was a mid-pinkish-red, compact silty clay containing occasional medium sized cobbles. This underlay a mid-orangey-brown, silty clay, **162** which contained more frequent, unsorted, small pebbles to medium cobbles. Both of these deposits were completely sterile of finds and after investigation by a small sondage were interpreted as part of the underlying natural subsoil.
- 3.2.3 Cut into the natural deposit **162** were two features. The first was an amorphous area in the north-eastern corner of the excavation, **158**, which had irregular edges in plan and an asymmetrical profile. The feature measured 1.4m in length, continuing beyond the northern edge of the excavation, it was 0.8m in width and about 0.2m deep. The feature was filled with a brownish pink, compacted silty clay, **157**. The irregular shape of the feature, the lack of finds and the nature of the fill suggested that the feature may in fact have been a natural interface between the two natural deposits, which was also suggested by a number of medium cobbles along the western edge of the feature. It may have been a naturally formed depression with differential infilling occurring.
- 3.2.4 The second feature was smaller, being about 0.1m in diameter and circular in plan, **163**. It was located towards the northern edge, west of **158** and east of the cellar **153**. The feature was 0.12m deep and angled downwards to the south, **163**. The firm edges suggested that it may have been formed deliberately rather than part of a burrow or root action but with so small a feature it is difficult to be certain. The fill, **168**, was a soft dark-grey, silty clay and appeared to be similar to **151** overlying it, whether this was a result of post-depositional processes or the original fill was unclear. The feature is likely to be a stakehole formed by forcibly hammering a small post into the ground, however there were no finds to establish its date and no similar features were found in the vicinity.
- 3.2.5 Overlying the possible stakehole was a cut feature, **152**, which was roughly oval in plan and had sharp breaks of slope at the top, moderately sloping smooth curved sides and a gradual break of slope towards the bottom, with a slightly concave base. The feature appeared to have been deliberately cut into the surrounding natural, **162**, and had overall dimensions of 1.2m long, 0.85m wide and 0.2m deep. The fill consisted of

a mid-reddish-pink firm silty clay **151**, with a concentration of deliberately packed small cobbles on top of a very thin layer of soft black humic material. No obvious large fragments of calcined/burnt bones were seen as the deposit was excavated but analysis of the sample did detect smaller fragments. The feature appeared to be a small pit which may be for the deposition of cremated remains and would therefore imply that the remains belong to the Roman period, although this has yet to be confirmed and the lack of any finds means that unless there are sufficiently preserved organics to allow dating, then the date must remain speculative. Sealing this feature was the remains of the deposit **150**.

- 3.2.6 There was no evidence of any intervening archaeological deposits between the earliest features, which were cut into the natural, and the later features (below) which truncate the natural. There were a number of post-medieval walls truncating the western part of the site, the largest of which were the three sides of what is presumed to be a cellar, **153**. These walls and their foundations were cut, **154**, into the natural, then constructed and material backfilled into the gaps between the wall and the cut, **155**. The cellar was then used for a period of time before being backfilled **156**. The cellar walls were found to measure 3.7m in length east/west and over 3.2m north/south and were 0.7m wide. The walls, **153**, were constructed of yellow, roughly hewn sandstone blocks for the most part, although the inner side of the west wall was composed of bricks suggesting a re-build. The walls were then faced on the inside. The construction backfill, **155** consisted of reddish clay material and smaller sandstone fragments wedged into the gaps. The backfill of the cellar, **156**, was highly mixed and had a large quantity of building material such as bricks and broken mortar. Sealing this feature was the remains of the overburden deposit **150**.
- 3.2.7 To the south and east of the cellar were the remains of a partially standing wall **164**, the foundations of which were deep enough to have truncated the natural. This wall, **164** was aligned north/south and composed of similar materials to the cellar walls, **153**, but the stones were paler in appearance due to weathering; the lower, below ground, stones were still yellow. The wall appeared to stratigraphically cut a deposit of makeup material, **159**, and was abutted by later makeup deposits for the extant concrete surface. The construction cut for the wall, **165**, was very regular with straight sides and a flat base. The wall was clearly post-medieval and had been in current use until the collapse of the premises on 81 Penny Street. There was no stratigraphical relationship, which could be defined, between it and the cellar.
- 3.2.8 Further west and south of the cellar was a second wall, or at least the remains of its foundations. The structure, **166**, was on the same north/south alignment as wall **164** and, although very little was present in the area of excavation, it was built of the same yellow sandstone blocks and was almost certainly associated with the other structures **153** and **164**. The cut, **167**, was again vertically sided with a flat base and had overall dimensions of 1.3m in length, 0.4m in width and only 0.5m in depth. The structure was sealed under the modern deposit **150**.
- 3.2.9 The makeup or levelling material, **159**, through which wall **164** was cut, was a mid reddish-brown, firm silty clay, similar to the natural deposits seen on the site. The similarity may in fact imply that the material was derived from the nearby vicinity. The material was used to produce a level surface behind the building plots in the nineteenth century and subsequent makeup deposits are also evident, **169** and **170**. Deposit **169** was a mid-orangey-brown silty clay containing a band of medium

cobbles. The cobbles were essentially unsorted and were not a layer or surface but rather inclusions within the matrix. Above this deposit was another, **170**, which was a mid-brown silty clay. Both were approximately 0.4m thick and extending along the southern side beyond the limit of the excavation but visible within the exposed section. These deposits were either nineteenth or possibly twentieth century in date.

- 3.2.10 Disrupting deposit **169** and penetrating into the natural, was a very irregular feature, **161**, which was almost certainly the area of disturbance caused by a tree or large shrub known to have been growing in this position prior to the archaeological work. The fill, **160**, was very similar to both **169** and **159**, below, but was very mixed and the limit of the feature appeared to coincide with the stony patches within the natural **162** below. The feature contained no dating material but its stratigraphic relationships indicate that it is very recent.
- 3.2.11 The most recent deposit on the site was **150**, a layer of highly mixed debris material which occurred across the entire area of excavation. The material was derived from the remains from the on site demolition of 81 Penny Street. The layer also contained elements reflecting the disuse of the plot such as general detritus and material accumulated around the base of the shrubs. Most of this material had been removed prior to the archaeological work but some remained and effectively sealed the underlying deposits.



---

## 4. DISCUSSION

---

### 4.1 ROMAN ACTIVITY

- 4.1.1 The two earliest features, **163** and **152**, (discounting **158** as a natural depression) may belong to the Roman period. However, this is dependent on the material associated with **152** being confirmed as cremation remains. If so these deliberately deposited remains are likely to date, to somewhere between the second and fourth century AD, on the basis of the datum of other burials in the site. On average an adult would contain up to 2kg of burnt bone when cremated (McKinley 1989) but only a small amount of material was recovered during excavation. This is not unusual since it is likely that some would have been translocated down through the natural subsoils and it has been established that many Roman burials did not include the entire remains of the pyre but were merely a token (McKinley 1996, 120).
- 4.1.2 The excavation failed to find as much surviving Roman archaeology as the excavation carried out in 1996 and considering the extreme close spatial proximity of the work this was of concern. There were no traces of any features continuing into the area, nor of the layers described and more worrying was the lack of any finds relating to any period. This is particularly poignant when over 100 sherds of Roman-British pottery had been recovered during the 1996 excavation, not including the nearly complete urn from the 1995 evaluation. Close examination and comparison of the level information from the original archives of 1996, the surveyed information from the client prior to the current excavation, and from the levels taken during the 2003 excavation indicates that material has been removed in the recent history of the site, thereby removing the deposits which would have contained the bulk of Roman remains.

### 4.2 POST-MEDIEVAL ACTIVITY

- 4.2.1 The three identified walls correspond to known construction methods and material of the mid to late nineteenth century buildings of Lancaster. The cellar walls, **153**, correspond directly to those exposed in Trench A during the 1995 evaluation. The remains of the north/south wall, **164**, correspond to the wall (**63**) forming the western edge of the 1996 excavation which is in fact the back wall of the building plot originally fronting onto 81 Penny Street. Wall **166** is likely to be a supporting wall but, since most of it continued south beyond the limit of excavation, its precise function remains unclear. The cellar would appear to have been located beneath 81 Penny Street but it was impossible to determine whether it was part of the original construction or later. The back wall **164** did not survive in the area of the cellar but appeared to run behind it in plan. Cartographic evidence of the nineteenth century showed changes within the property boundaries along George Street and Penny Street, particularly in regards to the rear yards. However, no evidence of these changes was uncovered during this excavation. Which suggests that either the boundaries for the plot of 81 remained the same or that the area excavated did not include such a plot boundary. The cartographic changes also indicate that the boundary alterations may simply have involved the demolition of buildings to widen George Street.

### 4.3 POST DEMOLITION OF 81 PENNY STREET

- 4.3.1 As stated previously, in section 4.1.2, the lack of survival of Romano-British deposits by comparison to those from the 1996 excavation reflects some degree of truncation. The original site notes from the 1996 excavation showed that the Roman features were encountered at a depth of 18.40m OD and that above this there had been several layers, the lower ones containing Romano-British pottery and that there was a continual sequence up through other deposits and even two layers of nineteenth century cobbled yards. None of this was found during the 2003 excavation. It was essential to establish the compatibility of the level information from 1996 and 2003. Measurements were taken to compare the heights for the same known point, i.e. the bench mark on the Town Hall which showed that there was 0.08m difference. From this it was obvious that the site of 81 Penny Street, prior to the current archaeological excavation, had been disturbed to a level below 18.40m OD and therefore most of the Roman features were likely to have been removed or severely truncated, which explains why only two possible features survived. After the 1996 excavation the building which was 81 Penny Street partially collapsed and was then demolished. It is probable that not only was the demolition material removed but that the site was leveled, probably to the extent of the base of the 1996 excavation which had aimed to clear all archaeology to a depth of 18.15m OD. The site plan provided by the current client shows that the site was at a level of approximately 18.20m OD and this height information is compatible with the height information for the 2003 excavation.

### 4.4 CONCLUSION

- 4.4.1 Although the 1995 and 1996 archaeological work produced excellent results, in terms of the archaeological information and finds retrieved this was not the case in 2003. The area beneath 81 Penny Street was disturbed along the street frontage on the western side by a nineteenth century cellar and much of the rest of the archaeology had been truncated by the on site removal of demolition rubble after the premises collapsed. This has had a serious impact on the archaeological resource and, although one possible feature may yet be confirmed as a Roman cremation, it is clear that much information had already been lost prior to the 2003 excavation.

---

## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

### 5.1 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

1610 Speed's Map of Lancaster

1684 Map of Lancaster in Docton 1957

1778 A Plan of the Town of Lancaster by Stephen Mackreth (copy held at Lancaster City Museum)

1807 A Plan of the Town of Lancaster by C Clark (copy held at Lancaster City Museum)

1821 Map of the County and Castle of Lancaster by Jonathan Binns (copy held at Lancaster City Museum)

1848 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 statute mile, Lancashire sheet 30

1893 (surveyed 1891) Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire sheets 30.11 and 30.15

Soil Survey, 1983 Soils of Northern England, scale 1:250,000

British Geological Survey, 1992, Nottingham

### 5.2 SECONDARY SOURCES

Docton, KH, 1957 Lancaster, 1684, *Trans Lancashire Cheshire Hist Soc*, **109**, 125-135

English Heritage, 1991b *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London

Faull, ML, and Stinson, M (eds), 1986 Yorkshire, in J Morris (ed), *Domesday Book*, **30**, Chichester

Howard-Davis, C, Hair, N, Miller, I, and Newman, R, forthcoming *Mitchell's Brewery: excavations in Church Street, Lancaster, 1988 - 2000*

LUAU, 1995 *MFI Site, Adcliffe Road, Lancaster, an Archaeological Assessment*, unpubl rep

LUAU, 1996 *77-79 Penny Street, Lancaster, an Evaluation Report*, unpubl rep

LUAU, 1997 *Streamline Garage, Lancaster, an Archaeological Assessment*, unpubl rep

LUAU, 2000 *Streamline Garage, Lancaster: Evaluation Report*, unpubl rep

LUAU, 2001 *Streamline Garage, Lancaster: Excavation Report*, unpubl rep

Mannex, P, and Co 1866, *Topography and Directory of Lancaster*, Preston

McKinley, JI, 1989, Cremations: expectations, methodologies and realities, in *Burial Archaeology: current research, methods and developments*, BAR Brit Ser, **211**, 65-76, Oxford

McKinley, JI, 1996 The cremated human bone, in Hair and Howard-Davies 1996, 118-121

Newman, RM, 1996 The Dark Ages, in R Newman (ed), *The Archaeology of Lancashire*, 93-108, Lancaster

Penney, SH, 1981 *Lancaster: the Evolution of its Townscape to 1800*, Centre for North-West Regional Studies, Occ Pap, **9**, Lancaster

- 
- Salisbury, C, and Coupe, J, 1995 Archaeological Appraisal of the Site 77-79 Penny Street, Lancaster, unpubl rep
- Shotter, D 1993 *Romans and Britains in North West England*, Lancaster
- Shotter, D, and White, A, 1990 *Roman fort and town of Lancaster*, Centre for North-West Regional Studies, Occ Pap, 18, Lancaster
- White, A, 1975 Excavation at No. 1 Penny Street, Lancaster, photocopied offprint
- White, A, 1988 Did Lancaster Priory Have a Precinct Wall ?, *Contrebis*, 14, 8-12
- White A 1993 Setting The Scene: 1193 – 1500, in White, A, (ed) *A History of Lancaster 1193-1993*, Keele, 9-48

---

## APPENDIX 1

### PROJECT DESIGN

---

Oxford  
Archaeology  
North

November 2002

### 81 PENNY STREET, LANCASTER

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

### PROJECT DESIGN

#### ***Proposals***

*The following project design is offered in response to a request from Paul D Lawrence Associates for a proposal for a mitigative archaeological excavation in advance of a development at 77-81 Penny Street, Lancaster.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND**

1.1.1 The present project proposal for a mitigative archaeological excavation at 77-81 Penny Street, Lancaster (SD 4773 6158), immediately to the south of Lancaster city centre, is submitted by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) at the request of Paul D Lawrence Associates. It is in accordance with a verbal brief by the Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS).

1.1.2 **History of Investigation:** the northern part of the site (77-79 Penny Street) was subject to mitigation excavation in 1996 (LUAU 1996), in the course of which a number of Roman cremations were revealed. At some time following the investigation, the adjacent building to the north (81 Penny Street) partially collapsed and was then completely demolished. The present development site includes 77-79 Penny Street, which has been mitigated, and also 81 Penny Street, which has not been subject to archaeological investigation.

1.1.3 On the basis of the results from 77-79 Penny Street and the finding of substantial numbers of other Roman cremations between Penny Street and King Street, it is considered that there is a high risk for the recovery of further cremations within the extent of 81 Penny Street. It is therefore required by LCAS that a programme of archaeological investigation be undertaken on the southern part of the site.

### **1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH**

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) has considerable experience of the assessment, evaluation, and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large projects during the past 20 years. Evaluations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OA North has considerable knowledge of the archaeology of Lancaster, having undertaken many excavations and evaluations over the years in areas such as Church Street, Penny Street, Damside Street, Pye's Warehouse, Market Hall, Brock Street, King Street and also within and around Lancaster Castle. In particular OA North undertook the archaeological excavation at 77-79 Penny Street, which is part of the present development site.

1.2.2 OA North has the professional expertise and resource to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North and all its members of staff operate subject to the Institute of Field Archaeology (IFA) Code of Conduct and OA North is a registered organisation (No 17) with the IFA.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

2.1.1 The following mitigation recording programme has been designed, in accordance with a verbal brief by Lancashire County Archaeological Service. The principal aim is to provide a mitigative record of the archaeological features and stratigraphy that will be disturbed in the course of the proposed development. It will record any identified archaeological remains or deposits within the excavation areas and recover finds and environmental material where present.

### **2.2 EXCAVATION**

2.2.1 The requirement of the present programme is to investigate the footprint of 81 Penny Street, as 77-79 Penny Street has already been mitigated. This leaves an area of 75m<sup>2</sup> to be investigated. In practice excavation could extend no closer than 2.0m to the edge of 83 Penny Street, and therefore the area available for excavation is 45m<sup>2</sup> and the excavation costs are based upon this area. In practice, however, there are likely to be further areas where excavation can not be undertaken, or where the Roman deposits have been truncated. It is therefore proposed to mechanically strip off the overburden, including the concrete in the south-east corner, and subject to initial investigations, to then define the area requiring full mitigation excavation. In practice the final costs will relate to the area that is subject to full mitigation. In the south-west corner of the site is a water tank mounted on a concrete/breeze block foundation. It is assumed that the client will have removed this tank prior to the start of the archaeological excavation. The mechanical excavation will be mechanically excavated

down to the level of natural subsoils or the depth of significant archaeological deposits; there after the site will be excavated by manual techniques to record the exposed archaeological features. The topsoil will be stored in appropriate spoil heaps at the edge of the excavation area.

2.2.2 Following cleaning of the site and the establishment of a plan of the features present, detailed excavation will be undertaken in areas where features have been identified. The programme will investigate all identified features and although it is anticipated that much of the deposits will be truncated, any surviving deposits will be excavated and appropriately recorded. An attempt will be made to establish an overall chronology for activity within the excavation area.

2.2.3 The excavation will use a variety of techniques, from rapid cleaning to delicate excavation, to suit differing conditions. Following removal of the overburden, the excavation area will be subject to manual cleaning over the whole excavation area, since extant deposits may be fragile and machinery in their vicinity could disturb relatively delicate layers and relationships. The aim of this work will be to explore all features stratigraphically and to produce a clear plan of the complex. Detailed excavation will be targeted in areas of identified archaeological features and deposits encountered during the excavations will be sampled according to the appropriate professional standards to enable palaeoenvironmental analysis. A minimum sample of 20% of each major feature will be excavated, including all key relationships (a minimum sample of 50% will be made of discrete features such as postholes). Identified Cremations will be subject to 100% excavation and recording. Layers and features will be cleaned and excavated by an appropriate technique.

## 2.3 RECORDING METHODOLOGY

2.3.1 All elements of the work will, as a matter of course, be recorded in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*MAP2*) and the best practices formulated by English Heritage's Central for Archaeology (CFA).

2.3.2 **Survey Control:** a series of survey control points will be established by controlled traverse using a total station across the extent of the site. The control will be tied into the OS national grid and Ordnance Datum. The survey stations will be established as clearly marked nails into concrete surfaces. Station descriptions will be established for each principal control station.

2.3.3 **Planning:** archaeological planning will be undertaken using a data-logging total station and the data will be digitally incorporated into a CAD system during the excavation. There will not, therefore, be a requirement to establish a grid of pegs across the excavation areas. This process will generate scaled plans which will also 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. This digital process will go hand in hand with single context planning, whereby each entity is ascribed a unique layer but yet all or selective features can be viewed as required. It will therefore be possible to get a general overview of the excavation site without prejudicing the phasing or the post-excavation process. Three-dimensional recording of selected finds' classes will be undertaken using a total station, should the site warrant this treatment. Section drawings will for the most part be generated manually, although a total station has proved to be a cost effective tool for drawing very long sections.

2.3.4 **Context Recording:** the features will be recorded using *pro-forma* sheets which are in accordance with those used by CFA. Similar object record and photographic record *pro-formas* will be used. All written recording of survey data, contexts, artefacts and ecofacts will be cross-referenced from *pro-forma* record sheets using sequential numbering.

2.3.5 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 excavation will be generated. Photography will be undertaken using 35mm cameras on archival black and white print film as well as colour transparency. Photographs records will be maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

## 2.4 HUMAN REMAINS

2.4.1 The results of the excavations at 77-79 Penny Street suggest that human remains may be present, in the form of cremations. The recovery and exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be

made by OA North for the study area. All cremations and contents will be recorded in plan at 1:20. Significant details of any grave goods, should they be discovered, will be planned at 1:10. Photography will be used to provide a further detailed record of the skeletal evidence. The removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity.

- 2.4.2 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

## 2.5 FINDS

- 2.5.1 Finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (current IFA guidelines) and subject to expert advice. All material will be collected and identified by stratigraphic unit. Hand collection by stratigraphic unit will be the principal method of collection, but targeted on-site sieving will serve as a check on recovery levels. The location of findspots for objects deemed to be of potential significance to the understanding, interpretation and dating of individual features, or of the site as a whole, will be recorded in 3-D. All finds will be treated in accordance with OA North standard practice, which is cognisant of IFA and UKIC Guidelines. In general this will mean that (where appropriate or safe to do so) finds are washed, dried, marked, bagged and packed in stable conditions; no attempt at conservation will be made unless special circumstances require prompt action. In such case guidance will be sought from Ancient Monuments Laboratory (AML) conservator Jennifer Jones at Durham University. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC).

- 2.5.2 The Unit employs 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.

- 2.5.3 **Cremated Bone Analysis:** the assessment of the cremated bone assemblage will be by Angie Boyle of Oxford Archaeology. All bone recovered from stratified deposits will be subject to assessment and analysis will provide metrical, ageing or sex information (where possible). The bone assemblage will be scanned for selective species representation, to identify if there is non-human material within the cremations.

## 2.6 ARCHIVE

- 2.6.1 An archive for the project to the specification provided in *Appendices 3 and 6* of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition* (MAP2), prepared during the excavation programme, and supplemented as necessary during any phase of analysis, will be prepared to professional standards for deposition in an appropriate repository.

- 2.6.2 The results of the excavation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly quantified, ordered, and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in that organisation's Code of Conduct. The expense of preparing such an archive is part of the project's cost, but only represents a very small proportion of the total. The project archive would be deposited, as appropriate, with Lancaster Museum and Lancashire Record Office, in agreement with the Client and the relevant bodies.

- 2.6.3 The textual archive will be provided both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files. Any drawings will be provided as originals; copies of drawings from other sources will be provided as photocopies.

- 2.6.4 **Analysis:** OA North accords with best practice for the analysis of the excavation results in accordance with the guidelines of MAP2. This would involve a brief assessment of the data-set generated by the excavation, followed by a review of the excavation archive to establish the potential for further analysis and to examine the resource requirements for the completion of the post-excavation phase. This assessment will take place in close consultation with the client and LCAS, and the report format will also be agreed at this stage of the work. An appropriate programme of analysis



should then be undertaken to prepare a research archive, as detailed in Appendix 6 of *Management of Archaeological Projects*. A Harris Matrix, largely produced during the excavation programme will be completed and checked as part of the assessment. The assessment will involve the compilation of a brief archive report, detailing the stratigraphic history of the site, and the outlining the significance of the structural, artefactual and environmental evidence. A provisional programme of post-excavation analysis is proposed, on the basis of the anticipated recovery of material from the excavation; however, the extent of the programme can only be reliably assessed on completion of the fieldwork. The proposed programme anticipates analysis of the artefactual evidence and of the site stratigraphy leading to the production of a final report.

## 2.7 REPORTING

- 2.7.1 **Final Report:** the cost implication of this element of the programme will be subject to the assessment and review although a ball-park figure is presented for guidance purposes within the present costs. Following the analysis of the excavation results, a report will be written which will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme and will incorporate specialist reports on artefact assemblages and environmental reports. It will include an index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project, with an assessment of the site's development. It will incorporate appropriate illustrations, including copies of the site plans and section drawings all reduced to an appropriate scale. The report will consist of a statement of acknowledgements, lists of contents, executive summary, introduction summarising the brief and project design and any agreed departures from them, methodology, interpretative account of the site and associated structures, gazetteer of features, a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work.

## 2.8 OTHER MATTERS

- 2.8.1 **Health and Safety:** full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services) during the excavation, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. The Unit Health and Safety Statement conforms to all the provisions of the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Unit Managers) Health and Safety manual, as well as the Lancaster University Health and Safety Statement. A full risk assessment will be undertaken and the Universities Safety Policy Statement will be provided to the client. OA North has a set of service maps for the study area and as a matter of course, a U-Scan device will be undertaken prior to the commencement of excavation. The excavation will not extend any closer than 2m from 83 Penny Street, which is still standing, subject to advice from a structural engineer. If the excavation extends to a depth of 1m, there will be a need to step in order to ensure the integrity of the foundations of 83 Penny Street.
- 2.8.2 **Fencing:** the area will need to be fenced for the top-soil stripping by the clients contractor. Under provisions of the *Burial Act 1857*, all work upon human remains must be undertaken out of sight of the public; therefore fencing will have to be erected around the site which will block the site works from public view. At present a hoarding is in place.
- 2.8.3 **Insurance:** insurance in respect of claims for personal injury to or the death of any person under a contract of service with the Unit and arising out of an in the course of such person's employment shall comply with the employers' liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 and any statutory orders made there under. For all other claims to cover the liability of OA North in respect of personal injury or damage to property by negligence of OA North or any of its employees, there applies insurance cover of £ 3m for any one occurrence or series of occurrences arising out of one event.
- 2.8.4 **Access:** it is assumed that the client will provide unrestricted access to the excavation for the duration of the archaeological programme.
- 2.8.5 **Project Monitoring:** any proposed changes to this project design will be agreed with the Client and the Lancaster County Archaeologist. OA North will arrange a preliminary meeting if required, and will inform the Lancaster County Archaeological Service (LCAS) of the commencement of the project, by telephone, during the preceding week.
- 2.8.6 **Presentation:** in the interests of health and safety, it is recommended that there should be no public access, although it is possible that limited access could be made available if the client is willing and is pre-arranged.

- 2.8.7 **Working Hours:** excavation will be undertaken on the basis of a five day week, within daylight hours only.
- 2.8.8 **Reinstatement:** the excavated spoil will be left on site for disposal by the client. Deep features will be backfilled to make them safe, but otherwise it is understood that the archaeological contractor will have no liability for the backfilling or reinstatement of the excavation.
- 2.8.9 **Equipment:** following the removal of the concrete the overburden will be excavated by a JCB wheeled excavator, which will be fitted with a 1.6m toothless ditching bucket; the plant will be provided by OA North.
- 2.8.10 **Confidentiality:** the report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, for the particular purpose as defined in this project design, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties or for any other explicit purpose can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

### 3. **OUTLINE RESOURCES**

- 3.1 The following resource base will be necessary to achieve the proposals detailed above.
- 3.2 **Excavation**  
9 man-days Project Officer  
9 man-days Project Assistant x 2
- 3.3 **Assessment**  
5 man-day Project Officer  
3 man-days Illustrator  
4 man-day finds specialist
- 3.4 **Final Report**  
Subject to assessment
- 3.5 The total cost quoted on the accompanying sheet is a fixed price, inclusive of all management, overheads, and other disbursement costs (travel and expenses), to undertake the programme of work as defined in the project brief and this project design.
- 3.6 Any other variations from this programme of work at the Clients' direction will require recosting.
- ### 4. **STAFFING**
- 4.1 The project will be under the management of **Jamie Quartermaine, BA, Surv Dip MIFA** (OA North Project Manager), to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 4.2 The site supervisor will be **Vix Hughes, MSc, BA** (OA North Project Supervisor). Vix Hughes has carried out archaeological evaluations and excavations for OA North at various locations across the North West, in both rural and urban locations. She has recently completed excavations on the Roman site at Church Street, Lancaster and also Streamline Garage, Lancaster. Prior to her employment by OA North, she was employed by Carlisle Archaeological Unit and has carried out excavation work across Cumbria.

## APPENDIX 2

### SUMMARY CONTEXT LIST

Context No.	Description	Above	Below
150	Modern demolition debris / overburden	151, 156, 157, 160, 164,	Exposed surface
		164, 166, 170	
151	Fill of possible cremation 152	152	150
152	Cut of possible cremation	168	151
153	Cellar walls	154	155
154	Construction cut for walls 153	162	153
155	Construction backfill of 154	153	156
156	Cellar backfill	155	150
157	Fill of amorphous feature 158	158	150
158	Cut of amorphous feature	162	157
159	Makeup deposit	162	165, 169
160	Fill of tree disturbance 161	161	150
161	Interface of tree disturbance	169	160
162	Natural subsoil / drift geology	l.o.e	154, 158, 159, 163, 167
163	Fill of possible stakehole 168	162	168
164	Back wall	165	150
165	Cut for wall foundation 164	159	164
166	Wall	167	150
167	Cut for wall foundation 166	162	166
168	Possible stakehole	163	152
169	Makeup deposit	159	161, 170
170	Makeup deposit	169	150

---

### APPENDIX 3 FINDS LIST

---

Object No.	Context No.	Material	Quantity	Date
1000	150	Ceramic	1	Post-medieval
1001	150	Clay pipe	2	Post-medieval

---

## ILLUSTRATIONS

---

### FIGURES

- Fig 1 Location map showing 81 Penny Street and sites referred to in the text
- Fig 2 Location of 1999 & 2003 excavation trenches
- Fig 3 Plan of excavation trench - 81 Penny Street

### PLATES

- Plate 1 General view of features located during excavation, including the cellar remains, *153*, (top), probable cremation, *152* (right) and linear feature (left).
- Plate 2: Partially excavated probable cremation, *152*
- Plate 3: Excavated cremation, *152*

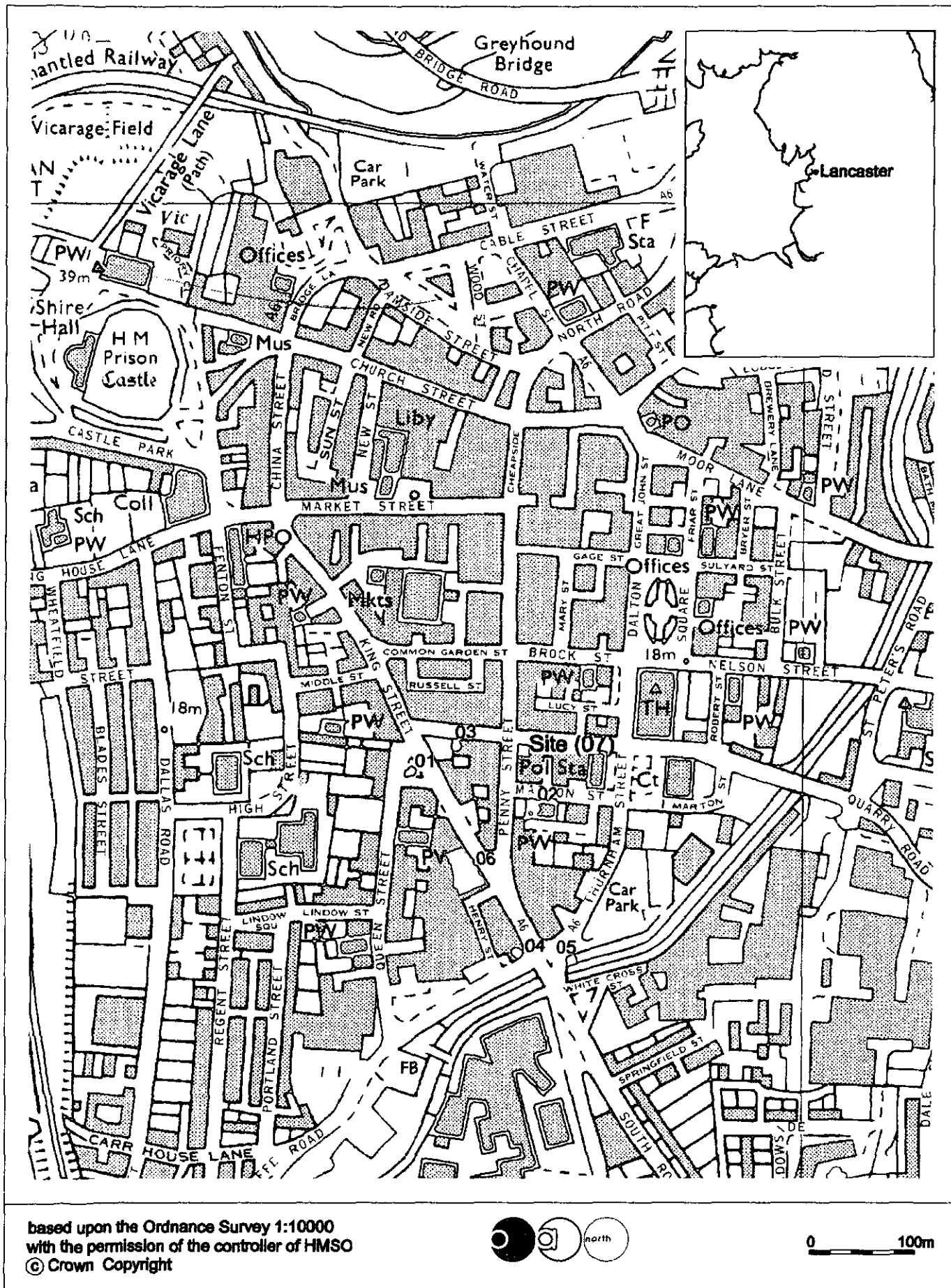


Figure 1: Location map showing 81 Penny Street and sites referred to in the text

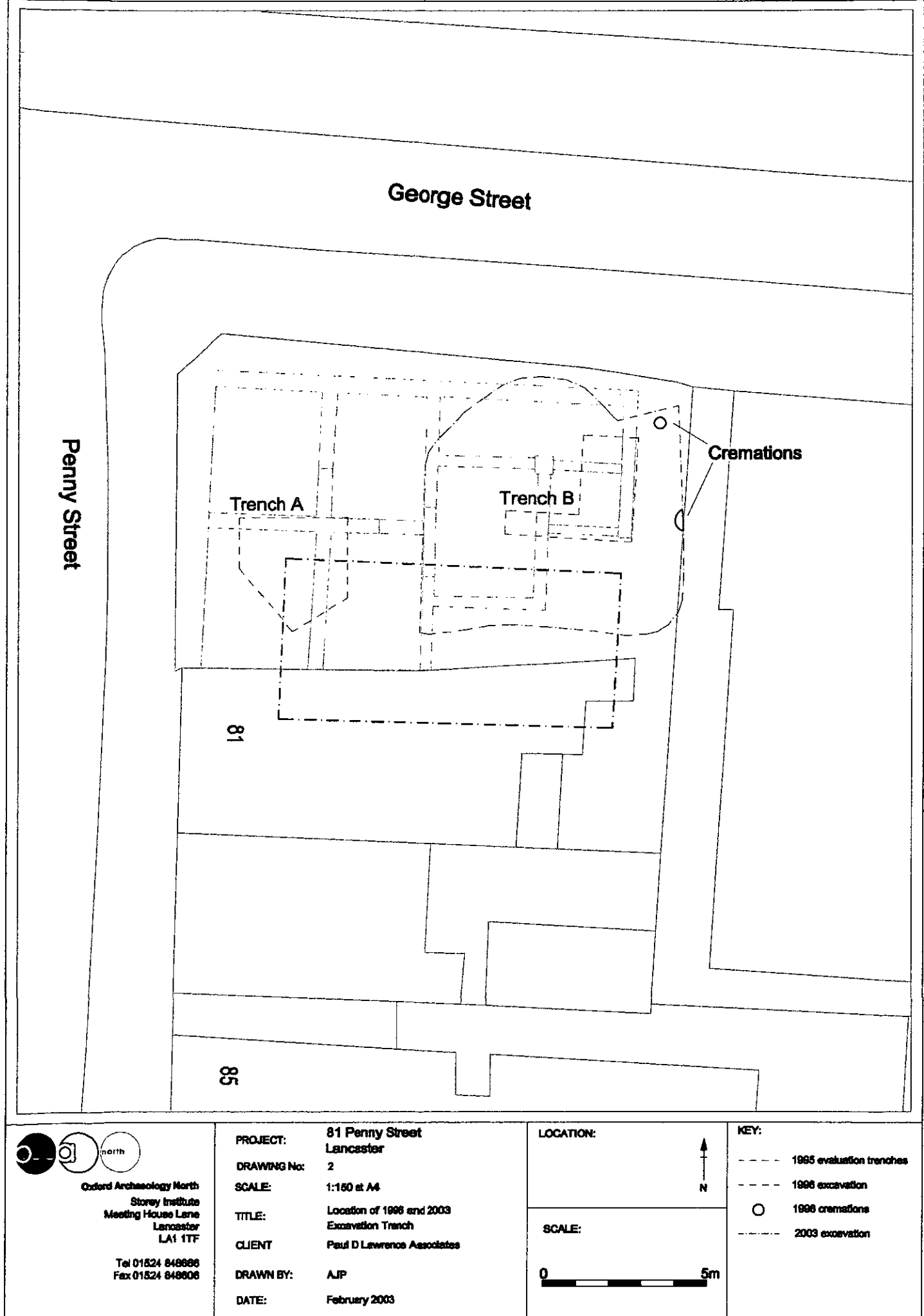


Figure 2: Location of 1996 and 2003 excavation trench

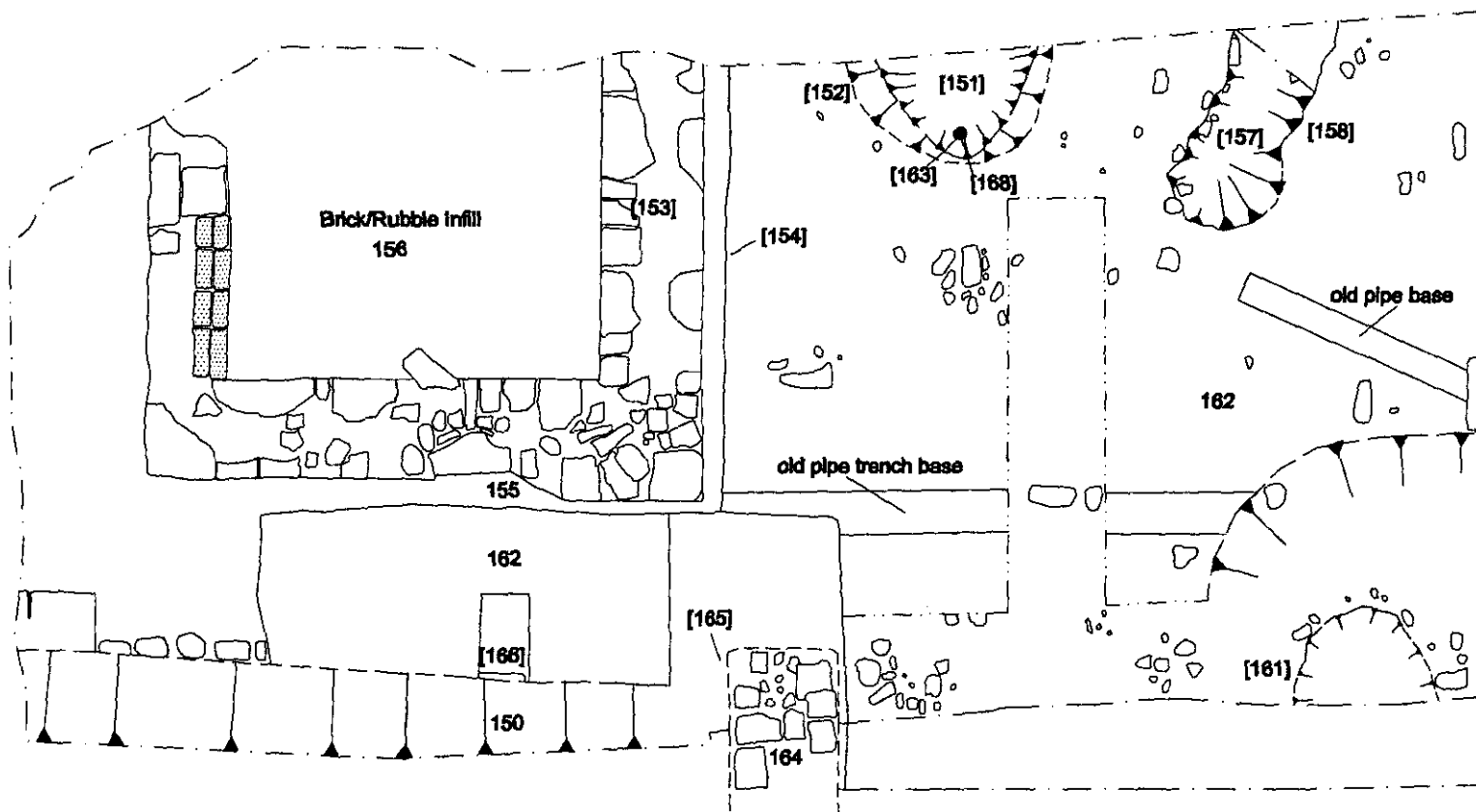


Figure 3 : Plan of the excavation trench - 81 Penny Street





Plate 1: General view of features located during excavation, including the cellar remains, *152*, (top), probable cremation, *152* (right) and linear feature (left).



Plate 2: Partially excavated probable cremation, *152*



Plate 3: Excavated cremation, 152