

Event No: 13329  
SMR: ✓ GIS: ✓  
Parish: CM21

# Proposed Pipeline Route, Stannington Station, Northumberland

Archaeological Evaluation



**T&WM**  
**TYNE & WEAR**  
**MUSEUMS**

ARCHAEOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT

**Proposed Pipeline Route,  
Stannington Station,  
Northumberland**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

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Commissioned by:

Northumbrian Water Ltd.

August 2004

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Executive Summary	4
1 Introduction	5
2 Archaeological and Historical Background	5
3 Aims and Objectives	6
4 Methodology	6
5 Results of the Evaluation	7
6 Discussion	8
7 Recommendations for Mitigation	9
8 Bibliography	9

**APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Context List	10
Appendix 2: Finds List	10
Appendix 3: Environmental sample list	11
Appendix 4: Work Specification	12

## TABLE OF FIGURES

Frontispiece: Aerial photograph of development area showing enclosures visible as cropmarks

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Location of archaeological evaluation trenches showing aerial photographic plot of possible features and area of easement for the proposed works

Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1

Figure 4: South facing section of Ditch 102, Trench 1

Figure 5: South facing section of linear feature 113, Trench 1

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 1, east facing section of ditch 102

Plate 2: Trench 1, view of ditch 102 facing northeast

Plate 3: Trench 1 view of cut 113 and ditch 102 facing northwest

Plate 4: Beehive quern, scale 0.25m

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*An evaluation was carried out adjacent to Netherton Moor Farm, Stannington Station along a section of the line of a proposed pipeline route for the Water Treatment Works at Stannington, Northumberland by Northumbrian Water Ltd.*

*The evaluation involved the investigation of one field which represented only a small portion at the northern end of the pipeline route that measured a total length of 3750 metres. An earlier archaeological assessment identified through the Sites and Monuments record and aerial photography an area of particular importance due to the presence of a number of cropmark enclosures and associated linear features. The features were thought likely to date to the Iron-Age or Romano-British period.*

*The work was carried out in June 2004 by Tyne and Wear Museums to a specification approved by the County Archaeological Officer, from the conservation Team of Northumberland County Council. The objectives of the evaluation were to determine whether archaeologically significant deposits exist on the site.*

*Three evaluation trenches were excavated in total. A large ditch was recorded within trench 1 which measured 3.60 metres in width by 0.90m in depth. A small linear feature was also recorded to the east of the ditch. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the above features it is likely that the ditch forms an element of an Iron-Age or Romano-British agricultural and settlement complex. A stone quern was also recovered dating from the Iron-Age/ Romano-British period from the surface of the topsoil near trench 1. The two additional trenches provided no evidence of archaeological features. The course of the ditch identified in trench 1 can be followed on aerial photographs and is indicative that further features may survive associated with the early agricultural landscape or settlement.*

*It is the advice of this report that further archaeological mitigation work is required prior to the commencement of the proposed works. A watching brief should be undertaken during the removal of topsoil along the route of the pipeline in this area with possible further archaeological evaluation and recording dependant on the results of the watching brief.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Project

1.1.1 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken during June 2004 in response to a proposed pipeline route for the Water Treatment Works at Stannington, Northumberland (fig.1). Three evaluation trenches were excavated by the Archaeology Department of Tyne and Wear Museums, and commissioned by Northumbrian Water Ltd. The trenches were required to inform the planning authority of the character of archaeological deposits on the site.

### 1.2 Location and Land use (Figs. 1 & 2)

1.2.1 The site was situated adjacent to Netherton Moor Farm, Stannington Station, Northumberland (NGR NZ 230 781). The proposed pipeline is bounded to the west by the East coast Main Line, to the east by the Pegwhistle Burn, to the north by Stannington Road and to the south of the by the river Blyth. The site consists of a large rectilinear field currently under crops.

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## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The Sites and Monument Record and aerial photographs held at Swindon in the National Monuments Record indicated that a number of rectilinear enclosures lay along the adopted route of the pipeline. The Sites and Monuments Records data for the enclosures south of Stannington Station suggests that these enclosures are of Romano-British date. Recent archaeological work within the Northumbrian Coastal Plain has highlighted the prehistoric origin of much of this settlement (Mabbitt 2003). The Iron-age settlement pattern in the area appears to have been a number of small enclosed farmsteads, consisting of one or more roundhouses within a rectilinear enclosure (*cf.* Stobbs 2001, Speak and McKelvey 2003).

2.2 Evidence for activity dating to the early medieval period in the study area is scarce. The place names Stannington, Bedlington, Cramlington all include the Old English *-ingastun* elements, which are suggestive of a Middle-Saxon (seventh – eighth century) origin (Mabbitt 2003).

2.3 The medieval period in the area is much better evidenced. The village plan of Stannington clearly shows its medieval or earlier origins, and its associated strip-field system can be seen in aerial photographs and as earthwork features. Immediately to the east of the study area is a possible site of the deserted medieval village of Twisle. There is documentary evidence for a manorial settlement at Plessey dating from the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, in addition to the mill (SMR 11446) and Chapel (SMR 11430) (Mabbitt 2003).

2.4 Cartographic evidence suggests that the agricultural use of the site during the medieval period continued through the post-medieval period. The modern field system appears to derive from the changes made to the medieval strip fields during enclosures in the eighteenth century, and there was little further development in the study area (Mabbitt 2003).

2.5 The biggest change to the area during the Victorian period was the construction of the North East Railway. This has had a profound effect on the landscape of the area in that existing land boundaries in the vicinity of the railway were changed and routes of access altered. Also, to the north of the study area, a small settlement grew up around the station (Mabbitt 2003).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1 The aim of this evaluation was to determine whether significant archaeological deposits survived within the area of the proposed development. It also sought to provide information on the nature, quality, depth and degree of preservation of any such remains. This information is required to allow an informed decision upon the necessity or not of further archaeological excavation prior to the commencement of the proposed works.

3.2 Specific objectives were guided by an aerial photographic plot to establish whether archaeologically significant deposits were present within the easement of the proposed works, in particular the approximate line of the pipe trench itself. The three trenches were targeted to investigate as follows:

- Trench 1-A large linear feature.
- Trench 2-The area outside of the enclosures as a 'blank' control area.
- Trench 3-The projected line of a linear feature.

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 General Methodology**

4.1.1 The evaluation was carried out in compliance with all the relevant codes of practice by suitably qualified and experienced staff. The specification for the evaluation approved by the County Archaeological Officer stipulated that the trenches be excavated by machine down to the first significant archaeological horizon and be thereafter hand excavated.

#### **4.2 Excavation and Recording**

4.2.1 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the methodology contained within the specification for the evaluation approved by the County Archaeological Officer (appendix 4).

## 5 RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION

### 5.1 Trench 1 (Figs 3, 4 & 5, Plates 1 – 4)

5.1.1 Light yellowish brown clay subsoil (101) was encountered at 53.74m AOD, at a minimum depth of 0.23m below the ground surface. The subsoil varied in composition throughout its depth which was investigated within a sondage excavated through a portion of a ditch found within the trench. At a depth of 0.40m below the surface the subsoil consisted of brown sandy clay interleaved throughout with grey sand (116) which contained small fragments of tree roots. Below deposit (116) at a depth of 0.70m the subsoil became heavily water logged and consisted of a mixed grey sand and silt (115) with inclusions of roots. The water logging of the lower portion of subsoil has preserved small tree roots within its matrix. One fragment of naturally occurring flint was recovered from deposit (116).

5.1.2 The large linear feature identified on an aerial photograph was encountered at the western portion of the trench. The feature represented a large ditch (102) which measured 3.60 metres in width by 0.90m in depth. In profile the upper edges of the feature were gently sloped with the lower portion steeply sloped down to a rounded base. There was no evidence that the ditch was recut and the succession of fills within the ditch suggests that the feature remained open for a long period of time and silted naturally. The primary fill (107) of the ditch was partially waterlogged and consisted of dark grey silt with occasional inclusions of small stones and lenses of dark brown silt with small roots. Two small fragments of burnt bone and a beetle's carapace were recovered from deposit (107). The fill was overlain by a mottled layer of grey silty sand mixed throughout with orangey brown clayey silt (106). Deposit (106) was overlain by a thin layer of orangey brown and light grey sandy clay (104) which contained frequent small flecks of sandstone. Deposit (104) extended to the upper edge of the western side of the trench. The lower portion of deposit (104) was sealed by firm greyish brown sandy silt (105) which was densely mottled with rust coloured flecks. Deposit (105) was overlain by a similar deposit (103) which contained small flecks of sandstone. Three fragments of unworked flint were recovered from deposit (103). The silted up trench was overlain by a deposit (109) which extended beyond the edges of the ditch and was visible patchily throughout the trench. Deposit (109) represents the remnant of a buried ploughsoil that consisted of orangey brown gritty clayey silt. One fragment of unworked flint was recovered from deposit (103).

5.1.3 Environmental samples were taken of all fills within the ditch including a column sample from the base of the feature.

5.1.4 The remains of a small linear feature (113) was recorded 2.75m east of the ditch, orientated along the same north-south axis. The eastern side of the feature was truncated by a later field drain (112). In profile the surviving western side of the feature was steeply sloped with the exception of the upper



break of slope which was very gentle; the base was flattish. The fill consisted of dark orangey brown sandy silt (114) from which a fragment of charcoal was recovered. The fill was very similar in composition to the overlying ploughsoil (109) which initially obscured the edge of the cut.

5.1.5 A series of three field drains (111), (112), (120) orientated from north to south cut across the trench which were sealed by the existing topsoil (100). Two unworked fragments of flint were recovered from the topsoil which consisted of dark brown loam.

## 5.2 Trench 2 (Not illustrated)

5.2.1 Light brown clay subsoil (118) was encountered at 54.07m AOD, at a minimum depth of 0.23m below the ground surface. No deposits of archaeological significance were encountered within the trench. The surface of the subsoil was cut by a series of modern plough marks (117) orientated east to west. The subsoil was overlain by a layer of loamy topsoil (121). One fragment of unworked flint was recovered from the topsoil.

## 5.3 Trench 3 (Not illustrated)

5.3.1 Light yellowish brown clay subsoil (119) was encountered at 54.05m AOD, a minimum depth of 0.25m below the ground surface. No deposits of archaeological significance were encountered within the trench. A small area of disturbance from tree roots was recorded in the eastern portion of the trench. The subsoil was overlain by a layer of loamy topsoil (122).

## 6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Although no datable finds were recovered from the ditch recorded within trench 1 its substantial size suggests that the feature is of an early date and associated with the Romano-British/ Iron Age enclosures noted from aerial photography. The ditch which may have served as a boundary or drainage ditch had remained open for a long period of time and silted up naturally. The enclosures lie at the core of an extensive network of linear features which probably represent a complex agricultural landscape of drainage ditches and gullies accompanied by droveways between the various settlements. The stray find of a Beehive Quern (plate 4) of late Iron-Age/ Romano-British date further confirms the suggested date of the complex. The age of the small linear feature within trench 1 is not known. The importance of this feature is that it indicates that small features survive within the field despite the shallow topsoil and action of the plough.

6.2 No deposits of archaeological interest were encountered within trenches 2 and 3. The absence of archaeological features within trench 2 is only indicative of a localised absence of archaeological deposits. A recent excavation of a similar site that dated to the Iron-Age recorded a chronological sequence which involved an unenclosed settlement phase prior to an enclosed settlement phase (Speak and McKelvey 2003). Therefore although

the proposed pipeline route avoids the enclosures it may encounter unenclosed settlement in the form of hut circles and associated gullies

6.3 The absence of archaeological features within trench 3 indicates that the proposed extension of the linear feature observed on the aerial photographic plot (fig. 2) did not extend as far south as the trench.

## 7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MITIGATION

7.1 It is the advice of this report that a further two phases of archaeological mitigation work are required prior to the commencement of the proposed works within the area of the field investigated during this evaluation. Phase one would involve a watching brief during the removal of topsoil along the route of the pipeline. The removal of topsoil would be conducted under the supervision of an archaeologist. A further phase of archaeological excavation and recording may be required dependant on the results of the watching brief. This would involve an initial clean of areas where archaeological features are encountered to ascertain the nature and extent of the deposits encountered. Consultation would then be required with the conservation team of Northumberland County and the developer to ascertain the best method of excavation with the aim of rendering the route of the pipeline clear for the commencement of the works. The course of the ditch encountered within trench 1 could be ascertained during the topsoil strip with a watching brief conducted where the excavations for the pipeline itself intercept the feature.

## 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mabbitt, J, 2003, *Stannington Station STW Baseline Archaeological Assessment*, (unpublished TWM report)

Stobbs, G. 2001 *Procter and Gamble, Seaton Delaval: Archaeological Watching Brief* (unpublished TWM report)

Speak, S. and McKelvey, J. 2003 *Excavation of an Iron Age Settlement at East Brunton Farm, Newcastle upon Tyne* (Unpublished TWM report, publication forthcoming)

**Appendix 1: List of Contexts**

Context	Area	Description	Depth
100	t.1	topsoil	0.40m
101	t.1	natural subsoil	53.74m AOD
102	t.1	cut of ditch	0.95m
103	t.1	fill of 102	0.17m
104	t.1	fill of 102	0.22m
105	t.1	fill of 102	0.26m
106	t.1	fill of 102	0.19m
107	t.1	fill of 102	0.28m
108	t.1	fill of 102	0.18m
109	t.1	buried ploughsoil	0.23m
110	-	Not used	-
111	t.1	field drain	0.55m
112	t.1	field drain	0.60m
113	t.1	linear feature	0.17m
114	t.1	fill of 113	0.17m
115	t.1	natural subsoil	53.01m AOD
116	t.1	natural subsoil	53.31m AOD
117	t.2	plough marks	0.14m
118	t.2	natural subsoil	54.07m AOD
119	t.3	natural subsoil	54.05m AOD
120	t.1	field drain	0.60m
121	t.2	topsoil	0.34m
122	t.3	topsoil	0.32m

**Appendix 2: List of Finds**

Cont ext	Area	Type	Quantity	Description	age
100	t.1	stone	1	Upper half of Beehive quern. plough damaged on the top.	Late Iron-Age/ Romano-British
100	t.1	flint	2	unworked	-
103	t.1	flint	3	unworked	-
107	t.1	bone	2	Small fragments	-
109	t.1	flint	1	unworked	-
116	t.1	flint	1	unworked	-
121	t.2	flint	1	unworked	-

**Appendix 3: List of Environmental samples**

Context	Sample number	Quantity	Description
103	1	20lt.	fill of 102
104	2	20lt.	fill of 102
105	3	20lt.	fill of 102
106	4	20lt.	fill of 102
107	5	20lt.	fill of 102
108	6	20lt.	fill of 102
114	7	20lt.	fill of 113
-	8	Column sample	fill of 102
115	9	20lt.	Natural subsoil
107	-	1	Beetle carapace
114	-	3	Charcoal fragments
115	-	1	Wood fragment

**Appendix 4: Work Specification**

# PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT STANNINGTON STATION ROAD SWTW PROPOSED PIPELINE ROUTE

## 1 Introduction

This Project Design represents a Methods Statement for undertaking an archaeological evaluation along a section of the line of a proposed pipeline route for the Water Treatment Works at Stannington, Northumberland by Northumbrian Water Ltd. The proposed route (c 3750m in length) was determined following an Archaeological Assessment undertaken by Tyne and Wear Museums, the objective of which was to propose the most suitable route balancing engineering needs against potential damage to the historic environment (TWM 2003).

## 2 Site Location

2.1 The proposed development is centred at NGR NZ 230781, adjacent to Netherton Moor Farm. The area is bounded to the west by the East Coast main Line, to the east by the Pegwhistle Burn, to the north by Stannington Road and to the south by the river Blyth. The Assessment covered an area c 4km by 3km centred upon this location, and concluded that the original proposed pipeline routes passed through an area of known archaeological interest where aerial photography had indicated the presence of a number of cropmark enclosures, probably of Romano-British date. Elsewhere, the proposed route led through an extensive landscape of medieval ridge and furrow. The evaluation proposed by the Project Design involves only a small area at the northern end of the pipeline route.

## 3 Archaeological Background

3.1 The Sites and Monuments Record and aerial photographs held at Swindon in the National Monuments Record indicated that a number of rectilinear enclosures lay along the adopted route of the pipeline. These enclosures lie at the core of an extensive network of linear features visible on the aerial photographs which probably represent a complex agricultural landscape of drainage ditches and gullies accompanied by droeways between the various settlements. In places the adopted pipeline route intercepts this network of gullies. This Project design outlines a methodology by which the impact of the pipeline upon the cropmark site can be established by means of an evaluation consisting of three trial trenches. A scheme of geophysical prospection has been considered but rejected on the grounds that geophysics along a linear route has a limited effectiveness.

3.2 The objectives of the evaluation are to determine whether archaeologically significant deposits exist on the site. If such deposits are found, an attempt should be made to ascertain their extent, broad date, character, depth and degree of preservation. An environmental sampling

strategy will be undertaken with subsequent analysis if necessary. The results of the evaluation may lead to a further stage of investigation. J Huntley, Regional Scientific Advisor (Northeast) for English Heritage, has formulated a site specific palaeoenvironmental sampling programme which recommends a 30 litre bulk sampling strategy from all archaeological deposits of significance. If the deposits are uniform across the site, then a system of sampling at specific intervals dependent on trench size should be adopted. Finally, if highly organic deposits are encountered, smaller more frequent samples should be taken and an urgent site visit by J Huntley should be arranged to allow an informed decision to be made on further sampling.

3.3 Three evaluation trenches will be examined, each 25m by 1.5m in size and located *as per* figure 1; their precise location can be determined in the field. Trench 1 should determine the nature, depth and degree of preservation of a large gully visible on aerial photographs; Trench 2 examines a blank 'control' area and Trench 3 lies along the projected line of a further gully.

3.4 The trenches should be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The deposits and the base of all features and contexts within them must be adequately levelled by reference to an OS benchmark. Features will be located within the site throughout by the use of a total station theodolite.

3.5 It is not anticipated that any trench will require shoring. Each trench will be fenced by 1m high barrier fencing.

3.6 Once the fieldwork has been completed, an estimate of costs for the production of a report for the County Conservation Team can be made.

3.7 An evaluation exercise has the objective of providing sufficient information for the County Archaeologist to make informed planning decisions. If an unexpected discovery is made, it may be that further archaeological work will be necessary.

#### **4 Fieldwork Methodology**

4.1 All work should be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

4.2 All staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. All staff should familiarise themselves with the results of any previous evaluation work prior to the start of the fieldwork on site.

4.3 All machine work will be carried out under the direct supervision of TWM Archaeology.

4.4 The topsoil or recent overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits. The continued

use of machinery beyond this point should only take place when specifically agreed with the planning authority. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned using appropriate hand tools.

4.5 The top of the first significant archaeological horizon must be cleaned by hand and inspected for features. All subsequent deposits must be excavated by hand.

4.6 Manual excavation will examine all sensitive deposits, and will enable an assessment of the nature, date and survival of deposits. The deposits will be investigated sufficiently to establish their character, but the full depth of the deposits to natural will not necessarily be established across the full trench. All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. All features exposed will be sample excavated. This would typically involve the excavation of 50% of discrete features and 25% of linear features where uniform fill is observed. For linear features where non-uniform fill is present, a greater percentage may be excavated if appropriate, and this should be discussed with the County Conservation Team. No feature should be wholly excavated as the intention is simply to evaluate the archaeological resource at this stage. Similarly, structures and features worthy of preservation should not be unduly excavated.

4.7 All excavation, both by machine and by hand, must be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be worthy of preservation *in situ*.

4.8 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) should be made of all deposits and structures uncovered. All work should be recorded using *pro forma* record sheets and/or text descriptions appropriate to the work. Any discrete features will be planned at a scale of 1:20 and / or in section at 1:10. The photographic record should be in colour transparency and black and white print and should include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs should be kept.

4.9 The stratigraphy of all trenches will be recorded even where no archaeological deposit have been identified. Where stratified deposits are encountered, a 'Harris' matrix should be completed.

4.10 The site grid should be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. All deposits and the base of all trenches must be adequately levelled.

4.11 Artefact collection and discard policies must be fit for the defined purpose. A 100% finds collection policy will be maintained during fieldwork with discard arrangements ascertained during post-excavation assessment.



4.12 An assessment should be made of any archaeological deposits revealed for their potential for dating or environmental analysis. If thought appropriate, following consultation with the County Archaeologist and Dr J Huntley, Regional Scientific Advisor (Northeast) for English Heritage, such analysis must take place and a contingency arrangement to cover such work. Bulk samples from the fills of all uncontaminated cut features with the potential to preserve environmental information will be collected with a view to establishing a programme of analytical assessment during the post-evaluation work. The palaeo-environmental analysis will be subject to a separate pricing quotation which is based upon a sequence of initial processing, preliminary assessment and full analysis if appropriate. Provision for at least one site visit by Dr Huntley to inspect and advise on any deposits encountered must be made.

4.13 In the event of burials being discovered the archaeologist will procure and comply with all statutory consents under the Burial Act 1857.

## **5. Storage**

5.1 During and after the evaluation, all objects will be stored in the appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (this will include controlled storage, correct packaging, regular monitoring of conditions, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material).

5.2 All storage must have appropriate security provision.

## **6. Finds Processing**

6.1 All finds processing, conservation work and storage of finds will be carried out in compliance with the IFA Guidelines for Finds Work and those set by UKIC.

6.2 Artefact collection and discard policies will be fit for the defined purpose.

6.3 Finds should be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage with particular reference to pottery. Artefacts should be used to establish the potential for all categories of finds should further archaeological work be necessary.

6.4 All bulk finds which are not discarded will be washed and, with the exception of animal bone, marked. Marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. Bulk finds will be appropriately bagged and boxed and recorded. This process will be carried out no later than two months after the end of excavation.

6.5 All small finds will be recorded as individual items. All small finds will be appropriately packaged. Vulnerable objects will be specially packaged, and textiles, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist

systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

6.6 Assessment and analysis of artifacts and environmental samples will be carried by an approved named specialist.

6.7 The deposition and disposal of artifacts will be agreed with the legal owner and recipient museum prior to the work taking place. Where the legal owner decides to retain some or all artefacts adequate provision must be made for recording them. The location of the finds must be noted in the report.

6.8 All retained artifacts and ecofacts will be cleaned and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum.

## 7. Site Archive

7.1 The site archive will be prepared to the standard specified in Management of Archaeological Projects, appendix 3 (HBMC 1991) and in accordance with the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (UKIC 1990). This will include the indexing, ordering, quantification and checking for consistency of all original context records, object records, bulk find records, sample records, skeleton records (if recovered), photographic records, drawing records, photographs, drawings, level books, site note-books, spot-dating records and conservation records. It will be ensured that all artefacts and ecofacts recovered and retained from the site are packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions and that all their associated records are complete. This will be completed by the end of the field work. A summary account of the context record will be included and written by the supervising archaeologist.

7.2 The archive and the finds will be submitted to the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. The location of artefacts will be stated in the archive. **Northumberland County Council will need confirmation that the archive had been submitted to the museum.**

## 8 Report Preparation / Dissemination

8.1 The report should be bound, with each page and paragraph numbered.

8.2 Copies of the report of the work should be submitted by the archaeologist to the developer and the County SMR (one bound copy and one unbound copy) within **three weeks** of completion of the work.

8.3 If significant remains are discovered which, in the opinion of the County Archaeologist, merit formal publication the contractor should

prepare a report for submission to a suitable journal within one year of completion of the fieldwork. A summary should be prepared for 'Archaeology in Northumberland' and submitted to Liz Williams, Northumberland SMR Officer, by December of the year in which the work is completed.

8.4 The report should be bound with each page and paragraph numbered, and include as a minimum the following:

- A location plan of the site showing its location within the county, parish and immediate surrounding area
- A location plan of the trenching within the site. This must be to a suitable scale, and located with reference to the National Grid, to allow the results to be accurately plotted on the Sites and Monuments Record.
- Plans and sections of archaeology located
- A summary statement of the results
- A table summarising the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and spot dating of significant finds.

## 9 Contingency arrangements

9.1 In some circumstances a programme of evaluation may, in answering the questions posed, also raise others of an unexpected nature. Every attempt should be made to deal with the problem by agreed modification of the specification while fieldwork is in progress.

A contingency arrangement of an additional **20m** of trench should be provided to answer particular issues, which arise during fieldwork. This contingency can only be undertaken after discussion with the Assistant County Archaeologist and a representative of the developer.

9.2 The County Archaeologist must be kept informed of variations to the Project Design, particularly regarding the enlargement of any trenches.

## 10 Monitoring

10.1 The County Archaeologist must be informed on the start date and timetable for the evaluation **in advance** of work commencing. Reasonable access to the site should be allowed to the County Archaeologist or his/her nominee for the purpose of monitoring the archaeological scheme.

## 11 Staff

11.1 Project Management of the scheme will be undertaken by Mr S Speak, Senior Keeper of Field Archaeology for TWM. On-site staff may vary according to the works programme, but may consist of any of Mr J Mabbitt, Mr W Muncaster or Mr T Frain. *Curricula vitae* are available on request.

## **12 Health and Safety**

12.1 All staff are provided with protective headgear and footwear, gloves and face-masks as appropriate and high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

12.2 The Team Leader is supplied with a mobile telephone.

12.3 The team will be equipped with a First Aid kit.

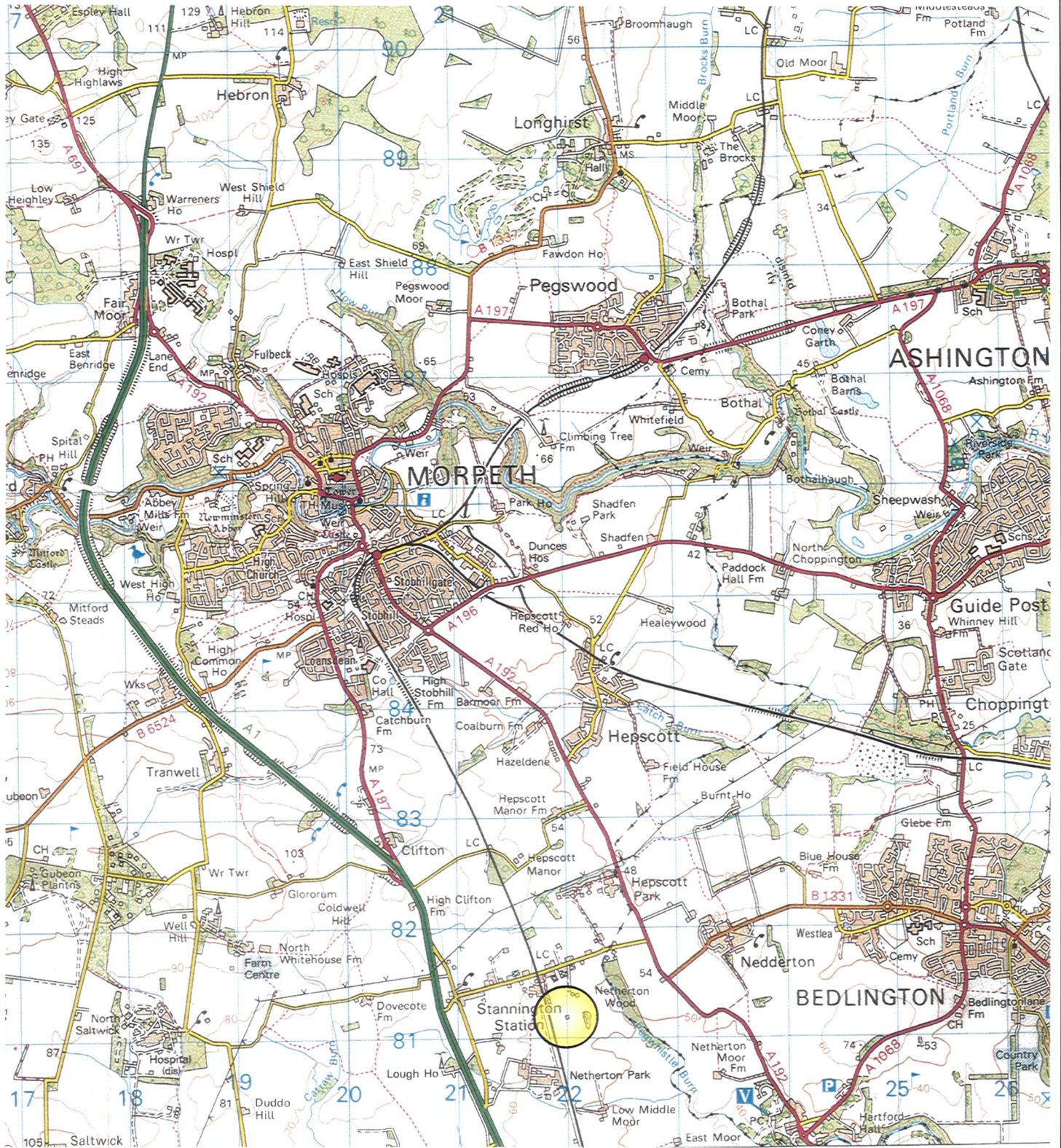
12.4 The generic Risk Assessment for archaeological staff is enclosed, accompanied by the contents pages of the Tyne and Wear Museums Health, Safety and Risk assessment policies. The full document is available for inspection at the East Lodge, Jesmond Old Cemetery Gates, Newcastle upon Tyne.

12.5 The closest hospital is Morpeth Cottage Hospital on 01670 395 6000. A & E facilities are available at Wansbeck and Ashington General Hospital (01670 521212).

12.6 The staff agree to comply with any Health and Safety regulations required by Northumbrian Water.

## **Bibliography**

TWM 2003 Stannington Station STW; Baseline Archaeological Assessment



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 Newcastle City Council, LA 076244, 2004

1:50000



Figure 1: Site Location



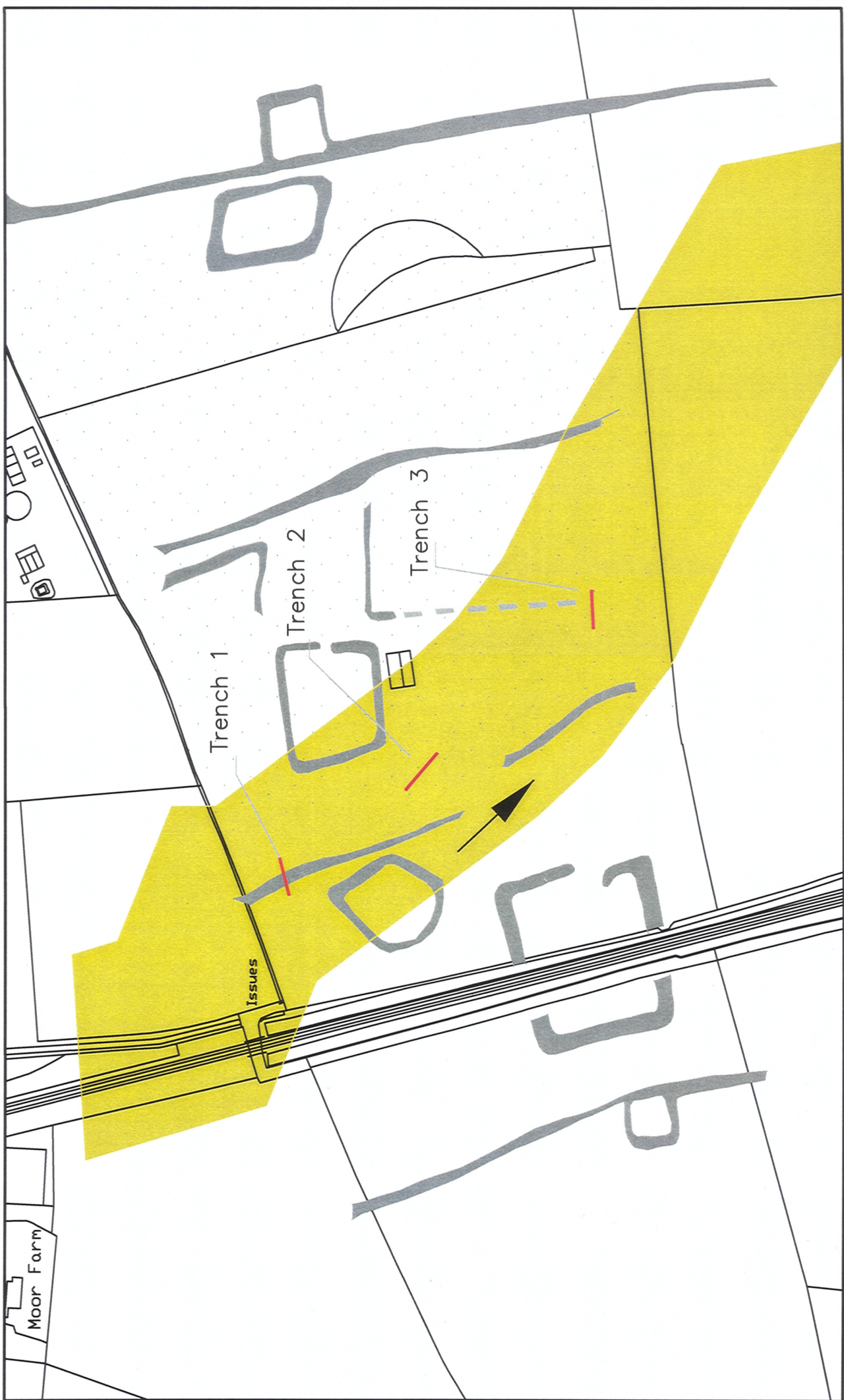
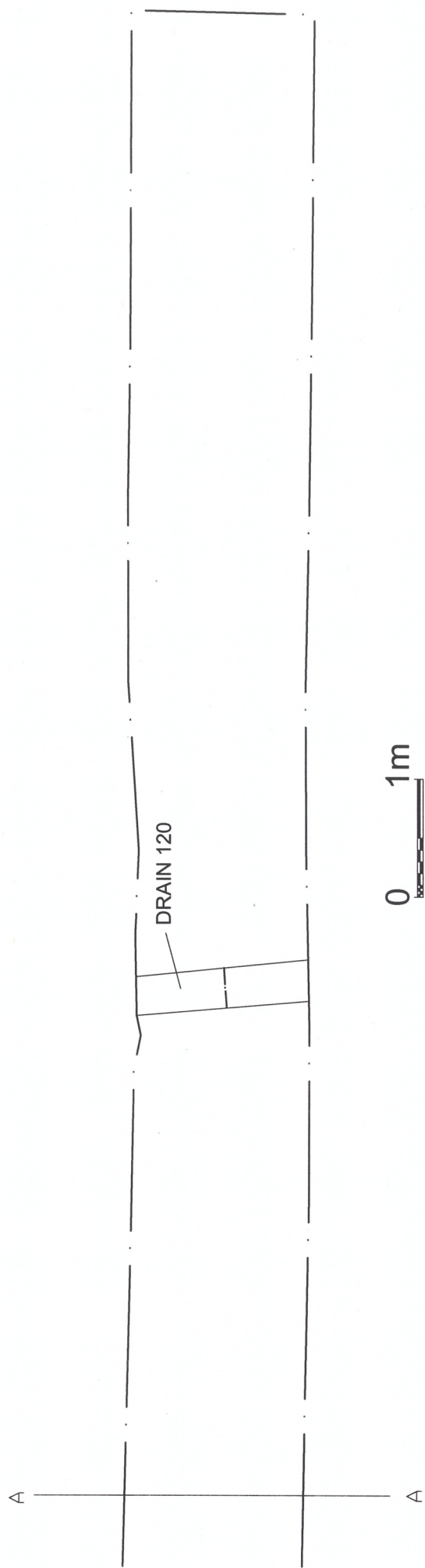
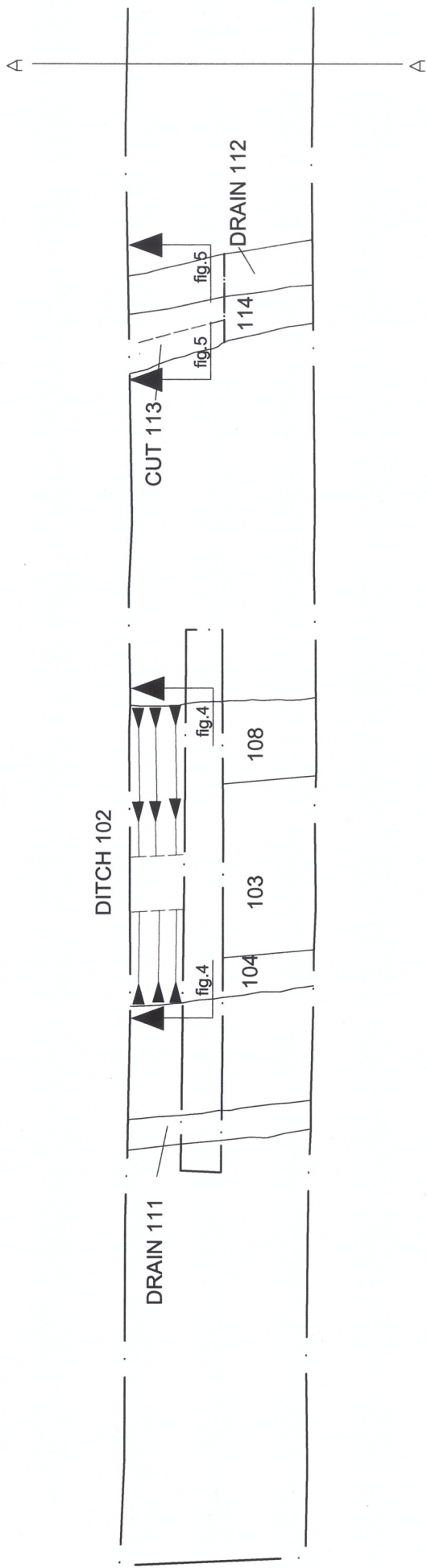


Figure 2: Location of archaeological evaluation trenches showing aerial photographic plot of possible features and area of easement for the proposed works



1:50

Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1

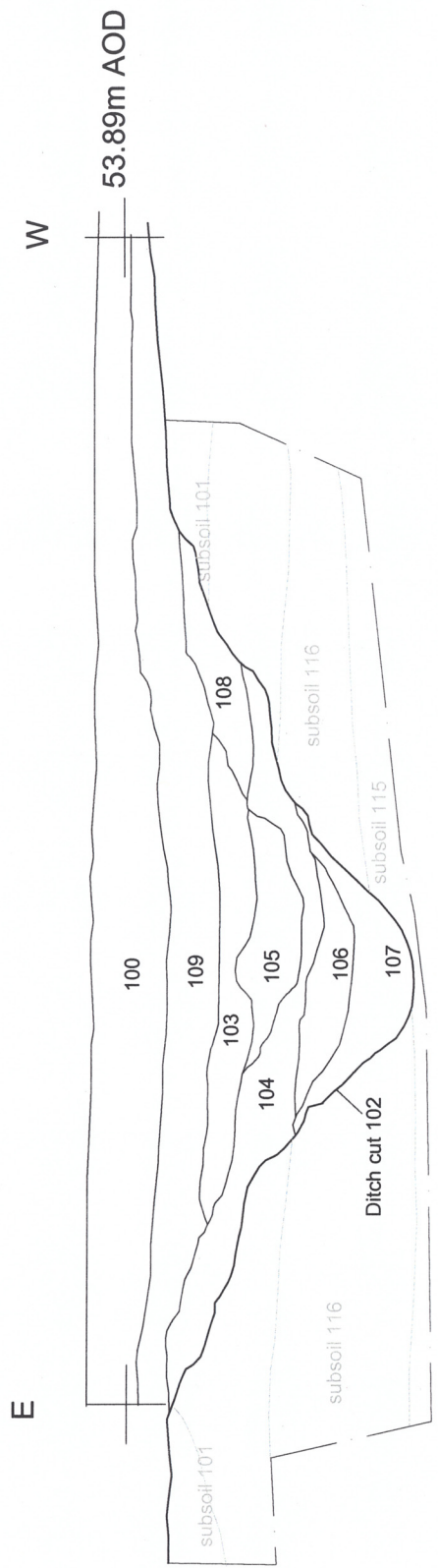


Figure 4

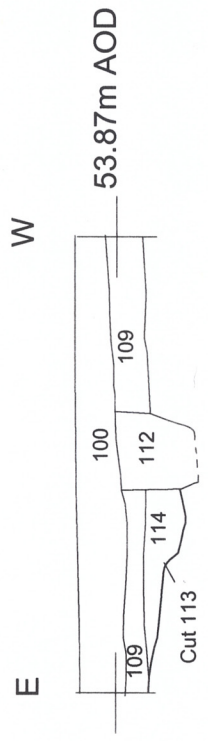


Figure 5



1:30

Figure 4: South facing section of Ditch 102, Trench 1  
Figure 5: South facing section of Linear feature 113, Trench 1





Plate 1: Trench 1, east facing section of ditch 102.



Plate 2: Trench1, View of ditch 102 facing northeast.



Plate 3: Trench1, view of cut 113 and ditch 102 facing northwest.



Plate 4: Beehive quern, scale 0.25m



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