

**LAND AT
DOVENBY HALL,
DOVENBY,
CUMBRIA**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT
CP. No: 10744/14
27/03/2014**



archaeology

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned Northern Developments Limited, on behalf of their clients, M-Sport, to undertake an archaeological field evaluation on land at Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cumbria (centred on NY 0972 3307), in advance of a planning application for the construction of a hotel, affordable housing and a motorsport test-track facility. The proposed development is situated within the 19th century parkland estate of Dovenby Hall. A previous desk-based assessment and earthwork survey identified undated earthworks within the immediate vicinity of the proposed hotel and affordable housing, and a potential Roman Road adjacent to the proposed test-track facility. A recent geophysical survey undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology also identified several geophysical anomalies within the vicinity of the proposed test-track. As a result, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service requested a programme of archaeological investigation in order to better inform on the archaeological potential of the proposed development site.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over four non-consecutive days between the 11th March and the 17th March 2014. The evaluation involved the excavation of 12 trenches, four of which were located within the area of the proposed hotel and housing development in order to investigate known earthworks, with a further five trenches located at the northeast end of the proposed test-track in order to target several geophysical anomalies. Three further trenches were located at the southwest end of the proposed test-track, adjacent to the proposed line of the Roman Road.

Eleven of the twelve trenches were devoid of any archaeological features or deposits, largely exposing the natural substrate below subsoil and topsoil. A single trench (Trench 1), which was located adjacent to the western boundary of the site within the immediate vicinity of a known earthwork, revealed a substantial deposit of clay/cobbles and large boulders. However, this is likely to represent an episode of infilling following the expansion of the of the estate boundary to the west sometime during the mid-19th century. Furthermore, it appeared that the undated earthwork within this area overlay these infill deposits, suggesting that it post-dates the mid-19th century.

No remains associated with the earthwork within the northwest corner of the development site were revealed during the evaluation and the negative results obtained from trenches located along the southern boundary of the site, suggest that any remains associated with the Roman Road are likely to be situated to the south of the proposed development site.

Based upon the results of the evaluation, it is considered unlikely that any significant archaeological remains would be impacted upon during the proposed development works.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology thank Eddie Ward of Northern Developments Limited for commissioning the project on behalf of their clients, M-Sport. Thanks are also due to, Helen Noakes of Mott MacDonald Limited and Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service for their help and advice during the project.

The work was undertaken by David Jackson, Kevin Mounsey and Kevin Horsely. The report was written by David Jackson and the drawings were produced by Adrian Bailey. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Senior Project Manager for Wardell Armstrong Archaeology.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In March 2014, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned by Northern Developments Limited, on behalf of their client M-sport, to undertake an archaeological field evaluation on land at Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cumbria (centred on NY 0972 3307; Figure 1), in advance of a planning application for the construction of a hotel, affordable housing and a motorsport test-track facility. The works were managed on behalf of Northern Developments Limited by Mott MacDonald Limited.
- 1.1.2 Previous work highlighted the potential survival of archaeological remains within the area, including undated earthworks, a Roman Road and several geophysical anomalies. As a result, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) requested a programme of archaeological investigation in order to better inform on the archaeological potential of the proposed development site. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).
- 1.1.2 This report outlines the evaluation works undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned by Northern Developments Limited, to undertake a scheme of archaeological works in the form of a trial-trench field evaluation on land at Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cumbria (centred on NY 0972 3307). This work was undertaken to identify areas of archaeological interest in advance of a proposed development. All work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008), and the Project Design provided by Mott MacDonald Limited (Noakes 2014).

2.2 THE FIELD EVALUATION

2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 12 trenches, nine of which measuring 30m in length and 1.6m in width, with a further three trenches measuring 10m in length and 1.6m in width. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity. All work was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2008).

2.2.2 In summary, the main objectives of the field evaluation were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.2.3 Topsoil and subsoil was removed by mechanical excavator to the level of the natural substrate under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and were investigated and recording according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2012).

2.2.4 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out 3.4 – 3.6 of the IfA's Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (November 2013).

2.3 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited within the Carlisle Records Office, with copies of the report sent to the Cumbria Historic Environment Record at Kendal, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier **WAA14, DHD/A, CP 10744/14**.
- 2.3.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology supports the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, as a part of this national project.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 Dovenby Hall lies within the West Cumbria Coastal Plain, a narrow belt of country between the coast and the Cumbria High Fells, to the west of the Lake District National Park (Countryside Commission 1998, 27). Located within undulating farmland, Dovenby Hall lies approximately 4.5km northeast of Cockermouth, set within parkland on the east side of Dovenby (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 The site occupies a slight south-facing slope, with elevations of *c.*80m AOD at the north end of the site, falling to *c.*60m AOD at the southeast. The site is bound to the northeast by the A594 (Cockermouth to Maryport road) and by the Brides Beck which runs to the southeast of the study area, within a deep narrow valley. The village of Dovenby lies to the northwest of the site, which is separated from the Dovenby Hall estate by a substantial boundary wall and canalised stream (Dovenby Beck; Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 The underlying geology is limestone and mudstone (British Geological Survey 2001) with overlying Devensian glacial till. The overlying soils are slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged, fine loamy over clayey soils, known as Brickfield 3 soils (SSEW 1980).

3.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 *Introduction:* a desk-based assessment of the site has been undertaken by Mott MacDonald Limited, a summary of which is provided below. This historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area. References to the County Historic Environment Record (HER) are included where known.
- 3.2.2 *Prehistoric and Roman:* there is very little evidence for prehistoric activity at the site. The earliest evidence recovered comprises the find of a single Iron Age axe head (HER 42235).
- 3.2.3 A Roman road running between the Roman fort at Papcastle (Derwentio) to the coastal fort at Maryport (Alavna) is believed to cross the southwest edge of the site (HER 11073). Mott MacDonald Limited has identified the potential for associated roadside archaeological remains to survive within the vicinity of the proposed development site (Hopper 2011). Possible Roman architectural fragments have also been identified within the medieval 'Pele' tower at Dovenby Hall (HER 4497) and the find of a Roman coin is recorded

- close to the course of the Roman road, near Brides Beck at Dovenby Station (HER 42928, *ibid*).
- 3.2.4 Dovenby is believed to have medieval origins and was first recorded in the 12th century. The estate was given to Dolfinby in 1154, during the reign of Henry II, and it is possible that Dovenby is a corruption of 'Dolfinby' (Hopper 2011). The estate is recorded as a 'Demesne' landholding (Hutchinson 1794), indicating that it was managed exclusively by the manor rather than by tenant farmers. Dovenby Hall (HER 4497), although largely post-medieval, incorporates a medieval 'Pele' (Peel) tower. The tower originates from the 12th to late 13th century, and represents an early example of a defensive tower (Hopper 2011).
- 3.2.5 The Cumbria HER records a medieval stone cross (HER 846) to the north of the Hall. The cross was recorded in 1690 as being located on 'the moor', possibly indicating that it stood originally on the common to the northeast of the site. However, the cross was moved to its present location by the then owners, the Ballentine Dykes (Hopper 2011). The potential site of a medieval bloomery is also recorded to the south of the site (HER 15671).
- 3.2.6 *Post-medieval and Modern*: the main house at Dovenby Hall (HER 4497) dates to the 17th century with later remodeling in the early 19th century. The associated parkland was largely created by the Ballentine Dykes in the mid to late 19th century. The 1838 Tithe map indicates that some landscaping (represented by woodland around the house) had been undertaken prior to this date. However, it is not until the publication of the mid-19th century estate map and 1st edition Ordnance Survey map that the landscape park is shown to its full extent. Prior to this, the map evidence indicates that the settlement core of Dovenby was located on both sides of Dovenby Beck, along the western edge of the Dovenby Hall grounds (Hopper 2011).
- 3.2.7 In 1930 the Ballentine Dykes sold the estate to the Joint Committee for Carlisle, Cumberland and Westmorland (Bernard Bradbury 1981). The Dovenby Hall Hospital (HER 4497) was opened in 1932, with additional buildings and structures being added to the park. The hospital closed in 1997 and was sold to M-Sport Limited in 1998. The existing buildings were extensively refurbished and new facilities were constructed. Landscaping in the form of bunds and tree planting was undertaken as part of the redevelopment (Hopper 2011).

3.3 PREVIOUS WORK

- 3.3.1 A walkover survey of the site was undertaken by Mott MacDonald Limited in 2011 as part of the desk-based assessment for the proposed development. The slight earthwork remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, and a possible

headland bank, were observed within the study area to the southeast of Dovenby Hall (Hopper 2011).

- 3.3.2 The walkover survey also identified that, although modern development has had an impact on the parkland within the centre of the site, park features survive elsewhere at the site, including a tree-lined avenue, the bank of a southern access route, and various areas of woodland and grassland (*ibid*).
- 3.3.3 Two undated earthworks (HER 815, HER 816) are located within areas of woodland on the northwest side of the site, within the proposed development area. A topographical survey was undertaken of these earthworks as part of the assessment (Hopper 2011). Prior to the mid-19th century the most northerly earthwork (HER 816) was located within the Dovenby village core. The Tithe map shows the area to be a garden and a park adjacent to houses, but the feature is not depicted. The earthwork forms a raised platform and although it may date to the Roman/prehistoric periods, the feature is most likely to be associated with medieval/post-medieval settlement activity (*ibid*).
- 3.3.4 The smaller semicircular earthwork is also located close to the Dovenby medieval/post-medieval settlement core. The Tithe map indicates that this feature was located on the site of two small fields, recorded as 'calf guards' in the Tithe award. This earthwork may also date to the Roman/prehistoric period but is mostly likely to be associated with medieval/post-medieval activity and may represent the remains of a pound (*ibid*).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over four non-consecutive days between the 11th March and the 17th March 2014. The evaluation involved the excavation of 12 trenches, four of which were located towards the northwest corner of the site in order to investigate known earthworks, with a further five trenches located at the northeast corner of the site in order to target several geophysical anomalies. Three further trenches were located at the south end of the site, adjacent to the proposed line of the Roman Road (Figure 2).

4.1.2 All trenches were excavated to the level of the natural substrate by a tracked mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and investigated and recorded fully.

4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 *Trench 1:* Trench 1 was located within an area of woodland, adjacent to the western boundary of the proposed development site in order to investigate an earthwork which appeared to form a semi-circular bank and ditch (Figure 2). The trench, which measured 8.6m in length and 1.6m in width, was aligned north-northwest to south-southeast/north-northeast to south-southwest and was excavated across the southwest extent of the proposed earthwork ditch. The south end of Trench 1 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m, revealing the natural substrate (**101**) which was comprised of firm yellow gravelly clay. The natural substrate was observed throughout the southernmost c.4.8m of the trench at which point, the natural ground fell away sharply (Figure 3, Plate 1).

4.2.2 The natural substrate (**101**) was sealed by a substantial deposit of firm grey clay and cobbles (**103**), which continued throughout the remainder of the northern end of the trench (Plate 1). The deposit of clay and cobbles (**103**) also included several large rounded boulders (**104**), which were located approximately 1m south of the north end of the trench and appeared to be roughly aligned east to west (Figure 3, Plate 2). Further excavations through the deposits confirmed that both the rough alignment of boulders (**104**) and the grey clay and cobbles (**103**) measured over 2m in depth. Excavations were halted however, before the extent of the deposits was reached due to reasons of safety. The exposed northern extent of the deposit of clay and cobbles (**103**) had been sealed by a c.0.15m deposit of redeposited natural

(105), which may be associated with the possible embankment of the earthwork noted previously (Hopper 2011). This was further sealed by a c.0.35m deposit of dark brown silty clay topsoil (100) (Figure 3).



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking southwest with clay and cobbles (103) in foreground



Plate 2: Trench 1 looking east-northeast showing boulders (104)

- 4.2.3 Whilst it is possible that the substantial deposits of clay/cobbles and boulders observed within the northern half of Trench 1 were associated with the possible earthwork ditch under investigation, this seems unlikely as both the possible ditch and the deposits revealed within the trench were on different alignments. It is more probable that the deposits revealed within the trench represent an episode of infilling following the expansion of the estate boundary sometime during the mid-19th century, as the ground would have naturally sloped away at this point towards the beck immediately to the west of this boundary. This would suggest that the earthwork post-dates the expansion of the estate during the mid-19th century, although its exact function remains unclear. It may be of note however, that several drainage gullies were noted throughout this area and the earthwork itself may be associated with such an activity.
- 4.2.4 *Trench 2:* Trench 2 was located approximately 8.3m southeast of Trench 1 and was excavated in order to further investigate the potential bank and ditch earthwork (Figure 2). The northeast to southwest aligned trench measured 10m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.5m, revealing the natural yellow clay (**201**). The natural substrate was sealed by a c.0.45m deposit of mid-brown silty clay subsoil (**202**) and a c.0.2m deposit of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**200**). Towards the northeast end of the trench, a northwest to southeast aligned linear feature was observed below the subsoil (**202**). Unfortunately, this feature could not be fully investigated as the trench flooded as soon as it was breached. The location and alignment of the feature however, strongly suggest that it was a continuation of the drainage gully noted further northwest within the area of Trench 1.
- 4.2.5 *Trench 3:* Trench 3 was located within an area of open scrubland towards the northwest corner of the proposed development site, in order to investigate potential buried remains associated with an undated earthwork immediately to the north (Figure 2). The north-northwest to south-southeast aligned trench measured 21.3m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.58m, revealing natural yellow clay (**301**) sealed below c.0.1m of light brown silty clay subsoil (**302**) and c.0.25m of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**300**) (Plate 3). The northwest end of Trench 3 was reduced by approximately 8.7m as excavations to the level of the natural substrate exposed a natural spring, which proceeded to flood the trench. Four separate land drains were also exposed within the trench, highlighting the wet nature of the area.



Plate 3: Trench 3 looking north-northwest

- 4.2.6 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was located approximately 14m northeast of Trench 3, in order to investigate potential remains associated with the earthwork to the north (Figure 2). The L-shaped trench extended for 11m on a north-northwest to south-southeast alignment and for 30m on an east-northeast to west-southwest alignment. Trench 3 measured 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.5m, revealing natural yellow clay (**401**) below c.0.1m of light brown silty clay subsoil (**402**) and c.0.4m of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**400**) (Plate 4). Four further land drains were exposed within the trench.
- 4.2.7 No remains associated with the undated earthwork were observed within Trench 3 or Trench 4, although two sherds of potential Romano-British pottery were recovered from this area during the evaluation. These may not have been associated with the earthwork however, and their potential significance is limited as both sherds were recovered from the topsoil, together with post-medieval and modern artefacts.



Plate 4: Trench 4 looking west-southwest

- 4.2.8 **Trenches 5-9:** Trenches 5-9 were located within an area of grassland towards the northeast corner of the proposed development site, and were excavated in order to investigate several geophysical anomalies. The five trenches were evenly spaced across the area, with three of the trenches aligned west-northwest to east-southeast and a further two trenches aligned northwest to southeast (Figure 2). All five trenches measured 30m in length, 1.6m in width and were excavated to an average depth of 0.3m, revealing the natural light brown/yellow clay (501/601/701/801/901) below c.0.1m of light brown silty clay subsoil (502/602/702/802/902) and c.0.25m of mid-greyish brown silty clay topsoil (500/600/700/800/900) (Plate 5).
- 4.2.9 No archaeological remains were noted within any of the five trenches within this area, with only a single geophysical anomaly being explained by a land drain within the southeast end of Trench 7.



Plate 5: Trench 6 looking east-southeast

- 4.2.10 **Trench 10:** Trench 10 was located within a small area of open scrubland adjacent to the southern boundary of the investigation area, along the proposed line of the Roman Road between Papcastle and Maryport (Figure 2). The northwest to southeast aligned trench measured 30m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m, revealing the natural yellow gravelly clay (**1001**) below c.0.3m of mid-yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (**1002**) and c.0.25m of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**1000**) (Plate 6).
- 4.2.11 **Trench 11:** Trench 11 was located approximately 48m southeast of Trench 10, in order to further investigate possible remains associated with the Roman Road (Figure 2). The northwest to southeast aligned trench measured 30m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.5m, revealing natural yellow gravelly clay and grey boulder clay (**1101**) below c.0.2m of mid-yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (**1102**) and c.0.25m of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**1100**) (Plate 7).
- 4.2.12 **Trench 12:** Trench 12 was located approximately 18.5m southeast of Trench 10 and approximately 27.5m northwest of Trench 11, in order to further investigate the area of the potential Roman Road (Figure 2). The northeast to southwest aligned trench measured 10m in length, 1.6m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m, revealing the natural yellow gravelly clay (**1201**) below c.0.2m of mid-yellow/brown silty clay subsoil (**1202**) and c.0.3m of dark brown silty clay topsoil (**1200**).

4.2.13 All three trenches within the vicinity of the Papcastle Roman Road were devoid of any archaeological remains. This indicates that if the road does survive within this area, then it is likely to be located further south of the proposed development boundary.



Plate 6: Southwest facing section of Trench 10



Plate 7: Trench 11 looking southeast

4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

- 4.3.1 All deposits were deemed unsuitable for environmental sampling, therefore no samples were taken.

5 FINDS

5.1 FINDS ASSESSMENT

- 5.1.1 A total of 52 artefacts, weighing 1,057Kg, were recovered from four contexts during an archaeological evaluation at Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cumbria.
- 5.1.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2008b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Tullie House Museum, UKIC (1990) and Brown (2011).
- 5.1.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and further work has been recommended on the potential for the material archive to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.
- 5.1.4 The finds assessment was compiled by Megan Stoakley.
- 5.1.5 Quantification of finds by context is visible in Table 1.

Cxt	Tr No	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Notes
u/s	5	Bronze	1	2	PM-M	Button? Missing shank
300	3	Ceramic	8	34	RB-PM	1 x body sherd - cream fabric - RB? CRE, RWE, SSW rim & WP TP
400	4b	Ceramic	1	151	PM	CRE - base sherd of large storage vessel
u/s	3	Ceramic	1	2	RB	Small body sherd; CO OX (Tomber & Dore 1998)
u/s	8	Ceramic	1	2	PM-M	RWE - base of plate sherd
u/s	2	Ceramic	5	127	PM	RWE x 4, WP TP x 1 plate fragment
u/s	9	Ceramic	1	2	PM	Body sherd of RWE
u/s	6	Ceramic	2	18	PM	1 x CRE body sherd, 1 x RWE body sherd
u/s	6	Ceramic	5	390	PM-M	4 x nail fragments, 1 x agricultural fitting - corroded
400	4b	Clay Pipe	1	5	PM	Undecorated stem fragment - 2.81mm Ø (int diameter)
400	4b	CuA	2	1	PM-M	Possible book clasp?
400	4b	Glass	1	11	PM-M	Mid-green bottle sherd
302	3	Iron	6	88	PM-M	4 x nails, 1 x possible knife tip, 1 x buckle
400	4b	Iron	5	70	PM-M	4 nail fragments, 1 misc fragment - badly corroded

u/s	8	Iron	3	41	PM-M	Two nail fragments; 1 misc fragment - badly abraded
u/s	2	Iron	1	15	PM-M	Miscellaneous fitting - badly corroded
u/s	7	Iron	1	14	PM-M	Part of a miscellaneous fitting
u/s	9	Iron	3	23	PM-M	2 x nails, 1 x nail head - badly corroded
u/s	5	Iron	1	12	PM	Nail fragment - badly corroded
300	3	Lead	1	23	PM-M	Oval waste fragment
u/s	8	Lead	1	7	M	Pellet/bullet (9mm Ø)
u/s	7	Lead	1	12	PM-M	Waste fragment
u/s	6	Lead	2	8	PM-M	Waste fragments

Table 1: Quantification of Finds by Context

KEY

RB: ROMANO-BRITISH

PM: POST-MEDIEVAL

M: MODERN

CXT: CONTEXT

TR NO: TRENCH NO

QTY: QUANTITY

WGT: WEIGHT

CRE: COARSE RED EARTHENWARE

RWE: REFINED WHITE EARTHENWARE

SSW: STAFFORDSHIRE SLIPWARE

WP TP: WILLOW PATTERN TRANSFER PRINT

CUA: COPPER ALLOY

5.2 ROMANO-BRITISH CERAMICS

5.2.1 Two sherds of probable Roman pottery, weighing 4g, were recovered from deposit (300) and from an unstratified context (Table 1). The pottery was in very poor condition with abrasion evident on all surfaces.

5.2.2 The body sherd recovered from deposit (300) comprised a dense, sand-tempered, cream to off-white fabric. The common sand inclusions (0.5mm – 1mm Ø) were very well-sorted; the fabric also included some rare, poorly sorted mica inclusions. The sherd is likely of Roman date and probably originated from a locally produced, white ware vessel.

5.2.3 The body sherd recovered from an unstratified deposit comprised a dense, sand-tempered, oxidised, mid-orange to red fabric. A general Roman date (1st to 4th century AD) has been attributed.

5.3 POST-MEDIEVAL CERAMICS

- 5.3.1 A total of 19 fragments of Post-medieval pottery, weighing 348g, were recovered from three contexts (Table 1).
- 5.3.2 Ceramic groups comprised coarse red earthenware, refined white earthenware, Willow pattern transfer print pottery as well as one sherd of Staffordshire slipware.
- 5.3.3 A general date of later Post-medieval (1870s+) to modern has been attributed to this small assemblage of pottery.

5.4 CLAY PIPE

- 5.4.1 A single, undecorated stem fragment of clay tobacco pipe was recovered from topsoil (400) from Trench 4b.
- 5.4.2 Using Binford's pipe-stem chronology (Table 2), it is possible to attribute a rough date to the fragment.
- 5.4.3 The internal diameter of the stem fragment measures 2.81mm, giving the fragment a possible date of c.1650 – 1680 (mid to late 17th century).

Stem-Hole Ø (in/XX)	Conversion (mm) 1 inch = 25.4mm 1/64 (inch) = 0.4mm	Dates
9/64	9 x 0.4mm = 3.6	1590 – 1620
8/64	8 x 0.4mm = 3.2	1620 – 1650
7/64	7 x 0.4mm = 2.8	1650 – 1680
6/64	6 x 0.4mm = 2.4	1680 – 1720
5/64	5 x 0.4mm = 2	1720 – 1750
4/64	4 x 0.4mm = 1.6	1750 - 1800

Table 2: Binford's Pipestem Chronology (Kipfer 2008, 8)

5.5 GLASS

- 5.5.1 A single fragment of mid-green bottle glass, weighing 11g, was recovered from topsoil (400) from Trench 4 (Table 1).
- 5.5.2 It is of later Post-medieval to modern date.

5.6 IRON

- 5.6.1 A total of 25 iron artefacts, weighing 653g, were recovered from three deposits (Table 1). The iron artefacts are in poor condition and display a high degree of rust corrosion on all surfaces.

5.6.2 The vast majority of the iron assemblage comprises nails and miscellaneous fittings. A belt buckle and a possible knife tip were recovered from deposit (302) and an agricultural fitting was recovered from an unstratified deposit in Trench 6.

5.6.3 A general date of later post-medieval (1870s+) to modern has been attributed to this small assemblage of iron.

5.6 LEAD

5.6.1 Five fragments of lead, weighing 50g, was recovered from two deposits (Table 1).

5.6.2 All five fragments comprised indeterminate waste fragments of likely post-medieval to modern date.

5.7 BRONZE

5.7.1 A single bronze artefact, weighing 2g, was recovered from an unstratified deposit in Trench 5 (Table 1). The artefact is in relatively poor condition and has evidence of abrasion on both surfaces.

5.7.2 It is likely a button head of later post-medieval to modern date.

5.8 SMALL FINDS

5.8.1 A single small find, comprising two fragments of a cast copper alloy book clasp, weighing 1g, was recovered from deposit (400). The object is fragile and in poor - moderate condition. Engraved decoration is evident on one surface and incised lines are visible on the hinge.

5.8.2 The artefact is likely of later post-medieval to modern date.

5.9 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.9.1 Almost all of the finds were recovered from the topsoil and unstratified deposits. As such, the artefacts are of minimal archaeological significance. The finds were not retained with the archive.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over four non-consecutive days between the 11th March and the 17th March 2014. The evaluation involved the excavation of 12 trenches, four of which were located within the area of the proposed hotel and housing development in order to investigate known earthworks, with a further five trenches located at the northeast end of the proposed test-track in order to target several geophysical anomalies. Three further trenches were located at the southwest end of the proposed test-track, adjacent to the proposed line of the Roman Road.
- 6.1.2 Eleven of the twelve trenches were devoid of any archaeological features or deposits, largely exposing the natural substrate below subsoil and topsoil. A single trench, which was located adjacent to the western boundary of the site within the immediate vicinity of a known earthwork, revealed a substantial deposit of clay/cobbles and large boulders. This is likely to represent an episode of infilling following the expansion of the of the estate boundary to the west sometime during the mid-19th century. Furthermore, it appeared that the undated earthwork within this area overlay these infill deposits, suggesting that it post-dates the mid-19th century. Whilst the function of the earthwork remains unclear, it appears that part of the feature may have been associated with water management.
- 6.1.3 No remains associated with the earthwork within the northwest corner of the proposed development site were revealed during the evaluation. Whilst two sherds of pottery of potential Romano-British date were recovered from the vicinity, these may not be directly associated with the earthwork.
- 6.1.4 No remains associated with the Papcastle Roman Road were revealed during the evaluation. This indicates that if the road does survive within this area, then it is likely to be located further south of the proposed development boundary.
- 6.1.5 The five trenches located towards the northeast corner of the site also produced largely negative results with only a single geophysical anomaly being explained by a land drain.

6.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 6.2.1 Based upon the results of the evaluation, it is considered unlikely that any significant archaeological remains would be impacted upon during the proposed development works.

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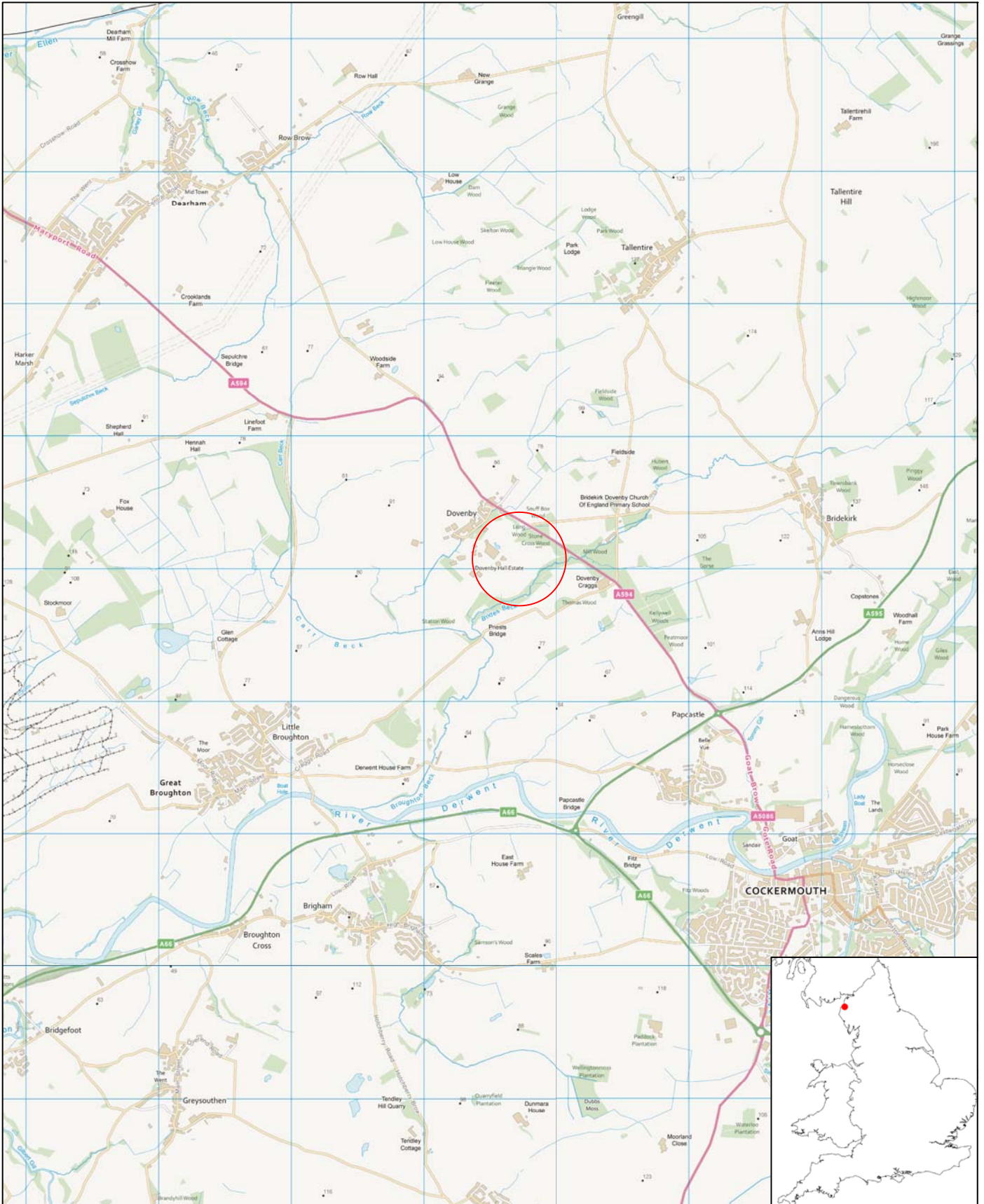
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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Context Type	Trench	Description
100	Deposit	1	Topsoil
101	Geological	1	Natural Substrate
102	VOID	VOID	VOID
103	Deposit	1	Clay and Cobble Made-ground
104	Deposit	1	Retaining Boulders
105	Deposit	1	Redeposited Natural
200	Deposit	2	Topsoil
201	Geological	2	Natural Substrate
202	Deposit	2	Subsoil
300	Deposit	3	Topsoil
301	Geological	3	Natural Substrate
302	Deposit	3	Subsoil
400	Deposit	4	Topsoil
401	Geological	4	Natural Substrate
402	Deposit	4	Subsoil
500	Deposit	5	Topsoil
501	Geological	5	Natural Substrate
502	Deposit	5	Subsoil
600	Deposit	6	Topsoil
601	Geological	6	Natural Substrate
602	Deposit	6	Subsoil
700	Deposit	7	Topsoil
701	Geological	7	Natural Substrate
702	Deposit	7	Subsoil
800	Deposit	8	Topsoil
801	Geological	8	Natural Substrate
802	Deposit	8	Subsoil
900	Deposit	9	Topsoil
901	Geological	9	Natural Substrate
902	Deposit	9	Subsoil
1000	Deposit	10	Topsoil
1001	Geological	10	Natural Substrate
1002	Deposit	10	Subsoil
1100	Deposit	11	Topsoil
1101	Geological	11	Natural Substrate
1102	Deposit	11	Subsoil
1200	Deposit	12	Topsoil
1201	Geological	12	Natural Substrate
1202	Deposit	12	Subsoil

Table 1: List of Contexts issued during the evaluation

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES






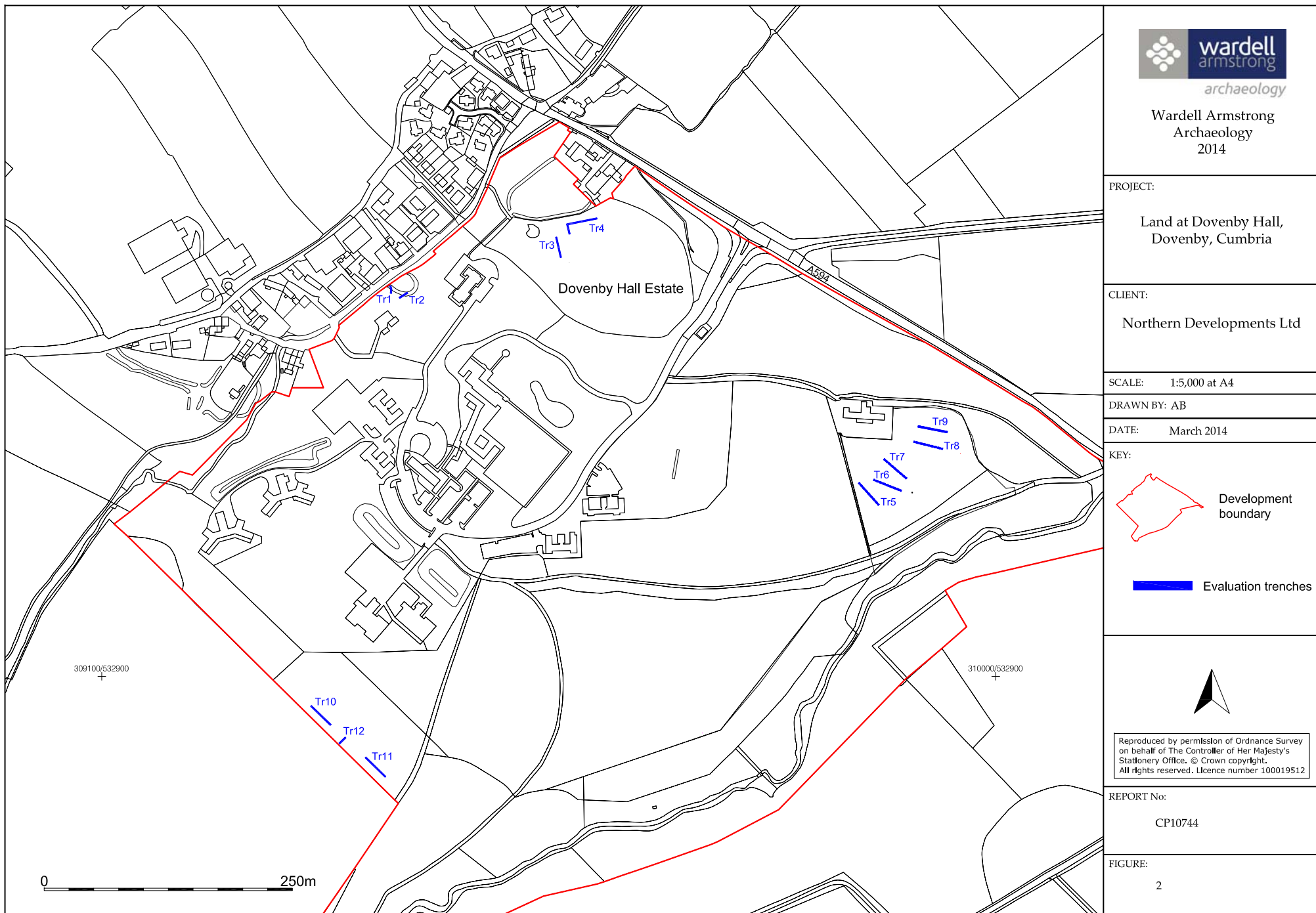
 <p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014</p>	<p>PROJECT: Land at Dovenby Hall, Dovenby, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: 1:40,000 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP10744</p> <p>CLIENT: Northern Developments Ltd</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: March 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 1</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Site location</p>	 <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100019512</p>
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Figure 1: Site location.



Wardell Armstrong
Archaeology
2014

PROJECT:

Land at Dovenby Hall,
Dovenby, Cumbria

CLIENT:

Northern Developments Ltd

SCALE: 1:5,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: AB

DATE: March 2014

KEY:

- Development boundary
- Evaluation trenches

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REPORT No:

CP10744

FIGURE:

2

Figure 2: Trench location plan.

PROJECT:

Land at Dovenby Hall,
Dovenby, Cumbria

CLIENT:




Northern Developments Ltd

SCALE: 1:40 at A3

DRAWN BY: AB

DATE: March 2014

KEY:

- (101) Context number
-  Height mAOd
-  Section location
-  Limit of excavation

REPORT No:

CP10744

FIGURE:

3

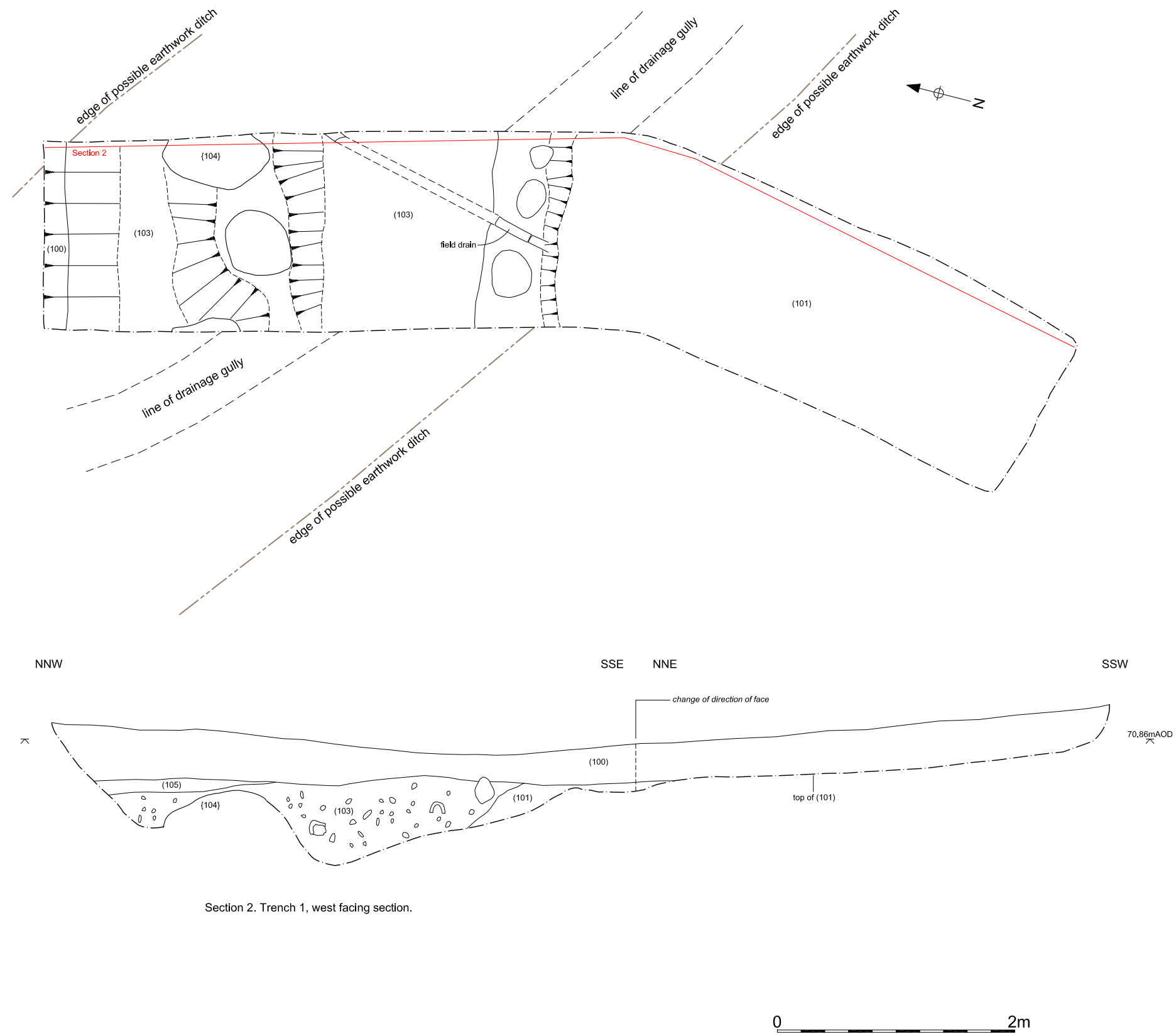


Figure 3: Trench 1; plan and section.