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EIA AND HERITAGE CONSULTANCY



HARRISON NORTHERN

**LAND OFF TREE ROAD,
CHERTSEY MOUNT,
CARLISLE,
CUMBRIA**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT
December 2015**



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HARRISON NORTHERN

Land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle, Cumbria

Archaeological Evaluation Report


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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) was commissioned by Harrison Northern, to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA1 2PH, (NGR: NY411548). The evaluation was required to support a planning application. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced in response to a brief prepared by Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), acting as the archaeological planning advisor on behalf of Cumbria County Council.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in one phase that took place over three days on the 1st and 3rd of December 2015. In total five trenches were excavated across the site. No archaeological remains were identified in any of the trenches.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) thanks the client Harrison Northern for commissioning the project, and for all their assistance throughout the work. Also, WAA thank Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) for his assistance.

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology also thanks Simon Harrison of Harrison Northern, and Tuer Plant Hire, for their help during this project.

The archaeological work was undertaken by Ed Johnson, Sean Johnson, Alan James and Charles Rickaby; the report was written by Ed Johnson. Finds assessment was by Megan Stoakley. The project was managed by Frank Giecco, Technical Director and the report edited by Richard Newman, Post Excavation Manager for WAA.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Circumstances and Planning Background

1.1.1 In December 2015, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) undertook an archaeological evaluation on land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle, Cumbria (Centred on NY 411 548, Figure 1). It was commissioned by Harrison Northern for the purpose of evaluating any potential archaeological remains and any impact that may have on the proposed construction works.

1.2 Project Documentation

1.2.1 The project conforms to a brief prepared by Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES). A written scheme of investigation (WAA 2015) was then produced to provide a specific methodology based on the brief for a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation. This was approved by the archaeological planning advisor prior to the fieldwork taking place. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).

1.2.2 This report outlines the work undertaken on site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological evaluation.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards and guidance

2.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014a), and in accordance with the WAA fieldwork manual (2015).

2.1.2 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CifA 2014a) and the *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CifA 2014b).

2.2 Documentary Research

2.2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared by North Pennines Archaeology (NPA) in 2007, which set out the archaeological and historical background of the site, and provided an assessment of the significance of all known and potential heritage assets up to 0.5km from the area of investigation.

2.3 The Field Evaluation

2.3.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of five trenches measuring 30m in length by 1.6m in width, across the proposed development area that measures 0.55ha. Representing a 5% sample of the overall site. The general aims of these investigations 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 assess the impact of the application on the archaeological site;
- 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.

2.3.2 Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand. All possible features were inspected and selected deposits were excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material and

environmental samples. Once completed all features were recorded according to the WAA standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (WAA 2015).

2.3.3 All finds encountered were retained on site and returned to the Carlisle office where they were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* was then produced for each stratified context under the supervision of the WAA Finds Officer, and the dates were used to help determine the broad date phases for the site. On completion of this project, the finds were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines (Ibid). Please note, the following categories of material will be discarded after a period of six months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- unstratified material;
- modern pottery;
- material that has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

2.3.4 On completion the evaluation trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

2.3.5 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project specification, and the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, with copies of the report sent to Cumbria HER, Kendal and will be available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier WAA 15 CP11604/15.

2.5.2 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 WAA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: **wardela2-233409**

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Location and Geological Context

3.1.1 The site is located at (NY 411 548, Figure 1) and lies approximately 1km away from the centre of Carlisle. The site is bounded by houses on London Road Terrace, Chertsey Mount and Brookfield Gardens to the north and north east. To the north is Tyne Street and Berlin Street, on which commercial properties are located. On the southern edge of the site is the Hilltop Hotel and the Network Rail depot. The area of investigation lies at a maximum height of 36maOD (above Ordnance Datum) with the ground sloping down gently to the west.

3.1.2 The site is approximately 0.55 hectares in size and is currently used as pasture. A small barn and storage shed is also situated in the north western corner of the site (Figure 2).

3.1.3 The underlying geology within the area of investigation is mapped as Kirklington Sandstone formation deposited during the Triassic period approximately 200 to 251 million years ago. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Devensian Diamicton till formed approximately 2 million years ago (BGS 2015).

3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

3.2.1 Harraby Hill has had a varied and interesting history, which relates to its prominence and to its proximity to the main road leading to the south of the city. The earliest known archaeological evidence from the site is from the Roman period, when it would appear that the Roman cemetery for the town of Luguvalium extended as far as the River Petteril. The discoveries of coffins, human bones and inscriptions all came from excavations relating to the road cutting in 1829, the construction of houses on London Road Terrace in 1851 and the construction of houses on Summer Hill in 1892, and it is known that during works for the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway similar finds were reported at the time. Although the nature of these discoveries does not provide the accurate location of these burials, their siting along the main road into the city is consistent with Roman practice. What, of course, is not known as yet is how much further the cemetery extended, or indeed how far back from the road. Urns and other finds discovered during the construction of the reservoir may suggest that it extends some distance from the main road. As the majority of these finds appear to be lost, it is possible that some of these finds may have

been pre-Roman in date, which highlights the potential for Prehistoric archaeology on the hill, especially with the ground around the base being liable to flooding.

- 3.2.2 The location of the gallows on Harraby Hill is also an important part of Carlisle's history. The positioning of the gibbet on one of the main roads into the city would have served as a warning to those entering the town, and it would appear that hangings have taken place on the site since at least the 14th century. The more well-known cases of hangings at Harraby, such as that of Harda reported in the Chronicles of Lanercost, and the Highlanders following the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion, suggest these victims were hung, drawn and quartered and consequently their remains may have been scattered around the town, or indeed the country. There is, however, the possibility that the victims of other hangings may have been burnt and buried within the locality. The exact location of the gibbet is unknown, indeed it may have been in several different places over time, however it has been suggested by Denis Perriam that it would have been on the roadside, and the former garden of Thorncliffe (Hilltop Cottage/Harraby Lodge) has been put forward as a possible siting.
- 3.2.3 Harraby Hill's prominent location on higher ground and beside the main route into the city from the south meant it was the ideal location for one of four major siege works in the 17th century. A map of 1716 shows a star fort marked as Commonwealth siege works between St. Nicholas and Harraby Hall. There is the potential for below ground archaeology relating to this period on Harraby Hill.
- 3.2.4 St Cuthbert's Workhouse on Harraby Hill in 1809 was an impressive building which would have dominated the skyline when entering the city from the south. It appears that the workhouse stood where the Swallow Hilltop Hotel stands today, although there were outbuildings, the foundations of which may lie outside the footprint of the hotel.
- 3.2.5 According to contemporary newspaper reports, the pipes relating to the reservoir were laid under Union Street (now Rydal Street), along London Road, down Tyne Street and up Tree Road to their destination at the reservoir. Water mains also existed along Tree Road down the former access road to the railways hostel, as shown on the 1912 map which has later annotations in red. There is the possibility that some of these mains pipes may remain in-situ.

- 3.2.6 In an advertisement in the Carlisle Journal on the 24th February 1882, any quantity of rubbish could be dumped at the 'Hill Top', consequently there is the possibility that late 19th century rubbish may be encountered in any future archaeological work, but it is perhaps more likely to exist on the slopes of the hill as the top was being used as grazing/pasture in the 1930s as seen on the aerial photograph of 1932.
- 3.2.7 The Tithe map and accompanying Award of 1848 shows that some of the fields on Harraby Hill were being cultivated; therefore ploughing may have removed any subtle earthworks.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken in a single phase between the 1st and 3rd of December 2015, comprising of five 30m long trenches (figure 2). All trenches were 1.60m wide. The trenches were placed using a random grid array to investigate a representative area of the proposed development. Topsoil and subsoil was removed down to reveal the natural geology by a JCB 3CX excavator with toothless grading bucket. Potential features observed were cleaned and investigated.

4.2 Results

4.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was located in the south western end of the field and was aligned north-south (Plate 1). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.85m revealing a firm, yellowish brown natural clay gravel (**102**) below c.0.15m of a loose mid brown silty clay subsoil (**101**) and c.0.35m of loose black silty topsoil (**100**). The trench was devoid of any archaeological features.

4.2.2 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was located running parallel to the northern field boundary on the site aligned east-west (Plate 2). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m revealing a firm yellowish brown natural clay gravel (**202**) below c.0.20m of a loose mid brown silty clay subsoil (**201**) and c.0.35m of loose black silty topsoil (**200**). The trench was devoid of any archaeological features.

4.2.3 **Trench 3:** Trench 3 was located within the centre of the site and was aligned north-south (Plate 3). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m revealing a firm, yellowish brown natural clay gravel (**302**) below c.0.17 of a loose mid brown silty clay (**301**) and c.0.30m of loose black silty topsoil (**300**). The trench was devoid of any archaeological features.

4.2.4 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was located running parallel to the northern field boundary on the site aligned east-west (Plate 4). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m revealing a firm yellowish brown natural clay gravel (**402**) below c.0.25m of a loose mid brown silty clay subsoil (**401**) and c.0.40m of black silty topsoil (**400**). The trench was devoid of any archaeological features.

4.2.5 **Trench 5:** Trench 4 was located in the south eastern corner of the site and was aligned east-west (Plate 5). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m revealing a firm yellowish brown natural clay gravel (**502**) below c.0.15m of a loose mid brown

silty clay (**501**) and c.0.35m of black silty topsoil. The trench was devoid of any archaeological features.

5. FINDS

5.1.1 A total of 98 artefacts, weighing 3226g, were recovered from six deposits during an archaeological evaluation on land at Harraby Hill, Carlisle, Cumbria.

5.1.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011), EAC (2014) and Tullie House museum.

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	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Comments
300	Animal Bone	2	113	Mod	
100	Ceramic	9	158	PM	Includes 18th C Staffordshire slipware sherd
200	Ceramic	1	16	Med	Body sherd
200	Ceramic	9	355	PM-Mod	Transfer Print, RWE - includes jars & plates
300	Ceramic	2	6	Med	Body sherds
100	Clay Pipe	4	15	PM	1.55mm, 2.58mm, 2.64mm, 2.61mm undecorated stems
200	Clay Pipe	1	2	PM	3mm internal stem diameter - undecorated stem
300	Clay Pipe	3	11	PM	1.71mm, 2.31mm
500	Clay Pipe	2	4	PM	2.64mm, 1.62mm undecorated stems
U/S	Clay Pipe	1	13	PM	Bowl - 2.36mm internal diameter
100	Copper Alloy	2	30	PM-Mod	Belt buckle and small diamond-shaped fitting
200	Copper Alloy	3	220	Mod	Agricultural machinery part - cross fitting and 2 washers
300	Copper Alloy	5	74	PM-Mod	Belt buckle, wall mount, fittings, coin - too abraded to identify
400	Copper Alloy	1	2	Mod	Penny?
200	Glass	4	559	PM	3 bottle glass base shard
100	Iron	13	855	Mod	Agricultural machinery parts plus nails
200	Iron	6	42	Mod	Modern nails and fittings
300	Iron	20	343	Mod	Agricultural machinery parts plus nails
400	Iron	8	278	Mod	Nails plus agricultural machinery parts
300	Lead	1	34	PM-Mod	Toy model dairy cow
400	Lead	1	96	PM-Mod	Spoon ladle
TOTAL		98	3226		

Table 1: Quantification of Bulk Finds by Context

5.2 MEDIEVAL CERAMICS

- 5.2.1 Three sherd of medieval pottery, weighing 22g, were recovered from two deposits (Table 1). The sherds are in moderate to good condition.
- 5.2.2 The artefacts comprise body sherds, likely from jugs or jars. One sherd is glazed.
- 5.2.3 A date of 12th to 14th century is appropriate for these sherds.
- 5.2.4 No further analysis is necessary.

5.3 POST-MEDIEVAL CERAMICS

- 5.3.1 Eighteen sherds of post-medieval to modern ceramics, weighing 513g, were recovered from two deposits (Table 1). The sherds are in good condition.
- 5.3.2 Fabric types comprise Refined White Earthenware, Transfer Print, Staffordshire slipware and Creamware. Vessel types include plates, saucers, cups and a marmalade jar sherd.
- 5.3.3 With the exception of a sherd of Staffordshire slipware which is likely dated to the 18th century, the assemblage is of late 19th to 20th century date.
- 5.3.4 No further analysis is necessary on this assemblage.

5.4 CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

- 5.4.1 Eleven fragments of clay tobacco pipe, weighing 45g, were recovered from six deposits (Table 1). The sherds are in good condition.
- 5.4.2 Ten of the fragments comprise undecorated stem fragments and one fragment comprises a bowl.
- 5.4.3 Measurements of the internal stem diameter were taken and compared to Binford's Pipestem Chronology table (below) in order to refine a date for these artefacts.

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)

5.4.4 The internal diameters of the stem fragments measure between 1.62mm to 3.00mm. A date range of 1650-1800 AD is suitable for this assemblage. It should be noted that this is only a rough dating guide.

5.4.5 No further analysis is necessary on this assemblage.

5.5 GLASS

5.5.1 Four fragments of glass, weighing 559g, were recovered from one deposit (Table 1). The fragments are in good condition.

5.5.2 The fragments comprise bottle glass shards and include three bases plus a miscellaneous body shard. The shards are of late 19th to 20th century date.

5.5.3 No further analysis is necessary.

5.6 IRON

5.6.1 Forty-seven fragments of iron, weighing 1518g, were recovered from four deposits (Table 1). The fragments are in poor condition and display evidence of rust corrosion.

5.6.2 The artefacts are modern and comprise agricultural machinery fittings and parts as well as masonry nails.

5.6.3 No further analysis is necessary.

5.7 LEAD

5.7.1 Two fragments of lead, weighing 160g, were recovered from two deposits (Table 1). The artefacts are in good condition.

5.7.2 One artefact comprises a spoon ladle and the other artefact comprises a toy model cow. Both finds are modern.

5.7.3 No further analysis is necessary.

5.8 COPPER ALLOY

5.8.1 Eleven fragments of copper alloy, weighing 326g, were recovered from four deposits (Table 1). The artefacts are in good condition.

5.8.2 The artefacts are modern and comprise fittings, two coins, two belt buckles and a wall mount.

5.8.3 No further analysis is necessary.

5.9 ANIMAL BONE

5.9.1 Two fragments of animal bone, weighing 113g, were recovered from deposit (300) (Table 1). The fragments are in moderate to good condition.

5.9.2 The fragments comprise limb bones, possibly from a cow and a sheep.

5.9.3 No further analysis is warranted.

5.10 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.10.1 The recovery of medieval pottery on the site is of local archaeological significance and provides evidence of medieval domestic activity on the site and in its environs.

5.10.2 The vast majority of the finds are of post-medieval to modern date and were recovered from topsoil deposits. The assemblage is of low archaeological potential.

5.10.3 Only the medieval pottery was retained with the archive.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Interpretation

6.1.1 During the archaeological evaluation at land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle five trenches totalling 270m² were excavated across one field. The aim was to identify the presence or absence of archaeological remains.

6.1.2 Several sherds of medieval pottery identified in the assemblage recovered from the site may indicate possible domestic use of the site during this period. These sherds were recovered from the topsoil onsite and were not identified with an archaeological context.

6.2 Significance

6.2.1 The evaluation indicates that there are no significant archaeological remains present in the proposed development area.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

Length: 30m Width: 1.6m Orientation: N-S
 Average Depth: 0.60m Maximum Depth: 0.85m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
100	Topsoil	Dark black loose silty topsoil. Occasional modern brick and rubble.	0.35m	Large amounts of Post-medieval finds.
101	Subsoil	Mid brown loose silty clay subsoil.	0.15m	
102	Natural	Firm light yellowish brown clay gravel	NFX	

Trench 2

Length: 30m Width: 1.6m Orientation: E-W
 Average Depth: 0.60m Maximum Depth: 0.70m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
200	Topsoil	Dark black loose silty topsoil. Occasional modern brick, rubble and rooting.	0.35m	Large amounts of Post-medieval finds.
201	Subsoil	Mid brown loose silty clay subsoil.	0.20m	
202	Natural	Firm light yellowish brown clay gravel	NFX	

Trench 3

Length: 30m Width: 1.6m Orientation: N-S
 Average Depth: 0.35m Maximum Depth: 0.50m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
300	Topsoil	Dark black loose silty topsoil. Occasional modern brick and rubble.	0.30m	Large amounts of Post-medieval finds.
301	Subsoil	Mid brown loose silty clay subsoil.	0.17m	
302	Natural	Firm light yellowish brown clay gravel	NFX	

Trench 4

Length: 30m Width: 1.6m Orientation: E-W
 Average Depth: 0.60m Maximum Depth: 0.75m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
400	Topsoil	Dark black loose silty topsoil. Occasional modern brick and rubble. Frequent amounts of large rooting visible from neighbouring boundary.	0.40m	Large amounts of Post-medieval finds.
401	Subsoil	Mid brown loose silty clay subsoil.	0.20m	
402	Natural	Firm light yellowish brown clay gravel	NFX	

Trench 1

Length: 30m Width: 1.6m Orientation: E-W
 Average Depth: 0.35m Maximum Depth: 0.55m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
500	Topsoil	Dark black loose silty topsoil. Occasional modern brick and rubble.	0.35m	Large amounts of Post-medieval finds.
501	Subsoil	Mid brown loose silty clay subsoil.	0.15m	
502	Natural	Firm light yellowish brown clay gravel	NFX	

APPENDIX 2: PLATES



Plate 1: Overall shot of Trench 1, 2x 1 metre scale



Plate 2: Overall shot of Trench 2, 2x 1 metre scale



Plate 3: Overall shot of Trench 3, 2x 1 metre scale

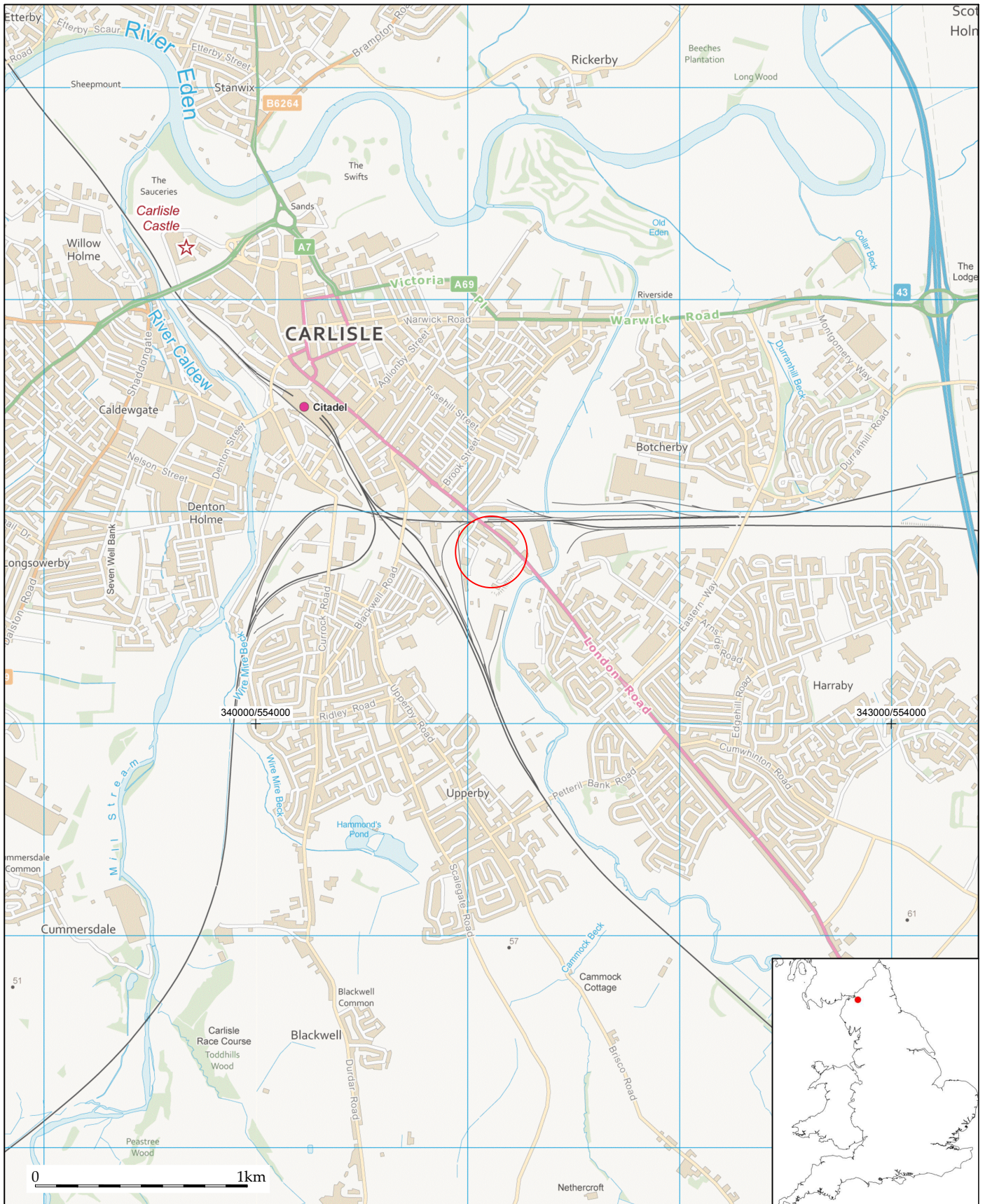


Plate 4: Overall shot of Trench 4, 2x 1 metre scale



Plate 5: Overall shot of Trench 5, 2x 1 metre scale

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES






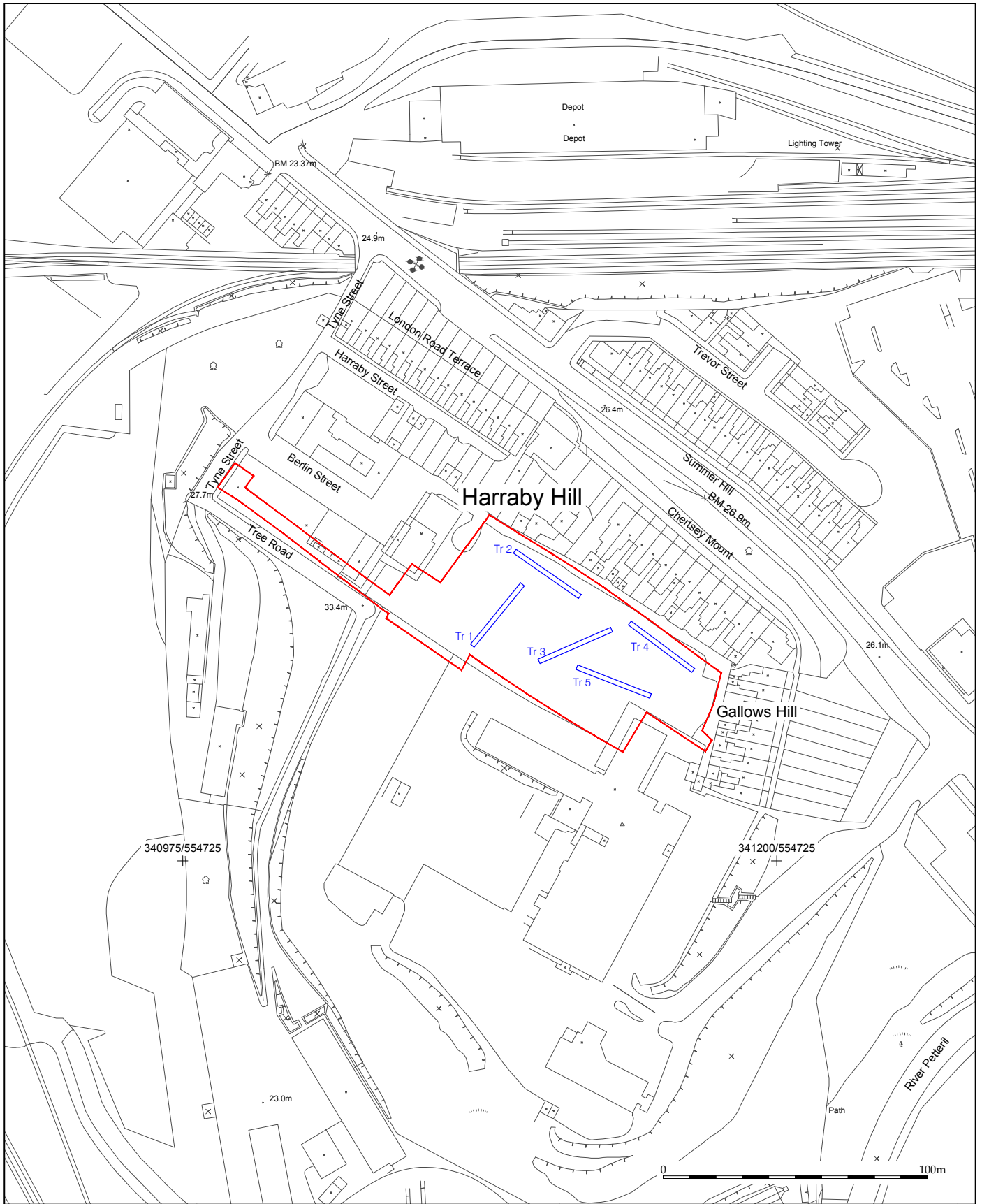

 <p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2015</p>	<p>PROJECT: Land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount, Carlisle, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: 1:25,000 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP11604</p> <p>CLIENT: Harrison Northern</p> <p>DRAWN BY: HP</p> <p>DATE: December 2015</p> <p>FIGURE: 1</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Site location</p>	 <p>Reproduced 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
2015

PROJECT: Land off Tree Road, Chertsey Mount,
Carlisle, Cumbria

SCALE: 1:2,000 at A4

REPORT No: CP11604


CLIENT: Harrison Northern


DRAWN BY: HP


DATE: December 2015

FIGURE: 2

KEY:

 Site boundary

 Evaluation trench



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Figure 2: Evaluation trench location plan.

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