

ERIC WRIGHT CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

FLEET STREET, CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

May 2017



Wardell Armstrong

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Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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DESK BASED ASSESSMENTS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY
TOPOGRAPHIC AND LANDSCAPE SURVEY
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
EIA AND HERITAGE CONSULTANCY



CONTENTS

CONTEN	NTS	1
SUMMA	ARY	3
ACKNO\	WLEDGEMENTS	4
1. INT	rroduction	1
1.1	Project Circumstances and Planning Background	1
1.2	Project Documentation	1
2. ME	THODOLOGY	2
2.1	Standards and guidance	2
2.2	Documentary Research	2
2.3	The Field Evaluation	2
3. BA	CKGROUND	5
3.1	Location and Geological Context	5
3.2	Historical and Archaeological Background	5
4. AR	CHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS	8
4.1	Introduction	8
4.2	Results	8
4.3	Archaeological Finds and Environmental Sampling	11
5. FINDS	5	12
5.1	Introduction	12
5.2	Ceramics	13
5.3	Clay Pipe	14
5.5	Metal	14
5.6	Animal Bone	14
5.7	Conclusions	15
5.8	Statement of Potential	15
6. CO	NCLUSIONS	16
6.1	Interpretation	16
7. BIE	BLIOGRAPHY	17
APPEND	DIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS	19
APPEND	DIX 2: PLATES	27
ΔΡΡΕΝΓ	DIX 3: FIGURES	33



APPENDIX 2: PLATES

- Plate 1; Fleet Street, showing house numbers 1, 7, 9, 11 and 13 (view looking north from Gillibrand Walks), in the process of demolition in 1962 (Source: Smith 2002).
- Plate 2; 1960s view looking south-west showing the gates to Primrose Cottage, with Primrose Cottage beyond, and Moor Street devoid of housing (Source: Smith 2002).
- Plate 3; Trench 1, looking north-east, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 4; Cellar wall {103} showing abutting brick and sandstone feature {104}, looking southwest, 1x1m scale.
- Plate 5; Cellar walls {105} and {106} showing made ground (109) of ginnel floor, looking northwest, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 6; Trench 2, looking south-west, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 7; Cellar walls {203}, {204} (in the centre) and {205}, showing bare earth floor (213), looking north-west, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 8; Walls {203}, {204} and brick wall {212}, showing detail of wall plaster, looking north, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 9; Doorway between walls {208} and {209}, showing sill {210} and flagged floor {211}, looking west, 1x0.50m scale.
- Plate 10; Trench 3, looking south-east, 2x1m scales.
- Plate 11; Ceramic drain catchment {305}, looking north-east, 1x0.50m scale.

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site Location
- Figure 2: Location of the evaluation trenches
- Figure 3: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1848 (5ft to 1 mile scale)
- Figure 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey Map 1928 (25" to 1 mile scale)
- Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey Map 1960 (1: 2500 scale)
- Figure 6: Trench 1 plan and section
- Figure 7: Trench 2 plan and section
- Figure 8: Trench 3 plan and section



SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong was commissioned by Eric Wright Construction Limited to undertake an archaeological investigation by trenching at Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire (centred on NGR: SD 58243 17256) in advance of the redevelopment of the site. Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of an existing hire shop (formerly Primrose Cottage) and assembly hall (St John's Ambulance Hall) and the erection of a 65 apartment extra-care facility with replacement dance hall and a café/restaurant on the site of Fleet Street long-stay car park (Planning Application Reference: 16/00298/FULMAJ).

The investigation was required as a condition of the planning consent, and was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced following an archaeological assessment which identified 19th century housing within the site boundary.

The archaeological work took place over five days between the 8th and 12th of May 2017 and consisted of the excavation and recording of three trenches targeting three separate rows of 19th century terrace houses. Each trench differed in size but the combined area excavated was approximately 110m².

Archaeological remains were identified in all three trenches corresponding with the foundations of the 19th century terrace houses on Moor Street and Fleet Street. Evidence of earth floor cellars were identified in Trenches 1 and 2. In Trench 3, the rear external wall and stone flagged yards of terrace houses were revealed.



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The evaluation was undertaken by Kevin Horsley, Jonathan Banasko and Michael Mann, and the report was written by Kevin Horsley and Fiona Wooler. The finds assessment was by Sue Thompson. The project was managed by Martin Railton, who also edited the report.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Circumstances and Planning Background

- 1.1.1 In May 2017, Wardell Armstrong undertook an archaeological investigation at Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire, PR7 2EX (centred on NGR SD 58243 17256). Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of an existing hire shop (formerly Primrose Cottage) and assembly hall (St John's Ambulance Hall) and the erection of a 65 apartment extra-care facility with replacement dance hall and a café/restaurant on the site of Fleet Street long-stay car park (Planning Ref: 16/00298/FULMAJ).
- 1.1.2 Chorley Council granted planning permission with conditions, of which Condition 2 related to archaeological work. The condition stated: 'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority'.
- 1.1.3 A previous archaeological assessment undertaken by Wardell Armstrong in 2016 identified that the redevelopment of the site would impact on below-ground remains associated with 19th century dwellings which are characteristic of working class housing (possibly of cellar accommodation), and above-ground remains in the form of a former house (Primrose Cottage) and assembly hall (St John's Ambulance Hall). Further work was recommended in the form of an historic building survey of Primrose Cottage, and a trial trench evaluation to examine below-ground remains associated with the housing which occupied the site.
- 1.1.4 The historic building survey of Primrose Cottage has already been undertaken and is the subject of a separate report (Wardell Armstrong 2017a).

1.2 **Project Documentation**

- 1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced, to provide a specific methodology for the archaeological investigation (Wardell Armstrong 2017b). This was submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval, 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 (DCLG 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 work.



2. **METHODOLOGY**

2.1 Standards and guidance

- 2.2.1 The archaeological investigation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2014a), and in accordance with the Wardell Armstrong Excavation Manual (2017c).
- 2.2.2 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 assessment was prepared by Wardell Armstrong in 2016 which set out the archaeological and historical background of the site. The assessment identified that the site appears to have been agricultural in character up until the early to mid-19th century, after which housing was constructed on part of the site in the form of terraced cottages with yards, and a detached property set in a large garden (Primrose Cottage) was erected c.1843. It was concluded that below-ground archaeological remains relating to the terraced housing would survive within the site boundary.
- 2.2.2 A brief summary of the archaeological and historical background of the site is included below in order to set the results of the investigation into context. For more information on the historical development of the site, please refer to the archaeological assessment (Wardell Armstrong 2016).

2.3 The Field Evaluation

- 2.3.1 The trench investigation comprised up to 90m² of trenching in total, targeting the location of terraced housing as depicted on historic mapping along Moor Street and the west side of Fleet Street (Figure 3). The trenches were located to target three separate terraces, some of which may have had cellars. The trenches were also positioned to avoid known services, which constrained the length of two of the trenches. Three trenches were excavated of differing sizes; between 15 -16m in length and between 1.8-3.60m in width.
- 2.3.2 The main objectives of the evaluation were:
 - to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;

LE13620 Page 2



- 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.

In addition, specific objectives of the project were:

- to determine whether there was any evidence for handloom weavers' cottages along the west side of Fleet Street and/or Moor Street;
- to identify any evidence for differing property styles or methods of construction within the former housing on Fleet Street and Moor Street;
- to establish any changes in use including the presence/absence of later cellar dwellings within the properties, and any associated dating evidence.
- 2.3.2 Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by an 180° wheeled 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 Wardell Armstrong standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Wardell Armstrong 2017c).
- 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 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 (CIfA 2014b). 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 investigation trenches were backfilled by reinstating the excavated material in the order it was removed.
- 2.3.5 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wardell Armstrong 2017b), and Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with Lancashire County Council Museum Service, with copies of the report sent to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER), where viewing will be made available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier WA17, LE13620, FSL-A.
- 2.3.6 Wardell Armstrong 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 WA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: wardella2-286290.



3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 **Location and Geological Context**

- 3.1.1 The site is located to the south of Chorley town centre, at the south end of Market Street, and forms an area of land which is defined by Fleet Street to the north-east, Peel Street to the north-west, and Gillibrand Walks to the south-east (Figures 1 and 2). More latterly the site has been used as a car park, with two extant buildings present within the site boundary: a former HSS Hire Shop (Primrose Cottage) and St John's Ambulance Hall.
- 3.1.2 The bedrock geology of the site comprises Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 312 to 313 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. The drift geology comprises Devensian Till; deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2017). The natural substrate observed during the current works comprised of sand and clay which corresponds with the mapped geologies above.
- 3.1.3 It is known from historical mapping that coal mining was undertaken within close proximity to the site in the 19th century (to the north), although the site is not situated within the boundary of a former opencast coal mining site (Wardell Armstrong 2016).
- 3.1.4 In the Historic Town Assessment report for Chorley, the site has been identified as having formed part of the mid-19th century urban growth of the town. The 'Present Historic Townscape Character' of the site has been identified as 20th century industrial/commercial (Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea 2006).

3.2 **Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 3.2.1 An archaeological assessment was produced in 2016 to assess the historical and archaeological background of the site, and a study area of 250 radius centred on the site (Wardell Armstrong 2016). The assessment was informed by information largely collated from the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER), Lancashire Archives and Chorley Library. It is not intended to repeat that information here and what follows is a brief overview; for further details please refer to the original document.
- 3.2.6 *Prehistoric (up to c.AD70):* There is currently no evidence for prehistoric activity within the study area.
- 3.2.7 Romano-British (c.AD70 to c.400AD): There is currently no evidence for Romano-British settlement within the defined urban area of Chorley.

LE13620 Page 5



- 3.2.8 **Post Roman and Early Medieval (c.400 to 1050AD):** there is currently no evidence of post Roman or early medieval settlement within the urban area of Chorley, although it has been suggested that the parish church of Chorley (Church of St Laurence) may have originated in this period.
- 3.2.9 *Medieval (c.1050 to 1550AD):* At present, there is no evidence for the character or size of a settlement at Chorley before the establishment of the borough in *c.*1253AD. The borough appears to have been laid out as a two-row settlement along what was later to become Market Street, with burgage plots laid out along the main street. Cartographic evidence from the 18th century gives some indication that the medieval layout of the town survived into the post medieval period. It has been suggested that the medieval settlement may have been concentrated around St Laurence's Church and the market place (located opposite the church), with possibly occasional inhabited plots further south (Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea 2006, 15-16). If that was the case, then it is possible that the Fleet Street site may have been situated on the periphery of the medieval settlement, although the land may have been used for agricultural purposes.
- 3.2.10 *Post Medieval (c.1550 to 1900AD):* Although Chorley had developed at least some urban characteristics by the 18th century, it probably had not expanded beyond the limits of the medieval settlement. Maps dating to the 18th century show that the town was centred on Market Street, with properties on both sides of the road. A copy of a map dating to 1734 (not reproduced here), housed at Chorley Library, appears to show this layout, with more intensive settlement being to the north near the church. The line of what is now Pall Mall, however, appears to be represented, with properties seemingly along its south side. The development site on Fleet Street may have formed part of what is shown on this map as 'Mr Gillibrand's Lands', suggesting it may have been agricultural in character in the early 18th century.
- 3.2.11 A plan of Chorley dating to 1769 (not reproduced here) appears to show that the Fleet Street site was still situated at the southern limit of the town, however the lines of Pall Mall and Bolton Street are clearly visible, as well as the line of what was to become known as Gillibrand Walk, with properties along its north side. Neither Fleet Street nor Moor Street were seemingly in existence, and it appears that the majority of the site was agricultural in character.
- 3.2.12 Fleet Street appears to have been in existence by the early 19th century as trades are listed along it in an 1824 trade directory. It is possible some of the buildings along Fleet



Street may have been constructed to house handloom weavers, as weaver's cottages in the early 19th century were concentrated to the south of the town. Often weavers lived in 'up-steps' houses, whilst others had a cellar below ground. The common factor of these cottages was intended to be a lower level with an earth floor; on this surface looms could work in a warm, moist atmosphere which helped the threads remain intact (Heyes 1994, 81). As handloom weaving declined, many of the basement loomshops were converted to cellar dwellings to house the influx of workers to the town during the mid-19th century (Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea 2006, 40).

- 3.2.13 From the middle of the 19th century, cartographic evidence provides information on the development and character of the land within the site boundary. The Tithe Map and Apportionment for Chorley, dating to 1839 (not reproduced here), shows that Fleet Street and Moor Street were developed with small terraced properties, in some cases possibly back-to-backs. The large-scale First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848 provides a clearer indication of the properties within the site boundary in the mid-19th century. The properties along Moor Street and Fleet Street are shown with rear yards and small structures, presumably representing privies. Some of the properties appear to be shown with external steps, which may indicate that they were examples of weavers' cottages as noted above (Figure 3).
- 3.2.14 *Industrial and Modern (1900-present):* Ordnance Survey mapping from the early 20th century shows that the properties along Fleet Street and Moor Street were still in existence in 1928 (Figure 4).
- 3.2.15 The Ordnance Survey map of 1960 shows the housing still present along Moor Street and Fleet Street (Figure 5), although demolition work had begun two years later on Fleet Street as shown by the photograph reproduced in Plate 1. This photograph shows the form of the houses on the west side of Fleet Street and at the east end of Gillibrand Walks, The housing on Moor Street was seemingly demolished in the latter part of the 1960s, as a photograph taken at the end of that decade shows the gates to Primrose Cottage, with the housing on Moor Street gone and replaced by car parking (Plate 2).



4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.4.1 The investigation was undertaken over five days between the 8th and 12th of May 2017, with three trenches excavated across the development site (Figure 2). The trenches were placed to target three separate rows of terrace housing along Fleet Street and former Moor Street.

4.2 Results

- 4.2.1 Modern tarmac had been laid across a bedding layer of crushed brick (100), (200) and (300) for a car park, and was removed across the three trenches to an average depth of 0.30m to reveal archaeology. Overburden (102), (202), (301) was then removed in each trench to further expose and define the walls and rooms of the terraces.
- 4.2.2 The natural substrate was only observed in Trench 1 at a depth of 1.80m taken from the current ground level, at an approximate height of 84.42m aOD, though this level had been created during the construction of the terrace houses and was possibly used as a bare earth floor. The natural substrate was observed to be firm, mottled light yellowish brown fine sandy clay (101) at the base of one of the cellar walls {103}.
- 4.2.3 *Trench 1:* Trench 1 was positioned to target the footprint of terraces on the north side of the former Moor Street. The trench was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 15.70m in length and 1.8m in width.
- 4.2.4 The partial remains of up to three cellar rooms and the probable route of a former ginnel (passage) were identified in Trench 1 (Figure 6, Plate 3).
- 4.2.5 Foundation walls **{103}**, **{105}**, **{106}** and **{107}** were all aligned north-west to southeast, and were first observed at a maximum height of 85.98m aOD. Each wall was approximately 0.50m in width and constructed of random courses of roughly hewn sandstone blocks and rubble bonded with a light grey sandy lime mortar. Only the south-westernmost wall **{103}** was fully exposed and stood approximately 1.40m high and had been constructed directly onto the natural substrate **(101)**. Partial remains of plaster was observed on the internal elevations of these walls.
- 4.2.6 A wall comprising a single skin of handmade bricks **{104}** in stretcher bond and light grey mortar bonding was observed butting the north-east facing elevation of wall **{103}**, with a large sandstone block positioned partially atop this brick wall (Plate 4). The wall was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 0.51m in length and



- 0.13m in width, being the same surviving height as the foundation wall it abuts. It is unknown what the function of this internal brick and sandstone feature was though it may have been a cupboard or sink, or had some association with the stairwell into the cellar.
- 4.2.7 The full width of two cellars was exposed. The cellar to the far north-east of the trench was only partially revealed. The room bounded by walls **{103}** and **{105}** spanned 5m, and the room bounded by walls **{106}** and **{107}** spanned 4.40m.
- 4.2.8 Following the construction of the foundation walls, redeposited natural (108) was used to make up the ground to the south-west of wall {103} which probably formed the base of the ground floor of that terrace. A redeposited fill (109) of dark greyish brown sandy silt, was observed between walls {105} and {106} was used to form the floor of the covered passage, or ginnel, between those two terraces (Plate 5). The ginnel measured approximately 1.35m in width.
- 4.2.9 *Trench 2:* Trench 2 was positioned to target the footprint of terraces on the south side of the former Moor Street. The trench was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 15m in length and was extended to a maximum of 3.60m in width to accommodate any stepping needed to allow for greater depth of excavation to be achieved safely.
- 4.2.10 The partial remains of up to six cellar rooms belonging to three terraces were identified in Trench 2 (Figure 7, Plate 6).
- 4.2.11 Similar to the construction of the terraces in Trench 1, earth and natural substrate had been removed ahead of construction of the house foundations. Foundation walls {203}, {205}, {206}, {207}, {208} and {209}, first observed at a maximum height of 85.93m aOD, had then been constructed and the spaces between them made into cellars. Composed of the same sandstone blocks, rubble and mortar as the walls observed in Trench 1, each wall was also approximately 0.50m in width and up to 1.25m in height. Plaster had been added to every elevation of the exposed walls.
- 4.2.12 The cellar room to the north-east of the trench, bounded by foundation walls **{203}** and **{205}**, was reduced to its bare earth floor **(213)** observed at a height of 84.48m aOD (Plate 7). This floor deposit **(213)** was a heavily compacted mid greyish brown ashy sandy silt, and the internal span of the room this floor occupied was 4.52m.
- 4.2.13 Into this floor surface, a brick wall comprising handmade bricks in a stretcher bond with mid grey fine sandy mortar **{212}** had been constructed within wall cut **[214]**, and



then its base consolidated with a packing fill **(215)** of dark orangey brown silty clay. Sometime later, a rubble sandstone wall **(204)** was constructed along the immediate south-west elevation of the brick wall, which butted foundation wall **(205)**, removing some of the wall plaster there. The wall was 0.42m in width and spanned 3.78m of the cellar room in a north-east to south-west alignment, leaving a gap of 0.75m between its north-east end and opposing wall **(203)**. It could be this gap was for the former entry into the cellar, as possible trace remains of former steps in the plaster could be faintly observed (Plate 8). It also appears that the brick wall was deliberately reduced in size, though it cannot be determined when this took place, or for what reason.

- 4.2.14 The central cellar rooms, bounded by foundations walls **{205}** and **{207}** and divided by wall **{206}** had an internal span of 4.44m.
- 4.2.15 A doorway had been installed as part of the original construction of the southwesternmost cellars, between walls **{208}** and **{209}**. In the cellar to the south-east, the floor comprised of a light yellowish brown sand **(201)**, and in the cellar to the north-west, composed of Yorkstone flags on a sandy bed **{211}**, first observed at a height of 84.87m aOD. The doorway comprised a large sandstone sill **{210}** measuring 0.83m in length, 0.40m in width and 0.13m deep, and which appeared to have been inserted prior to the application of the wall plaster (Plate 9). The space into which the former jambs of a door may have been fixed were demonstrated by the wall plaster only partially sealing the ends of these walls.
- 4.2.16 *Trench 3:* Trench 3 was positioned to target the footprint of terraces on the south side of Fleet Street. The trench was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 16m in length and was extended to a maximum of 2.00m in width.
- 4.2.17 The external rear wall and yards of up to four terraces fronting Fleet Street were identified in Trench 3 (Figure 8, Plate 10).
- 4.2.18 Following the removal of tarmac and overburden, the external rear sandstone rubble wall **{302}** was first observed at a height of 84.71m aOD. The wall had been constructed similarly to those found in Trenches 1 and 2 and was aligned north-west to south-east. The dividing terrace walls **{309}**, **{310}** and **{311}** aligned north-east to south-west were only partially visible, and again composed of rubble and coarse grey sandy lime mortar with the exception of brick repair work to the joins between the walls where lead piping for water had been added later.
- 4.2.19 The internal dividing walls measured an average of 0.44m in width and appeared to butt rather than be tied in to the foundation wall **{302}**, which perhaps indicates their



later installation and generally inferior construction to the terraces on former Moor Street.

- 4.2.20 It is presumed that there were rear doors to each individual terrace property, though only one sill was observed, embedded within the rear foundation wall **{302}**. The large sandstone sill **{303}** had been cut and squared from a single stone and had suffered clear wear, measuring 1.17m in length, 0.22m in width and 0.17m deep.
- 4.2.21 To the immediate south-west of external wall **{302}** was a flag stone yard comprising Yorkstone slabs **{308}**, up to 0.10m thick for some of the larger flags, and spanning the entire trench, laid on a bed of light yellowish grey sand. Many of the flags had presumably been removed following the disuse of the yard, though it was clear that it had been a shared yard.
- 4.2.22 A later trench [312] had then been cut through the yard against the wall. The cut measured 13.50m in length, 0.30m in width and up to 0.45m in depth, running from the south-east end of the trench and ending at the dividing wall {309} between two of the terraces. A glazed ceramic drain, identified by up to three ceramic catchment tiles {304}, {305} and {306} observed at a maximum height of 84.42m aOD, had then been laid within this trench and backfilled with a mixed dark greyish brown sandy silty clay (313). Yorkstone flags {307} had then been replaced over this trench to restore the yard once more. In places, cement had been added to these flag stones, particularly around the most north-westerly ceramic catchment tile {305} (Plate 11).

4.3 Archaeological Finds and Environmental Sampling

4.3.1 A selection of archaeological finds were recovered from various deposits across the three trenches and are discussed in the following section (see Section 5). No environmental samples were recovered during the groundworks.



5. FINDS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A total of 41 artefacts, weighing 2696g, were recovered from six deposits during an archaeological evaluation at Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire.
- 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 and 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) and EAC (2014).
- 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 Quantification of bulk finds by context is visible in Table 1 below.

Context	Trench	Material	Date	Qty	Wgt(g)	Comments
109	1	Bone		1	6	Animal bone - sheep scapula. Butchery marks
109	1	Ceramic	19th cent	6	44	White earthenware, including plain white, blue edged, spongeware. Tea cup, plate, bowl fragments
109	1	Ceramic	19th cent	3	238	Glazed ceramic pipe/drain sherds. Brown salt glazed and yellow glazed
109	1	Clay pipe	Post Med	1	3	Stem
109	1	Glass	19th - 20th cent	4	14	Clear jar, green bottle, window glass, ridged on one side
109	1	Iron	Post Med	1	4	Nail - highly corroded
109	1	Shell		1	3	Cockle shell
202	2	Ceramic	19th cent	10	616	White earthenware, including transfer printed, banded ware, hand painted. Chamber pots, jugs, plates
202	2	Ceramic	18th - 19th cent	4	1144	Red earthenware, including unglazed and blackglazed, Large storage jar, pancheon - glazed internally
202	2	Ceramic	19th cent	1	19	Brown stoneware storage jar
202	2	Clay pipe	Post Med	2	8	Stem fragments



202	2	Glass	19th cent	1	9	Brown glass bottle fragment
204	2	Ceramic	19th - 20th cent	1	2	White earthenware - blue external glaze. Tile?
213	2	Ceramic	19th cent	1	33	Salt glazed stoneware storage jar
213	2	Glass	19th cent	1	414	Complete bottle - clear glass
304	3	Ceramic	19th cent	1	134	White earthenware - green external glaze
313	3	Ceramic	19th	2	5	White earthenware, plain and transfer print. Plate, bowl
Total				41	2696	

Table 1: Quantification of Bulk Finds by Context

5.2 Ceramics

- 5.2.1 A total of 29 sherds of post-medieval ceramic sherds, weighing 2235g, were recovered from six deposits (Table 1).
- 5.2.1 The ceramic sherds are in moderate to good condition and comprise pottery and tile fragments, including both drainage and wall tiles.
- 5.2.2 The pottery assemblage comprises 24 sherds weighing 1861g and fabric types include salt-glazed stoneware, black-glazed red earthenware and white glazed earthenware. Both plain white and decorated vessels are present, with transfer printed, sponge ware and hand-painted sherds among the pottery.
- 5.2.3 The pottery is a typical domestic assemblage dating largely to the 19th century (Poole 1995, Hildyard 2005). The earliest vessels are the large coarse red earthenware storage jar and pancheon fragments recovered from deposit (202). These vessels were common utilitarian wares which were locally produced in small potteries from the 17th century well into the 19th century, and these examples are from the latter period (Casella and Croucher 2010). A single sherd of brown stoneware storage jar was also recovered from deposit (202).
- 5.2.4 The white earthenwares largely comprise standardised factory-made tablewares including plates, bowls and tea cups. Decorated sherds comprise a single sponge ware bowl fragment and a hand-painted shallow dish; the majority of the earthenware sherds are either plain white or transfer printed. Two sherds of a chamber pot were also recovered from deposit (202).
- 5.2.5 Five fragments of ceramic tile, weighing 374g, were also recovered from three deposits. A green glazed wall tile from deposit (304) is typically Victorian and may



have been part of a fireplace or doorway, while a blue glazed possible tile from context **(204)** is probably later (20th century). Three drainage pipes were recovered from context **(109)**, comprising two stoneware fragments and one with a yellow glaze, all of which are likely to be 19th century in date.

5.2.6 No further analysis on the ceramic assemblage is warranted.

5.3 Clay Pipe

- 5.3.1 Three clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered from two deposits, weighing 11g and comprising three stem fragments (Table 1). There are no maker's marks; however, it is possible to get a rough date based on the borehole of the pipe stem.
- 5.3.2 The stem borehole is less than 2mm in diameter, giving an early 18th century date for the pipe stems (CAFG 2017).
- 5.3.3 No further analysis is necessary.

5.4 Glass

- 5.4.1 Six shards of glass, weighing 437g, were recovered from three deposits and comprise bottle glass and window glass (Table 1). The shards are in moderate to good condition and are 19th-20th century in date.
- 5.4.2 A complete 19th clear glass bottle was recovered from deposit **(213)** with name 'Ed(?) DEURDEN BLACKBURN' embossed around an anchor. The bottle is likely to have been made for selling mineral water rather than beer. The bottle is in good condition with an iridescent coating caused by burial environment conditions post-deposition.
- 5.4.3 No further analysis is warranted.

5.5 Metal

- 5.5.1 A single highly corroded iron nail fragment was recovered from context (109) weighing 4g. The nail is likely to be $19^{th} 20^{th}$ century in date.
- 5.5.2 No further analysis is warranted.

5.6 **Animal Bone**

- 5.6.1 A single animal bone fragments weighing 6g was recovered from deposit (109) (Table1). The fragment is in moderate condition.
- 5.6.2 The bone comprises a proximal scapular fragment of a medium-sized mammal e.g. sheep/goat (*Ovid/Caprid*) (Stoakley 2017, *Pers. Comm.*).
- 5.6.3 A single cockle shell was also recovered from context (109) weighing 3g and is in



moderate condition.

- 5.6.4 The animal bone and shell represent food waste.
- 5.6.5 No further work is necessary.

5.7 **Conclusions**

5.7.1 The finds assemblage is post-medieval and 18th- 20th century in date, with the majority being 19th century in date. The finds are typical of utilitarian and domestic 19th century household waste (Casella and Croucher 2010; Licence 2015).

5.8 Statement of Potential

- 5.8.1 The finds are of local interest but of low archaeological significance.
- 5.8.2 The finds will not therefore be retained with the archive.



6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 **Interpretation**

- 6.1.1 Archaeological remains were found in all three trenches. The remains of walls, cellars and yard surfaces were revealed relating to terrace housing on Fleet Street and former Moor Street, known to have been constructed in the early 19th century.
- 6.1.2 It is possible to suggest which houses were identified during the evaluation. In Trench 1, the three cellar rooms exposed probably belonged to No. 2, 4 and 6 Moor Street, with the ginnel passing between No. 4 and No. 6. It appears that No. 8 Moor Street did not contain a cellar. In Trench 2, the cellars likely belonged to No. 3, 5 and 7 Moor Street, with the northern most wall exposed belonging to the ginnel that passed between No. 1 and 3. In Trench 3, it is a little more difficult to determine, though it is possible to suggest that the back walls and yards of No. 7, 9, 11 and 13 Fleet Street were revealed, with the large sandstone sill belonging to the rear door of No. 13.
- 6.1.3 The finds recovered from the archaeological evaluation confirm the date of these terrace houses as being inhabited from the early 19th century to the 1960s, with clay smoking pipe fragments dating to the early 18th likely to be residual within redeposited soils.
- 6.1.4 Only a single phase of construction was identified. Although house construction during the late 18th and early 19th century changed very little, it is likely that the terraces were contemporary. It was unclear from the evaluation whether or not these were traditionally back-to-back terraces, though it is highly likely they were. A later wall in the cellar of No. 3 Moor Street was presumably added to support the floor above. It appears that this terrace had been constructed to a smaller size and a central dividing wall had not been instated as part of its original design.
- 6.1.5 Bare earth floors were revealed in Trench 2, and possibly in Trench 1 also. Although no evidence of weaving was identified during the groundworks, it is certainly possible that at least some of these cellar rooms were used as loomshops, given the known use of properties in the south end of Chorley for this industry at the time these terraces were constructed.
- 6.1.6 The survival of the archaeological features was good, with the demolition of the terraces having taken place to ground level and then sealed beneath a layer of tarmac. However, it is not considered that any further archaeological work is required.



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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

Length: 15.70m Width: 1.8m Orientation: NE-SW

Minimum Depth: 0.30m Maximum Depth: c.1.80m

Context	Context	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
Number	Туре	-	0.25m	Modern tarmac found
		Hard dark grey tarmac with	0.23	across the site, belonging
(100)	Layer	a red crushed brick bedding		to former car park. Same
		layer, found across the site.		as (200) and (300).
		Firm light yellowish brown	-	Natural geology, observed
(4.04)	Natural	fine sandy clay, observed at		beneath (102) at the foot
(101)	Substrate	a depth of c.1.80m below		of wall {103}.
		current ground level.		
		Loose mixed dark red, grey	1.80m	Demolition material
		and yellowish brown		relating to former terrace
		material belonging to brick,		houses.
(102)	Deposit	stone and mortar		
		fragments throughout,		
		observed across trench to a		
		maximum depth of 1.80m.		
		Wall, aligned NW-SE,	1.40m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		opposing cellar wall from
		sandstone in random		{105}, for terrace house
		coursing, with occasional		on Moor Street. South-
		fragments of slate		western most wall
		incorporated into the		exposed in Trench 1.
		bonding. The bonding		
4		material was a light grey		
{103}	Masonry	coarse sandy lime mortar		
		with occasional lumps of		
		orangey brown clay		
		throughout, and the		
		internal face (NE) of the wall had been plastered.		
		The wall measured 0.51m		
		in width and to a depth of		
		c.1.40m		
		Wall, aligned NE-SW,	1.40m	Internal cellar wall for
		comprising bricks in	1.40111	possible stairwell or
		stretcher bonding and		stand-alone feature,
		bonded with light grey		butting internal face of
		sandy lime mortar and a		wall {103}.
		single large cut sandstone		,
{104}	Masonry	block which may or may		
	'	not have been an element		
		of its construction,		
		measuring 0.13m in width		
		and 0.51m in length to a		
		maximum depth of		
		c.1.40m.		



	1			1
		Wall, aligned NW-SE,	0.69m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		opposing cellar wall from
		sandstone in random		{103}, for terrace house
		coursing. The bonding		on Moor Street. The
		material was a light grey		ginnel floor deposit (109),
(405)		coarse sandy lime mortar		had been placed between
{105}	Masonry	and the internal face (SW)		this wall and wall {106}.
		of the wall had been		
		plastered, and the external		
		(NW). The wall measured		
		0.55m in width and to a		
		visible depth of 0.69m.		
		Wall, aligned NW-SE,	0.77m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut	0.77111	opposing cellar wall from
		sandstone in random		{107}, for terrace house
				on Moor Street. The
		coursing. The bonding		
		material was a light grey		ginnel floor deposit (109),
{106}	Masonry	coarse sandy lime mortar		had been placed between
	,	and the internal face (NE)		this wall and wall {105}.
		of the wall had been		
		plastered, and the external		
		(SW). The wall measured		
		0.61m in width and to a		
		visible depth of 0.77m.		
		Wall, aligned NW-SE,	0.56m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		opposing cellar wall from
		sandstone in random		{105}, for terrace house
		coursing. The bonding		on Moor Street. North-
		material was a light grey		eastern most wall
{107}	Masonry	coarse sandy lime mortar		exposed in Trench 1.
		and both elevations of the		
		wall had been plastered.		
		The wall measured 0.45m		
		in width and to a visible		
		depth of 0.56m.		
		Moderately compacted		Probable made ground
		yellowish brown fine sandy		comprising redeposited
(108)	Deposit	silty clay with occasional		natural substrate to the
(100)	Deposit	inclusions of small angular		south-west and against
		_		
		and subangular stones.	0.20	wall {103}.
		Moderately compacted	0.36m+	Made ground between
		dark greyish brown sandy		walls {105} and {106} for
(109)	Deposit	silt with flecks of charcoal		floor of probable ginnel.
		throughout, with a width of		
		1.12m and visible depth of		
		0.36m.		

Trench 2

Length: 15m Width: 3.60m Orientation: NE-SW

Minimum Depth: 0.32m Maximum Depth: 1.54m



Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(200)	Layer	Hard dark grey tarmac with a red crushed brick bedding layer, found across the site.	0.32m	Modern tarmac found across the site, belonging to former car park. Same as (100) and (300).
(201)	Deposit	Loose light yellowish brown sand.	-	Bedding deposit for Yorkstone flags {211} observed in base of cellar towards the south-west end of the trench, at the foot of walls {208} and {209}.
(202)	Deposit	Loose mixed dark red, grey and yellowish brown material belonging to brick, stone and mortar fragments throughout, observed across trench to a maximum depth of c.1.50m.	1.50m	Demolition material relating to former terrace houses.
{203}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NW-SE, comprising roughly cut sandstone in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar, and internal (SW facing) elevation of the wall had been plastered. The wall measured 0.48m in width and to a visible depth of 1.25m.	1.25m	Foundation wall, and opposing cellar wall from wall {205}, for terrace house on Moor Street. North-eastern most wall exposed in Trench 2.
{204}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NE-SW, comprising roughly cut sandstone and handmade bricks in random rubble coursing, with occasional fragments of slate incorporated into the bonding. Scant bonding material was found with the majority of the wall unconsolidated with only very occasional patches of sandy lime mortar. The wall measured 3.78m in length, 0.42m in width and to a visible depth of 1.23m.	1.23m	Internal dividing wall within cellar room, between wall {203} and butting wall {205}. Probably constructed at a later date to the surrounding foundation walls, and is also not quite on the same alignment as other central walls {206} and {208}/{209}.
{205}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NW-SE, comprising roughly cut sandstone in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar	1.33m	Foundation wall, and cellar wall between wall {203} and wall {207}, to which it is connected by wall {206}, for terrace houses on Moor Street.



	I			I
		and both elevations of the		Later wall {204} butts the
		wall had been plastered.		NE face of this wall.
		The wall measured 0.50m		
		in width and to a visible		
		depth of 1.33m.		
		Wall, aligned NE-SW,	0.74m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		central cellar wall for
		sandstone in random		terrace houses on Moor
		coursing. The bonding		Street, between wall
		material was a light grey		{205} and wall {207}, to
{206}	Masonry	coarse sandy lime mortar		which it joins.
		and both elevations of the		
		wall had been plastered.		
		The wall measured 4.56m		
		in length, 0.56m in width		
		and to a visible depth of		
		0.74m.		
		Wall, aligned NW-SE,	0.70m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		cellar wall for terrace
		sandstone in random		houses on Moor Street.
		coursing. The bonding		Runs parallel to wall {203}
		material was a light grey		and wall {205}, to which it
		coarse sandy lime mortar		is connected by wall
{207}	Masonry	and both elevations of the		{206}. Wall {208} joins this
		wall had been plastered		wall to the SE.
		and contained faint traces		
		of yellow and blue paint.		
		The wall measured 0.52m		
		in width and to a visible		
		depth of 0.70m.		
		Wall, aligned NE-SW,	1.10m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		central cellar wall for
		sandstone in random		terrace houses on Moor
		coursing. The bonding		Street, joined to wall
		material was a light grey		{207} and attached via
		coarse sandy lime mortar		former doorway to wall
(200)		and both elevations of the		{209}.
{208}	Masonry	wall had been plastered,		
		with a partial plaster		
		covering on the SW-facing		
		jamb of the former		
		doorway. The wall		
		measured 1.88m in length,		
		0.44m in width and to a		
		depth of 1.10m.	0.00	F 1 "
		Wall, aligned NE-SW,	0.90m	Foundation wall, and
		comprising roughly cut		central cellar wall for
		sandstone in random		terrace houses on Moor
		coursing. The bonding		Street, attached via
{209}	Masonry	material was a light grey		former doorway to wall
' '	,	coarse sandy lime mortar		{208}.
		and both elevations of the		
		wall had been plastered,		
		with a partial plaster		
		covering on the NE-facing		



		jamb of the former		
		doorway. The wall		
		measured a visible 0.70m in		
		length, 0.50m in width and		
		to a depth of 0.90m.		
		Sill comprising a single large	0.13m	Sandstone sill for former
		roughly cut and squared	0.15111	doorway between cellar
		block of sandstone, worn		rooms, butting walls {208}
		particularly across centre,		and {209}.
{210}	Masonry	measuring 0.83m in length		aa (200).
		and 0.40m in width, to a		
		maximum thickness of		
		0.13m.		
		0.13	_	Flagged Yorkstone floor
		Yorkstone sandstone		surface within cellar room
		flagged floor measuring a		immediately NW of
{211}	Masonry	visible 0.86m by 0.38m in		doorway sill {210}. Sandy
		size, on a bedding of sand.		bedding probably the
		3,7 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1		same as (201).
		Brick wall, aligned NE-SW	0.52m	Brick wall within cellar,
		and comprising seven		parallel with and running
		courses of stretchers		immediately alongside
(242)	D. 4 = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =	bonded with a mid grey		wall {204}, and butting
{212}	Masonry	fine sandy mortar,		foundation cellar wall
		measuring a visible 0.80m		{203}. Possible former or
		in length and 0.11m in		dividing wall between
		width, to a depth of 0.52m.		walls {203} and {205}.
		Heavily compacted, friable	-	Possible earth floor within
		mid greyish brown ashy		cellar room to the north-
(213)	Deposit	sandy silt, measuring 4.52m		east of the trench,
		in length and 2.30m in		bounded by walls {203},
		width.		{204} and {205}.
		Linear cut for wall {212},	-	Cut for brick wall {212}.
		with a sharp top break of		
[214]	Cut	slope and near vertical		
		sides, measuring 0.80m+ in		
		length and 0.21m in width.		
		Moderately compacted	-	Packing fill of wall cut
(215)	Fill	dark orangey brown silty		[214].
(=15)		clay, measuring 0.80m+ in		
		length and 0.21m in width.		

Trench 3

Length: 16m Width: 2.00m Orientation: NW-SE

Minimum Depth: 0.30m Maximum Depth: 1.04m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(300)	Layer	Hard dark grey tarmac with a red crushed brick bedding layer, found across the site.	0.30m	Modern tarmac found across the site, belonging

LE13620 Page 23



				to former car park. Same as (100) and (200).
(301)	Deposit	Loose mixed dark red, grey and yellowish brown material belonging to brick, stone and mortar fragments throughout, observed across trench to a maximum depth of 0.80m.	0.80m	Demolition material relating to former terrace houses.
{302}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NW-SE, comprising roughly cut sandstone in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar. The wall was visible for the entire length of the trench and was 0.42m in width and to a visible depth of 0.14m. Lead piping was also observed embedded within the wall, with the wall being repaired with brick.	0.14m	Foundation and rear external wall of terrace houses on Fleet Street.
{303}	Masonry	Sill comprising a single large roughly cut and squared block of sandstone, worn particularly across its centre, measuring 1.17m in length and 0.22m in width, to a maximum thickness of 0.17m.	0.17m	Sandstone sill for probably former rear in external wall {302}.
{304}	Masonry	Ceramic drain catchment within drain alignment running NW-SE, measuring 0.30m by 0.30m and to a maximum visible depth of 0.45m, with a drain opening of 0.14m in diameter.	0.45m	External ceramic drain catchment, installed at a later date and connected via ceramic pipes to run along base of external wall {302}, within cut [312] packed with backfill (313).
{305}	Masonry	Ceramic drain catchment within drain alignment running NW-SE, measuring 0.30m by 0.30m and to a maximum visible depth of 0.12m+, with a drain opening of 0.18m in diameter still containing the metal grate.	0.12m	External ceramic drain catchment, installed at a later date and connected via ceramic pipes to run along base of external wall {302}, within cut [312] packed with backfill (313).
{306}	Masonry	Ceramic drain catchment within drain alignment running NW-SE, with original glazed ceramic capping removed and drain opening measuring a maximum depth of 0.45m,	0.45m	External ceramic drain catchment, installed at a later date and connected via ceramic pipes to run along base of external wall {302}, within cut



	ı			[242] ===
		with a drain opening of 0.14m in diameter.		[312] packed with backfill (313).
{307}	Masonry	Sandstone flagged floor surface, on a bedding of loose, light grey cement, measuring a visible c.13.50m in length and 0.35m in width.	-	This flagged floor surface is part of and on the same level as yard surface {308}, however, these stones have been lifted and a drain {304}, {305} and {306} installed beneath them, along this alignment, truncated by trench [312].
{308}	Masonry	Sandstone flagged floor surface on a bedding of loose light yellowish grey sand, measuring a visible 0.85m in width and a maximum of 0.10m in depth in some places.	0.10m	External rear yard surface to properties on Fleet Street.
{309}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NE-SW, comprising roughly cut sandstone and later repair work of handmade brick in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar. The wall measures 0.49m in width and to a maximum depth of 0.35m.	0.35m	Foundation dividing wall between properties on Fleet Street, tied into the north-east facing elevation of wall {302}, parallel to walls {310} and {311} to the south-east.
{310}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NE-SW, comprising roughly cut sandstone in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar. The wall measures 0.40m in width.	-	Foundation dividing wall between properties on Fleet Street, tied into the north-east facing elevation of wall {302}, parallel to walls {309} and {311}.to the north-west.
{311}	Masonry	Wall, aligned NE-SW, comprising roughly cut sandstone and later repair work of handmade brick in random coursing. The bonding material was a light grey coarse sandy lime mortar. The wall measures 0.42m in width and a maximum observed depth of 0.10m.	0.10m	Foundation dividing wall between properties on Fleet Street, tied into the north-east facing elevation of wall {302}, parallel to walls {309}, to the north-west, and {310} to the south-east.
[312]	Cut	Sub-linear cut with sharp top break of slope and near vertical edges. The base of the cut is unknown. The cut measures 0.30m in width and approximately 13.50m	0.45m	Trench cut for drain comprising catchments {304}, {305} and {306} and backfill (313).



		in visible length to a		
		probably depth of 0.45m.		
(313)	Fill	Moderately compacted dark greyish brown sandy silty clay, measuring 0.30m in width and up to 0.45m in depth.	0.45m	Backfill within drain trench cut [312].



APPENDIX 2: PLATES



Plate 1; Fleet Street, showing house numbers 1, 7, 9, 11 and 13 (view looking north from Gillibrand Walks), in the process of demolition in 1962 (Source: Smith 2002).



Plate 2; 1960s view looking south-west showing the gates to Primrose Cottage, with Primrose Cottage beyond, and Moor Street devoid of housing (Source: Smith 2002).



Plate 3; Trench 1, looking north-east, 2x1m scales.



Plate 4; Cellar wall $\{103\}$ showing abutting brick and sandstone feature $\{104\}$, looking southwest, 1x1m scale.



Plate 5; Cellar walls $\{105\}$ and $\{106\}$ showing made ground (109) of ginnel floor, looking north-west, 2x1m scales.



Plate 6; Trench 2, looking south-west, 2x1m scales.



Plate 7; Cellar walls {203}, {204} (in the centre) and {205}, showing bare earth floor (213), looking north-west, 2x1m scales.



Plate 8; Walls $\{203\}$, $\{204\}$ and brick wall $\{212\}$, showing detail of wall plaster, looking north, 2x1m scales.



Plate 9; Doorway between walls {208} and {209}, showing sill {210} and flagged floor {211}, looking west, 1x0.50m scale.



Plate 10; Trench 3, looking south-east, 2x1m scales.



Plate 11; Ceramic drain catchment {305}, looking north-east, 1x0.50m scale.



APPENDIX 3: FIGURES

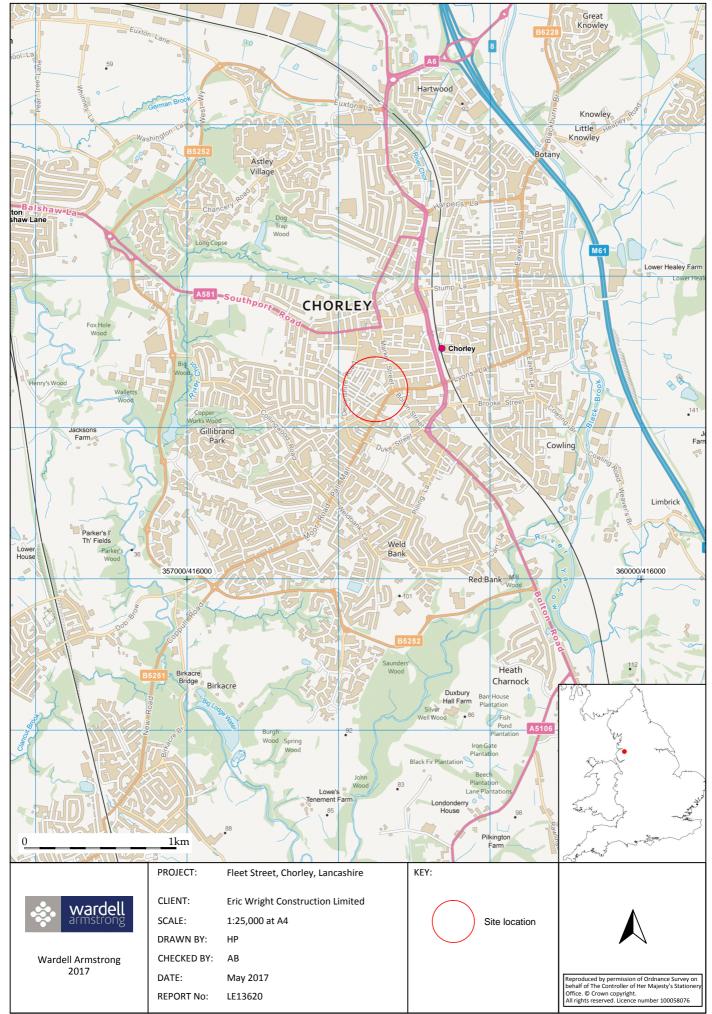


Figure 1: Site location.

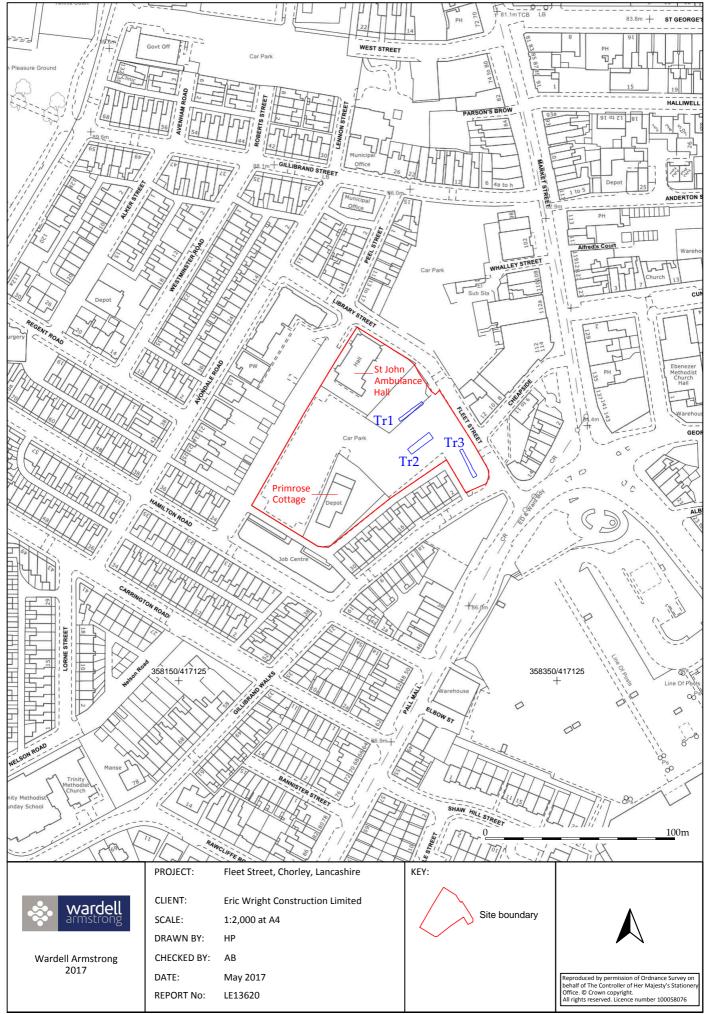


Figure 2: Location of evaluation trenches.



Wardell Armstrong 2017

PROJECT:

Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire

CLIENT:

Eric Wright Construction Limited

SCALE: 1:2,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: HP
CHECKED BY: AB

DATE: May 2017

KEY:



Site boundary



REPORT No:

LE13620



Figure 3: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1848 (5 feet to 1 mile scale).

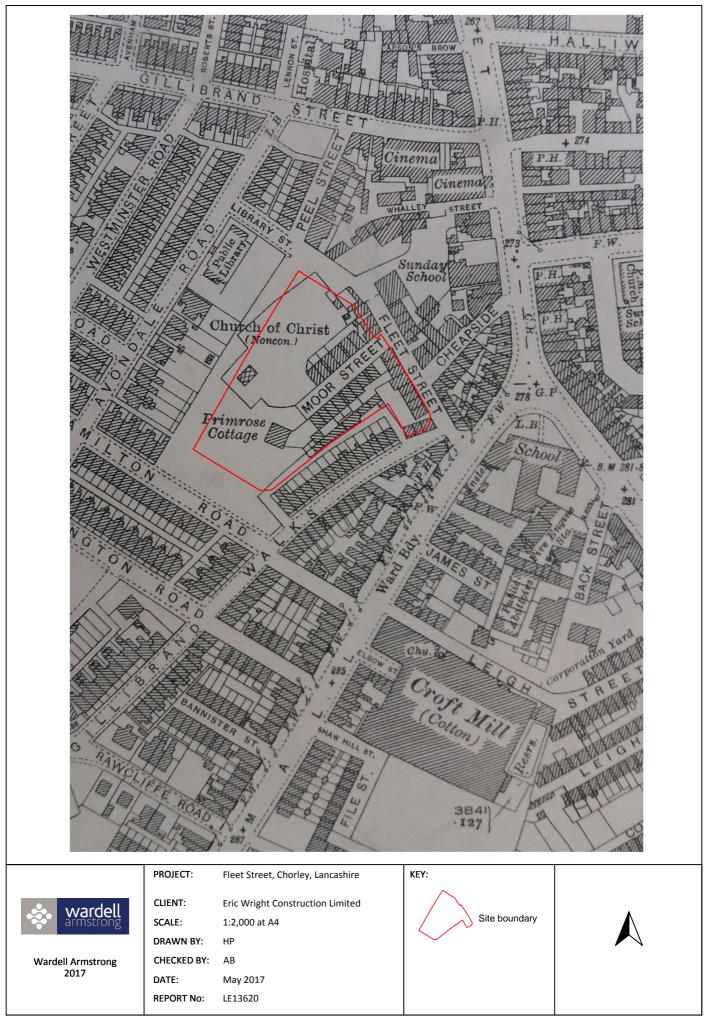


Figure 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1928 (25 inches to 1 mile scale).





Wardell Armstrong 2017 PROJECT: Fleet Street, Chorley, Lancashire

CLIENT: Eric Wright Construction Limited

SCALE: 1:2,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: HP
CHECKED BY: AB
DATE: May 2017
REPORT No: LE13620





Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1960 (1:2,500 scale).

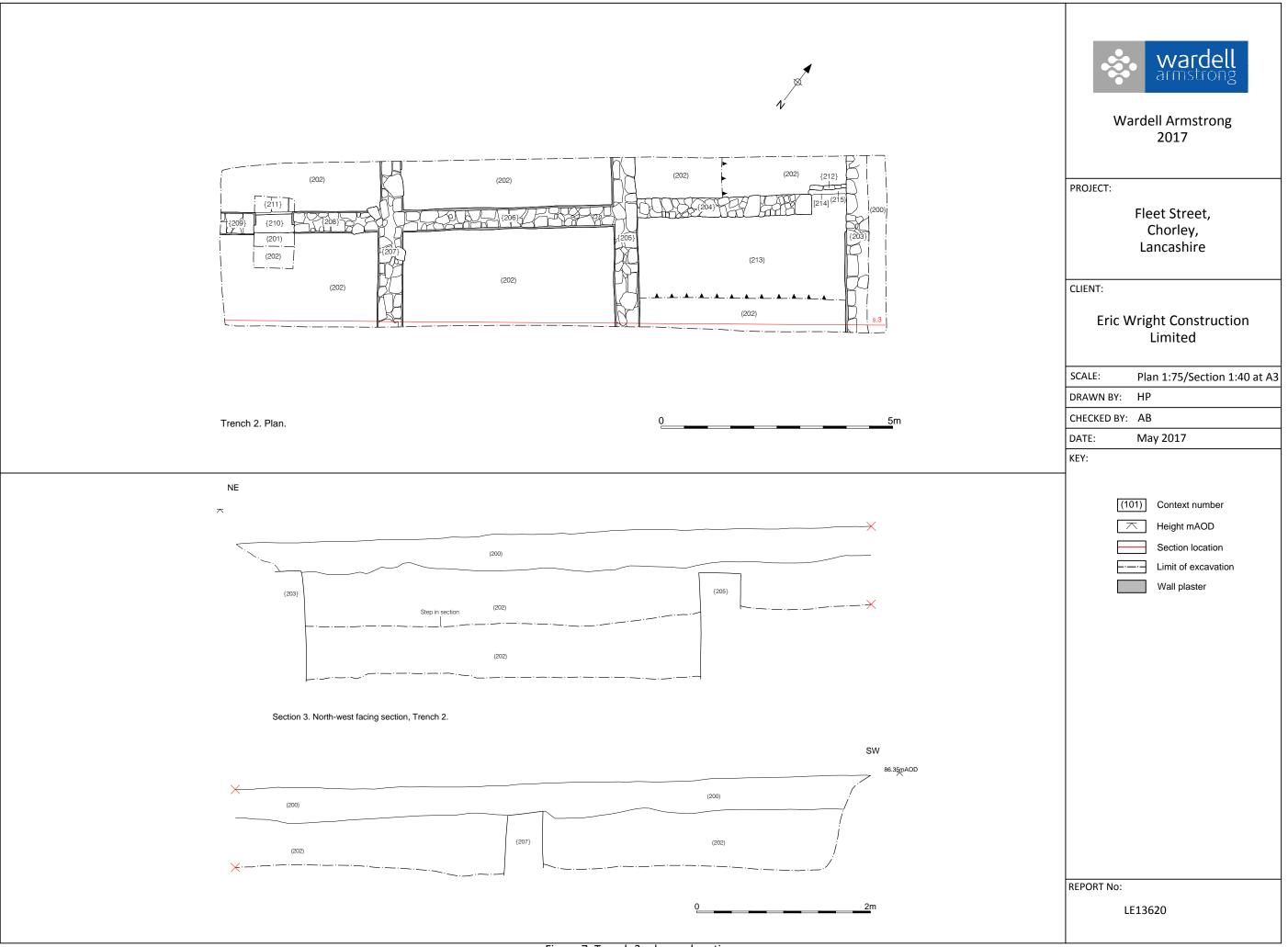


Figure 7: Trench 2; plan and section.

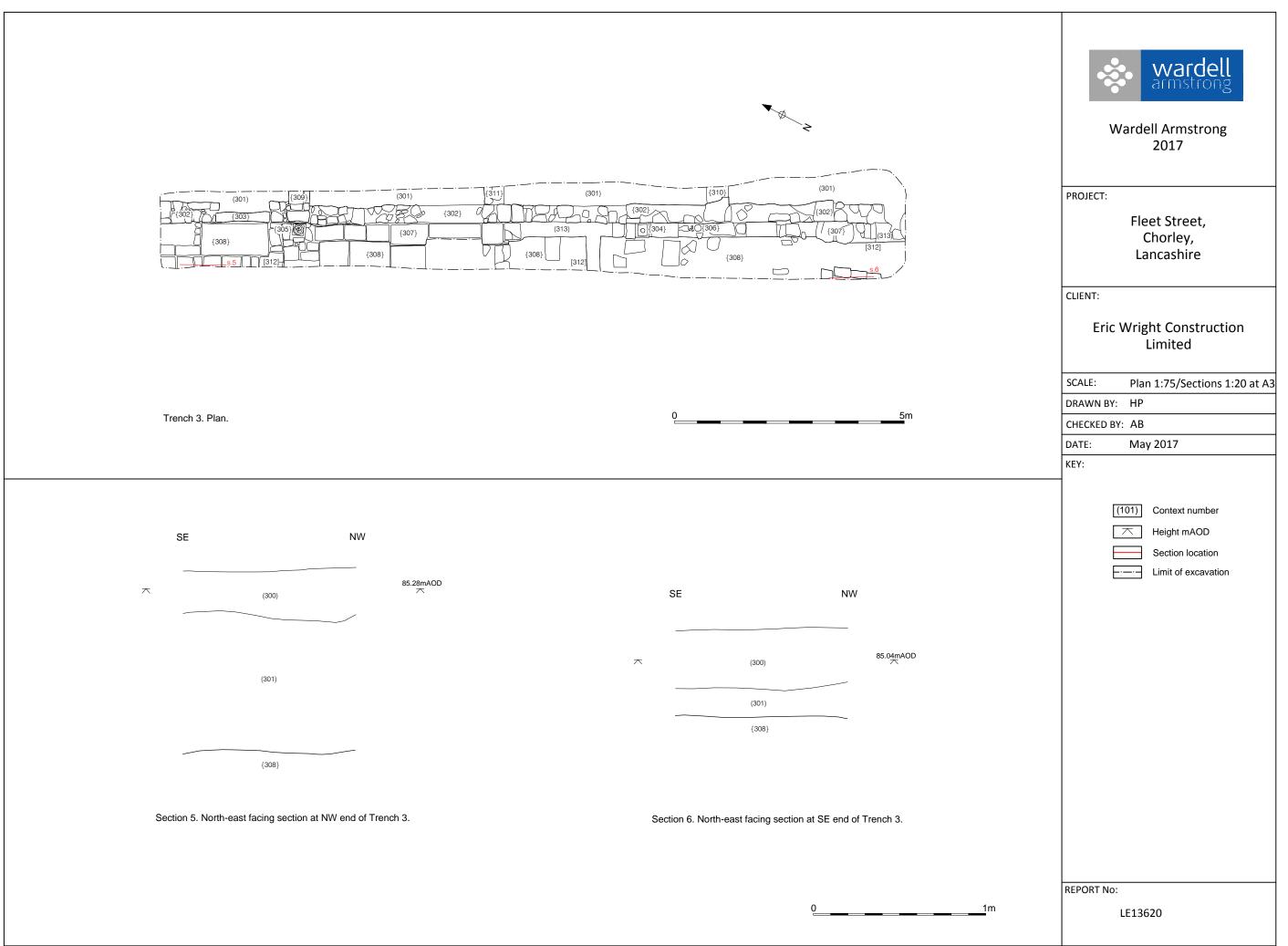


Figure 8: Trench 3; plan and sections.

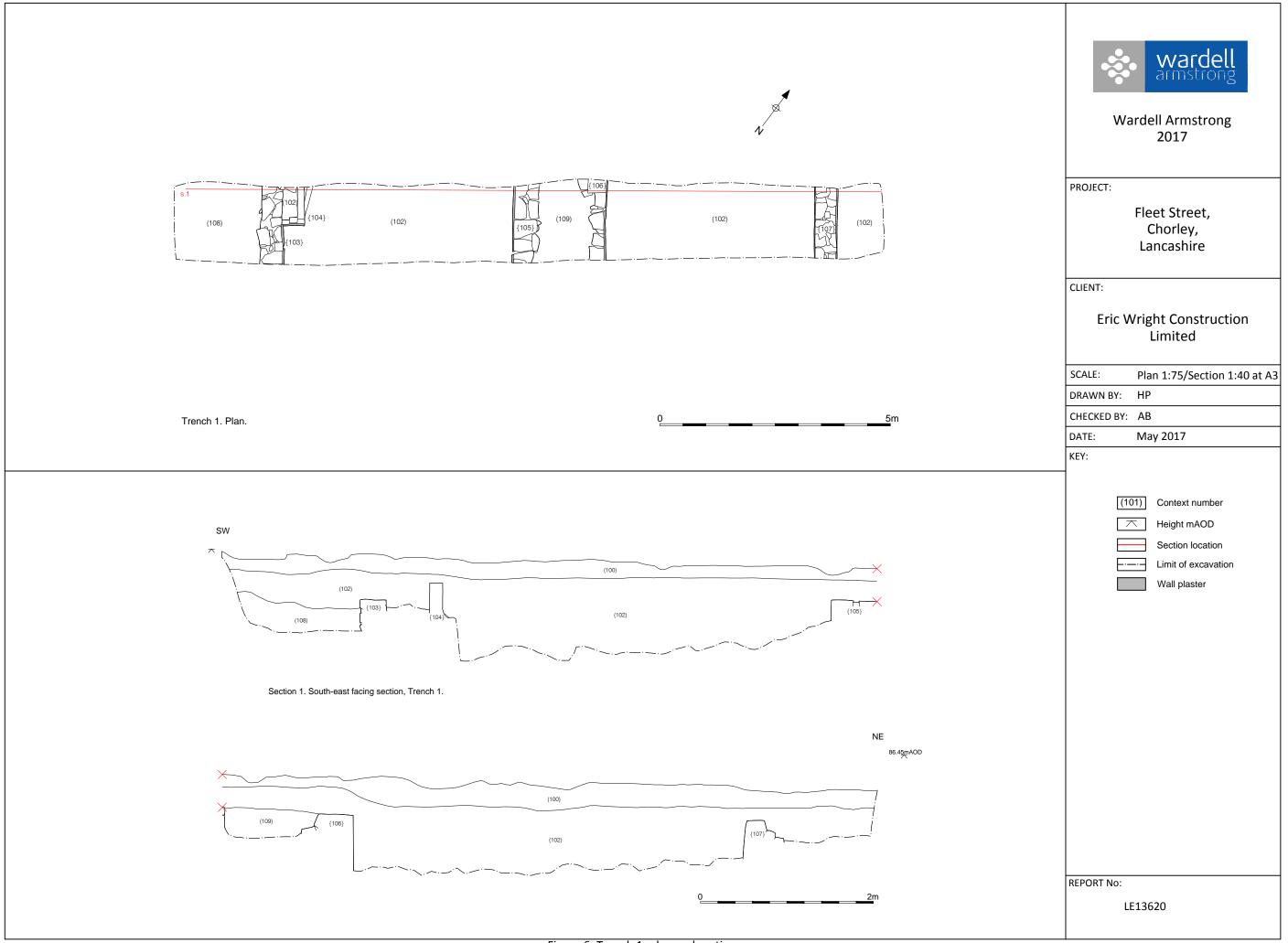


Figure 6: Trench 1; plan and section.

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