

NYCC HER	
SNY	59140
ENY	2486
CNY	3817
Parish	3096
Rec'd	6/12/04

**67 Commercial Street
Norton
North Yorkshire
(SE 7940 7142)**

Archaeological Evaluation

**MAP
November 2004**

**67 Commercial Street
Norton
North Yorkshire
SE 7940 7142**

Archaeological Evaluation

Contents	Page
Figure List	2
Plate List	2
Non-Technical Summary	3
1. Introduction	3
2. Site Description	4
3. Historical and Archaeological Background	4
4. Aims and Objectives	6
5. Methodology	6
6. Results	7
7. Conclusions	7
8. Bibliography	7
 Appendices	
1. Context Listing	14
2. Finds Catalogue	15
3. Drawing Archive Listing	16
4. Photographic Archive Listing	17
5. Project Team details	18

Figure List

1.	Site Location. Scale 1:50,000	8
2.	Location of Evaluation Area. Scale 1:2500	9
3.	Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1891	10
4.	Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1970. Scale 1:2500	11
5.	Section of evaluation trench. Scale 1:30.	12

Plate List

1.	Working shot of evaluation trench. Facing east	13
2.	Overall view of evaluation trench. Facing south.	13

**67 Commercial Street
Norton
North Yorkshire
SE 7940 7142**

Archaeological Evaluation

Non Technical Summary

An Archaeological Evaluation consisting of an area measuring 3m x 2m was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. at 67 Commercial Street, Norton, North Yorkshire, (SE 7940 7142) during November 2004.

Excavations were undertaken to a maximum depth of 16.78m AOD (1.0m below existing ground level). Undisturbed natural deposits were encountered at approximately 0.80m below existing ground level and no evidence was recovered for Romano-British or medieval deposits.

No archaeological features were observed during the Evaluation.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. on a plot of land at 67 Commercial Street, Norton, North Yorkshire (SE 7940 7142) during November 2004 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by the Heritage Unit of North Yorkshire County Council (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 The evaluation was designed to provide information to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated, following the archaeology policy issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment contained in *Planning Policy Guidance 16 'Archaeology and Planning'* (PPG 16).
- 1.3 A total area of six square metres was examined, situated at a location agreed by the Heritage Unit, as stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Fig. 2).

- 1.4 The site code for the project was MAP 04.11.04
- 1.5 All work was funded by Hague Builders Ltd
- 1.6 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, Licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site lies on the north side of Commercial Street, in the town of Norton, on the south bank of the river Derwent, at SE 7940 7142 (Figs. 1 and 2). It is bounded to the west by Wallgates Lane, to the east by Plum Street and to the north and south by commercial properties. The site consists of a 3-bedroom dwelling and taxi office, with a garage workshop at the rear. The excavation area consisted of a tarmac path and an area of concrete hard standing. The land stands at a height of c. 20.61m AOD.
- 2.2 The site lies on soils of the Fladbury 3 Association, which consist of clayey alluvial soils, found on the floodplains of major rivers. These overlie geology of chalky glaciofluvial drift (Mackney, 1984, 194).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 The Roman Fort and *vicus* (civilian settlement) at Malton lies to the north of the river Derwent, with further Romano-British settlement situated on the southern bank beneath a substantial area of the modern town of Norton.
- 3.2 From its origins as a medieval village, modern Norton greatly expanded from the mid-19th century onwards to form a large residential and industrial area, successive building works leading to the uncovering of substantial Roman remains.

- 3.3 The application site lies within an area of archaeological interest, with the potential for the survival of Roman, Medieval, and later remains.
- 3.4 The present Commercial Street is believed to follow one of the major Roman roads that ran from the fort. In 1862, drainage work on the riverbank in Norton uncovered part of a metalled road surface, associated with finds of Roman date. This was interpreted as a ford on the line of the road running south from the southern gate of the Roman fort. On the north bank of the river, a road was found to gradually ascend from the ford towards the present Church Street (Robinson 1978). The road ran through the Roman settlement at Norton and continued on to York (*ibid.*).
- 3.3 In 1865, drainage operations near the Wesleyan Chapel on Commercial Street disturbed several fragments of tesserae and pottery, suggesting the presence of a high status Roman building nearby (Robinson 1978)
- 3.4 In 1951 Romano-British pottery sherds were uncovered in the immediate vicinity of the application. A pottery kiln was reportedly discovered on the site of the new Primitive Chapel on Commercial Street in 1863, c. 100m east of the site (Robinson 1978)
- 3.5 Cartographic evidence for the site illustrates its progressive development from the mid 19th century onwards. The 1891 Second Edition Town Series plan of Malton and Norton shows gardens immediately to the north of the site and the site itself as an open courtyard or garden area, presumably associated with residential properties to the south and west (Fig. 3).
- 3.6 Modern day development of the site is represented by a three bedroom dwelling and taxi office, with a garage workshop and an area of hard standing used for the parking of vehicles at the rear (Fig. 4).

4. Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aims of the evaluation were:

To determine by means of trial trenching the nature, depth, extent and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site

To prepare a report summarising the results of the work.

To assess the significance of the archaeological implications of any development.

To prepare and submit an archive to the appropriate museum.

5. Methodology

5.1 The Evaluation consisted of a single trench that measured 3m x 2m (Pl. 1) and was located to the north east (rear) of the present dwelling.

5.2 The evaluation area was stripped of recent overburden in shallow spits by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless blade. All work was undertaken under close archaeological supervision. Machine excavation ceased when natural deposits were identified.

5.3 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

5.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded according to correct principles of stratigraphic excavation on MAP's *pro forma* context sheets, which are compatible with the MoLAS recording system.

5.5 A section of the trench was drawn at 1:10, on drawing film, and included an OD height.

- 5.6 The photographic record comprised colour prints, in 35mm format, recording all deposits encountered.

6. Results

- 6.1 The trial trench measured 3m x 2m and was located to the northeast (rear) of the present dwelling. The trench was excavated to a depth of 1m below existing ground level.
- 6.2 The earliest deposit encountered during the Evaluation was a sandy clay (context 1004, Pl. 2). Deposit 1004 was sealed by a 0.52m deep deposit of dark brown silt (context 1003). Deposit 1003 probably represented a relict garden soil, and was sealed by deposits of hardcore and a concrete car park surface (contexts 1002 to 1000). No archaeological features or finds were present at the location of the Evaluation trench.

7. Conclusions

The lack of any archaeological features of Romano-British or later date is unusual given the history of Norton and the fact that spot-finds of Roman material have been made in the immediate vicinity of the site (Robinson 1978 p. 34). Similarly surprising is the lack of any post-medieval evidence since the site is situated close to a major thoroughfare, amongst buildings that date from at least the 18th century. The likelihood is that the trench was sited in a formerly undeveloped garden or courtyard area and that this, plus the small size of the evaluation trench, explains why no archaeological features were intercepted.

8. Bibliography

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Hudleston, N.A. 1962 | History of Malton and Norton. |
| Mackney, D. (Ed.) 1984 | Soils and their use in Northern England |
| Robinson, J.F. 1978 | The Archaeology of Malton and Norton |



Figure 1. Site Location

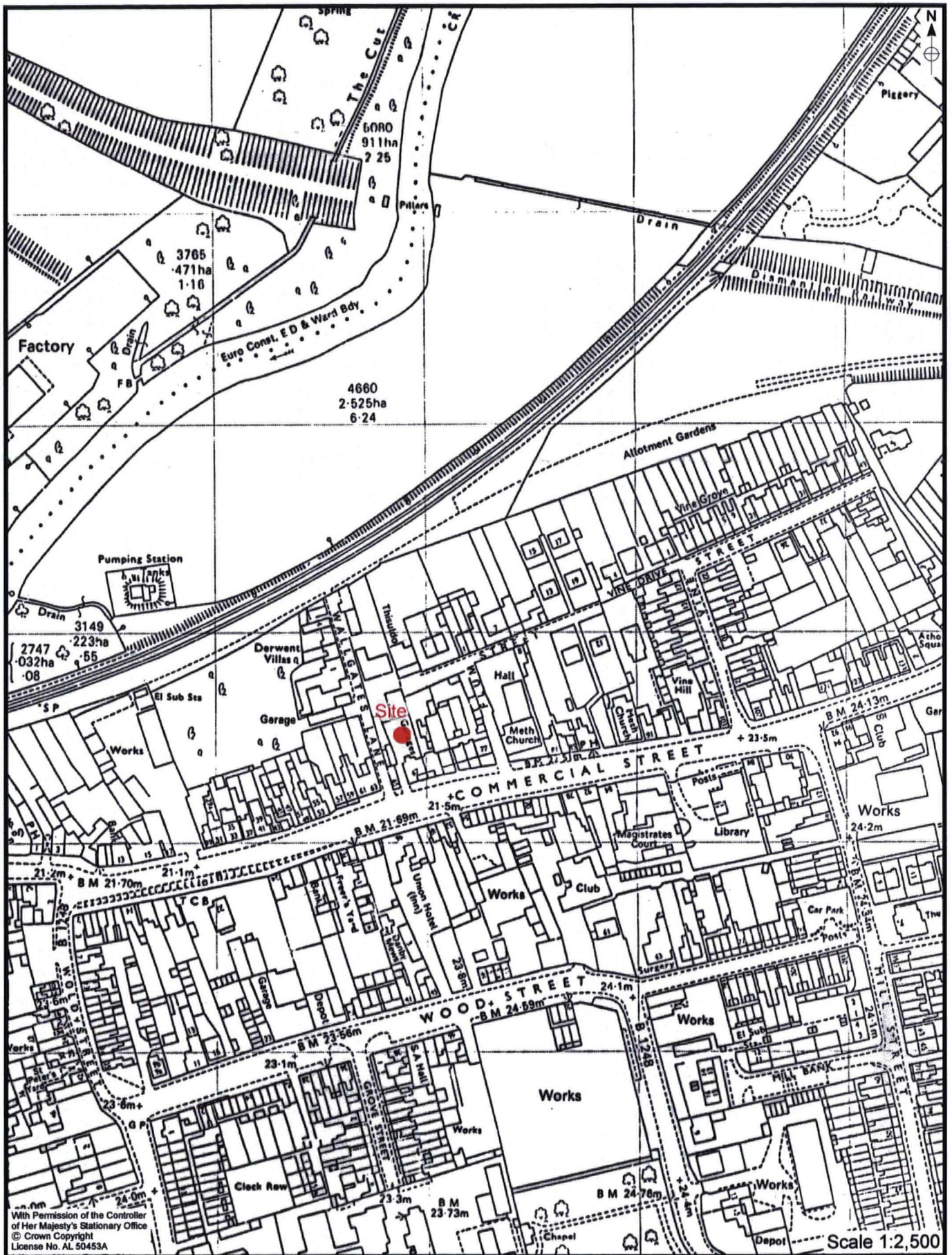


Figure 2. Evaluation Trench Location

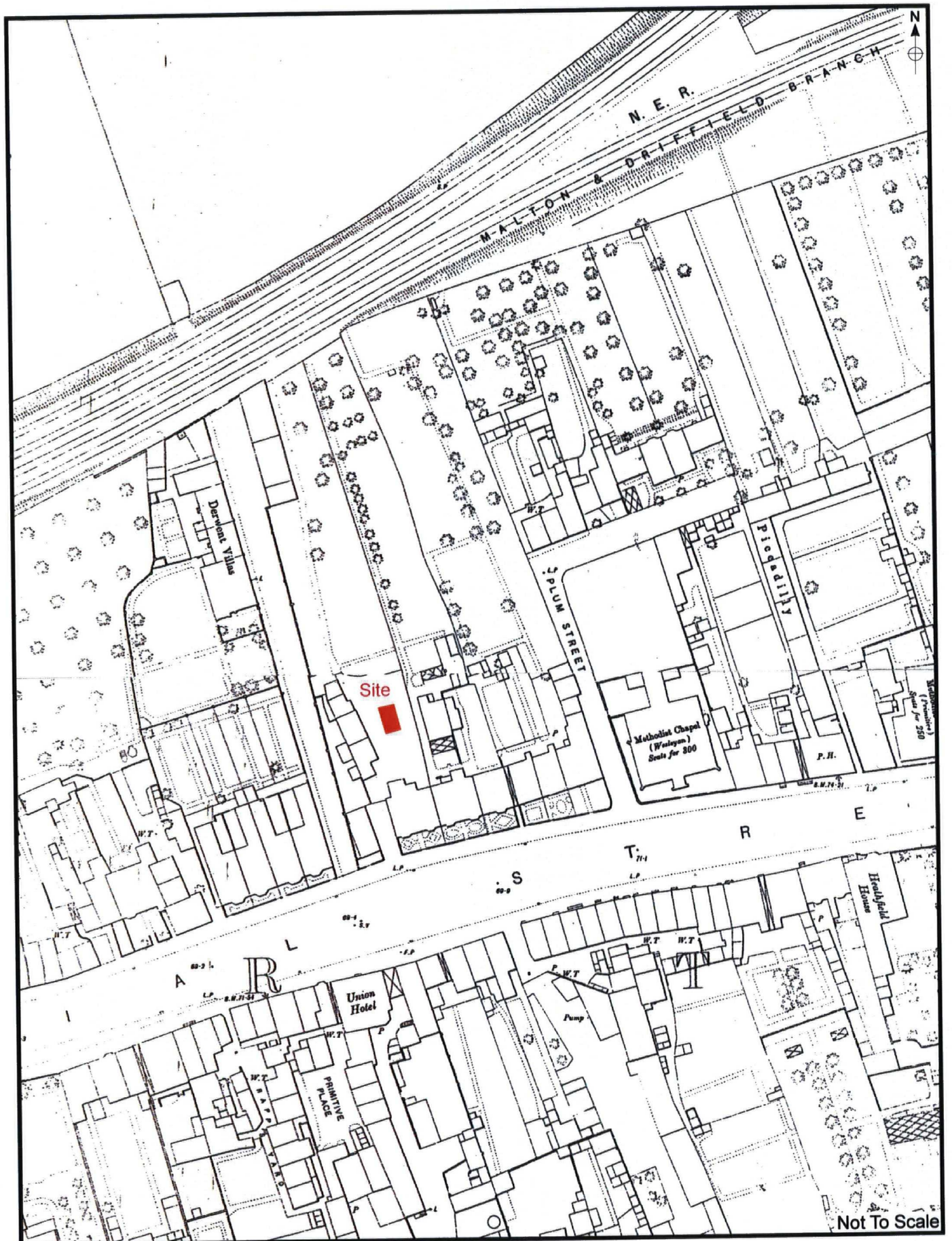


Figure 3. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1891

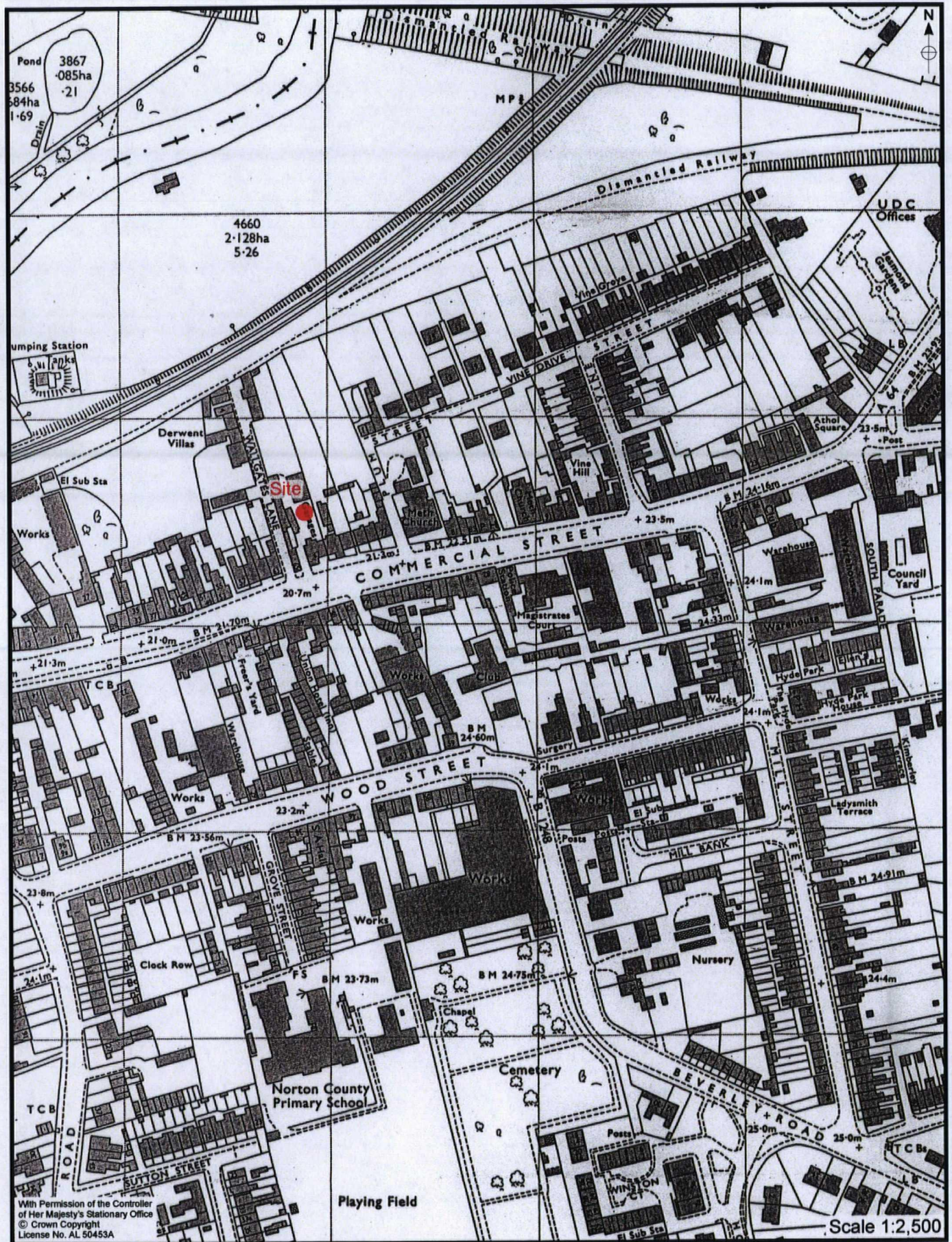


Figure 4. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1970

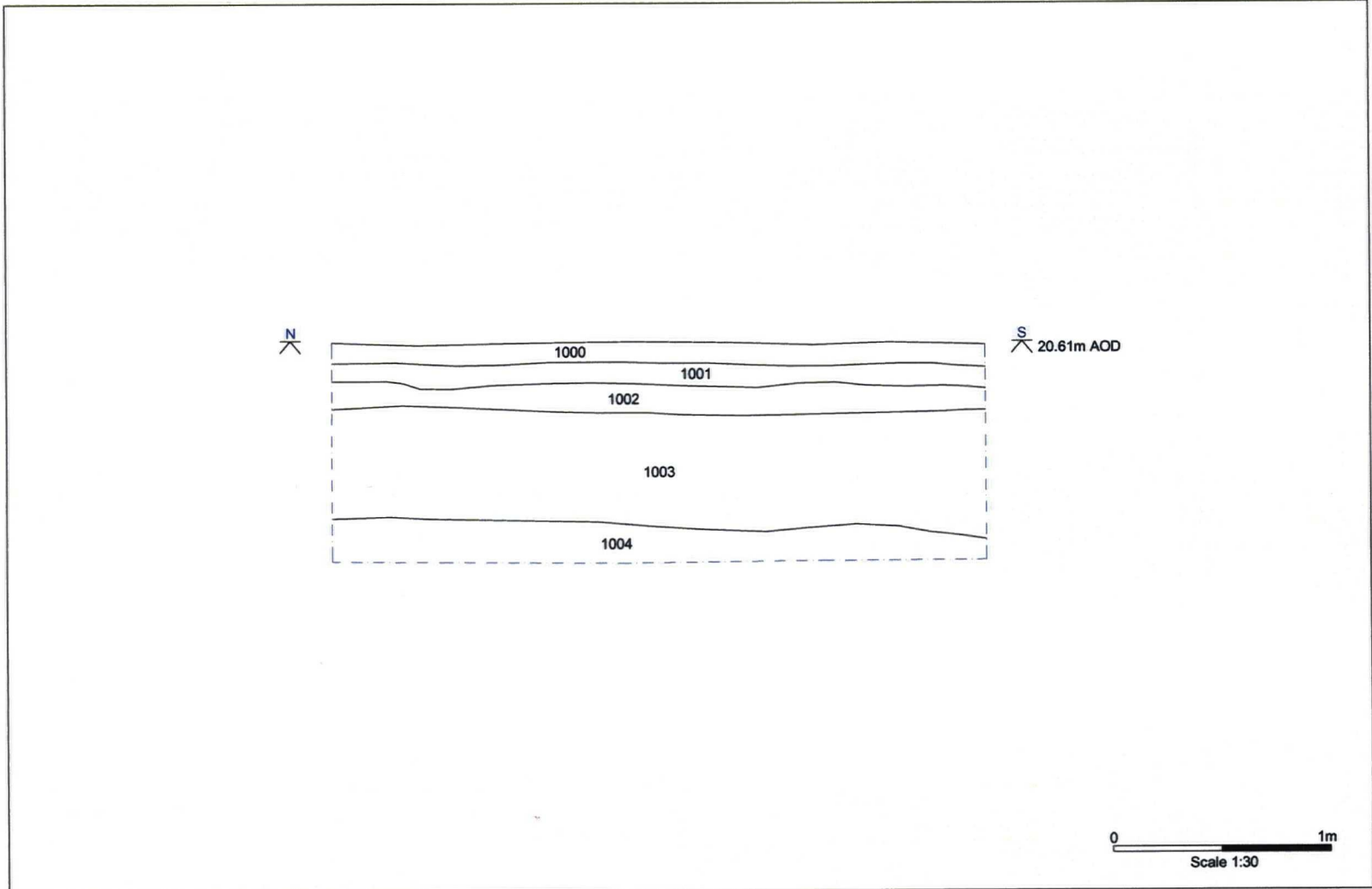


Figure 5. Evaluation Trench Section



Plate 1. Excavation Trench During Excavation, Facing East



Plate 2. Overall View of Evaluation Trench, Facing South

Appendix 1

Context Listing

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>
1000	Deposit; 10YR 5/1; Concrete, modern carpark surface
1001	Deposit; 10YR 4/1; sandy, modern hardcore
1002	Deposit; 10YR 3/1; sandy silt
1003	Deposit; 10YR 3/3; silty clay
1004	Deposit; 10YR 6/3; silty clay

APPENDIX 2

Drawing Archive Listing

<i>Drawing Number</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
1	1:50	Plan	Overall plan of evaluation area
2	1:20	Section	West facing section of evaluation area

APPENDIX 3

Photographic Archive Listing

Film 731: Colour Print

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Facing</i>
1	I.D.Shot	N/A	N/A
2	General working shot of evaluation area	N/A	East
3	Pre-ex photo of Deposit 1003	N/A	South
4	Pre-ex photo of Deposit 1004	N/A	South
5	Pre-ex photo of Deposit 1004	N/A	North
6	General working shot of evaluation area backfilled	N/A	East

APPENDIX 4

67 Commercial Street, Norton 04-11-04: Project Team Details

Fieldwork

Trench 1 Charles Rickaby

Post-excavation

REPORT Charles Rickaby
Dave Knight *CAD and illustrations*