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**Newburgh Priory  
North Yorkshire  
SE 5438 7659**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Authorised by** .....  .....

**Date:** ..... 11/7/05 .....

**Newburgh Priory**

**North Yorkshire**

**SE 5438 7659**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**Newburgh Priory  
North Yorkshire  
SE 5438 7659**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Non Technical Summary**

*An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out at Newburgh Priory, North Yorkshire on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2005. The work was undertaken prior to the erection of a catering marquee in a former Abbey building, now a walled garden. The work involved the excavation of two small trenches where no archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds were recovered.*

**Introduction**

- 1 1 MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief at Newburgh Priory, North Yorkshire (SE 5438 7659, Figs 1 & 2). The work involved the excavation of two small trenches within a semi-derelict building, now used as a walled garden, to investigate the presence of any archaeological features or deposits.
- 1 2 The work was carried out in advance of the erection of a catering marquee in order to determine if the stakes for the marquee would damage archaeological features, specifically a tiled floor surface associated with the Priory building.
- 1 3 All work was funded by Newburgh Priory.
- 1 4 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 License No AL 50453A.
- 1 5 The work was carried out on the 29th of June 2005.

## 2. **Historical Background**

Newburgh Priory lies just to the south-east of the village of Coxwold and was founded as an Augustinian Priory in 1145 by Roger de Mowbray and remained as a priory until the dissolution. The site and lands were then granted to Anthony Belasyse, Chaplain to Henry VIII (Smith 1937, 226). The remains of the Priory buildings are incorporated into the present Hall that occupies the site which stands in a large estate.

## 3. **Methodology**

3.1 The two trenches (Trenches 1 and 2) were hand excavated under archaeological supervision in a walled garden that had formerly been one of the priory buildings, now semi derelict with no floors, ceiling or roof. The trenches were excavated on two separate flagged pathways, one towards the north of the garden, the other to the south. A drawn, written and photographic record was made of all deposits encountered.

## 4. **Results**

### 4.1 **Trench 1**

4.1.1 Trench 1 measured 0.9m long, 0.8m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.55m. No archaeological features were observed; the only deposits seen were 0.2m of topsoil (context 001) that overlies a 0.25m deep pale stoney deposit (context 002). A number of modern brick and fractured drain pipe fragments were the only finds noted from deposit 002, which were discarded. Deposit 002 overlies the natural limestone bedrock.

### 4.2 **Trench 2**

4.2.1 Trench 2 measured 0.8m long by 0.75m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m. The findings were the same as Trench 1, topsoil (context 001) overlying a pale stoney deposit (context 002) that sealed the natural limestone (context 003). A 3 inch diameter iron water pipe ran on an east to west alignment through the centre of the trench and appeared to run below the path. Modern finds including brick and pipe fragments were noted in Deposit 002 but were not kept as finds.

**5. Conclusions**

5.1 The archaeological work failed to locate any archaeological features or deposits and only identified topsoil and a mixed stoney deposit with modern finds overlying natural stone. There was no evidence of any remnant of floor surface or any other features or deposits of archaeological significance.

**6. References**

Smith, P. 1937. A History of Yorkshire Religious Houses

## Appendix 1

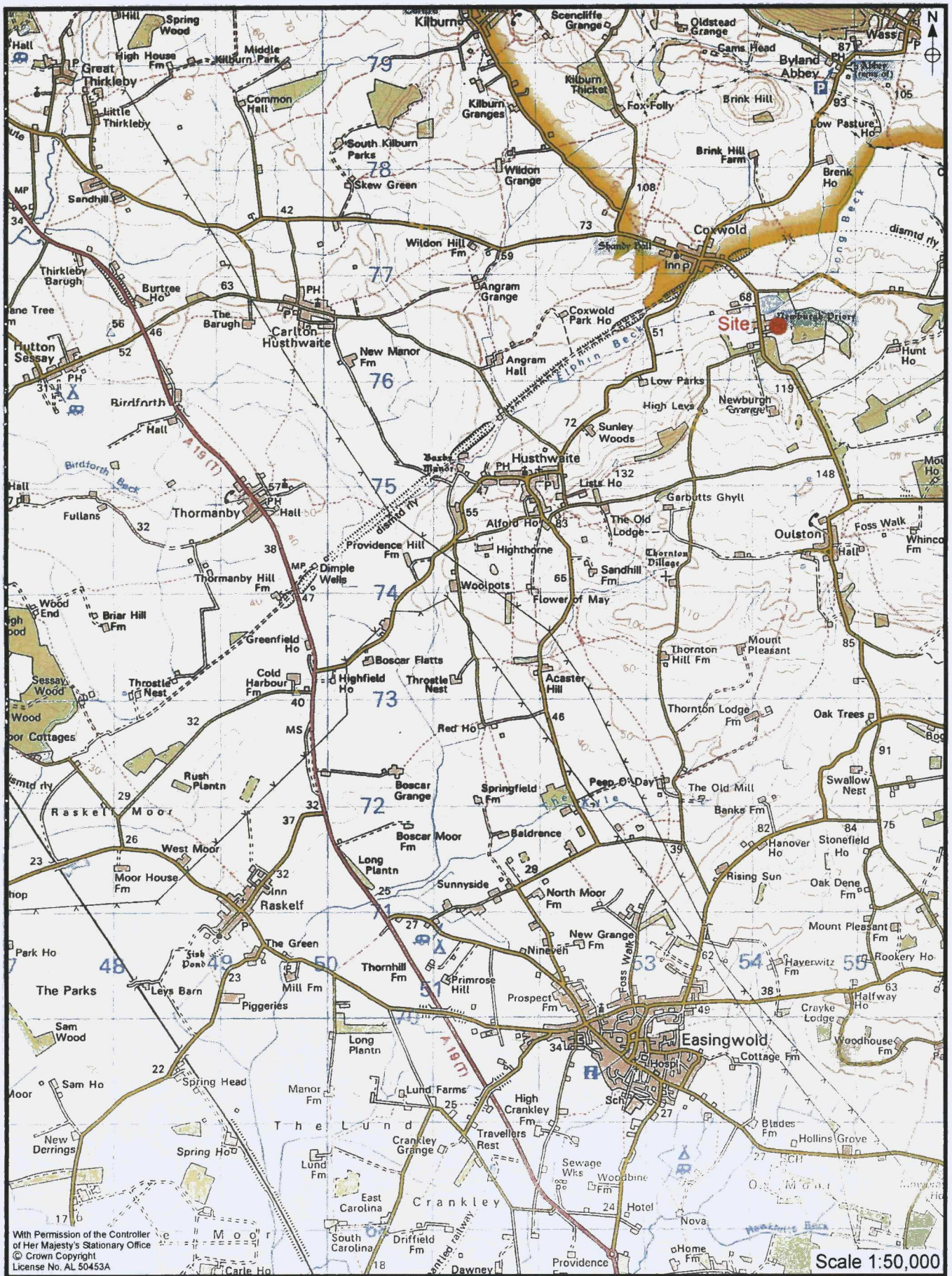
### Context Listing

Context No	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Mixed stoney deposit
003	Natural bedrock

## Appendix 2

### Photographic Listing

Frame	Description	Facing
1	Overall shot of garden	North
2	Trench 1	North
3	Trench 2	North



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Scale 1:50,000

Figure 1. Site Location



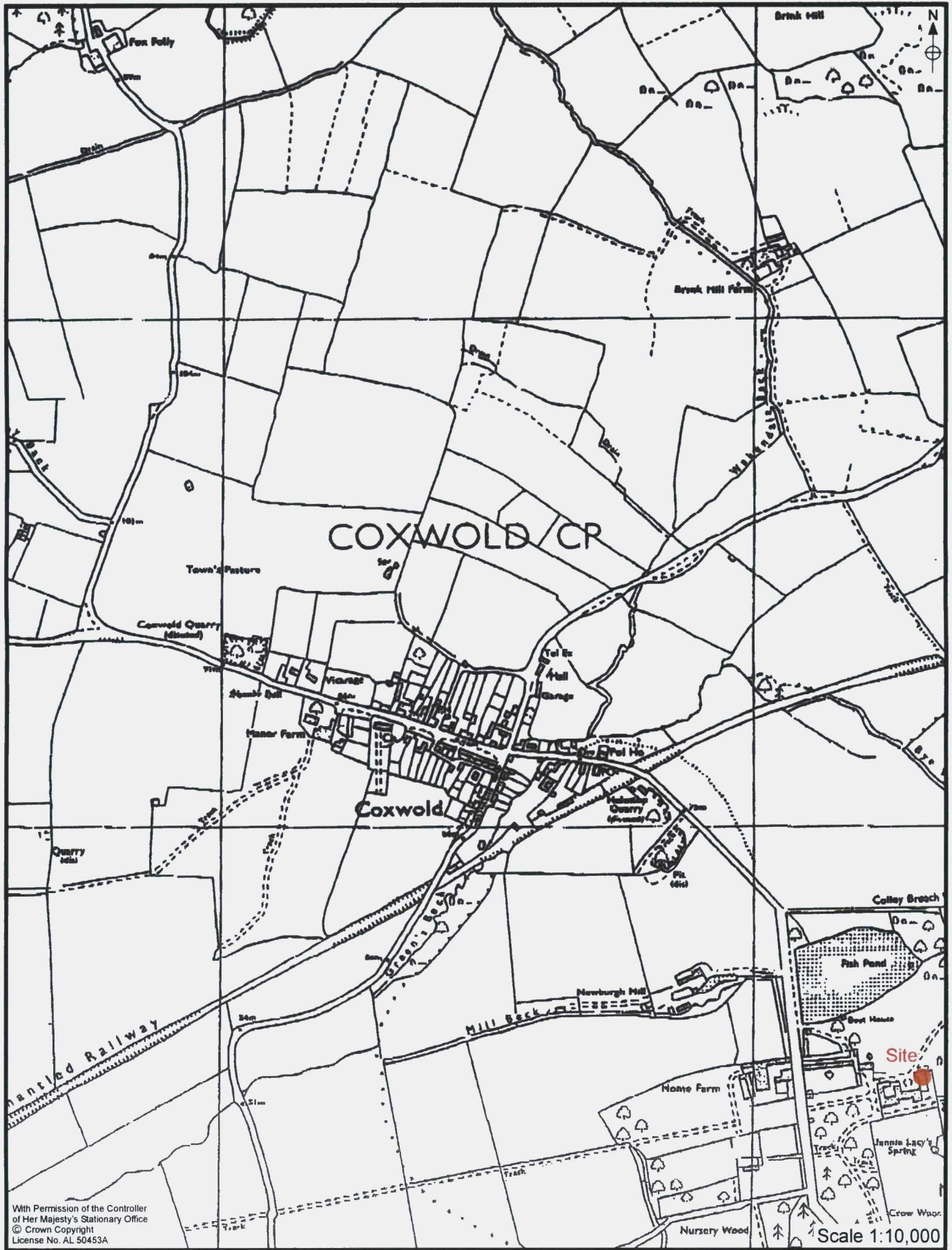


Figure 2. Area of Watching Brief

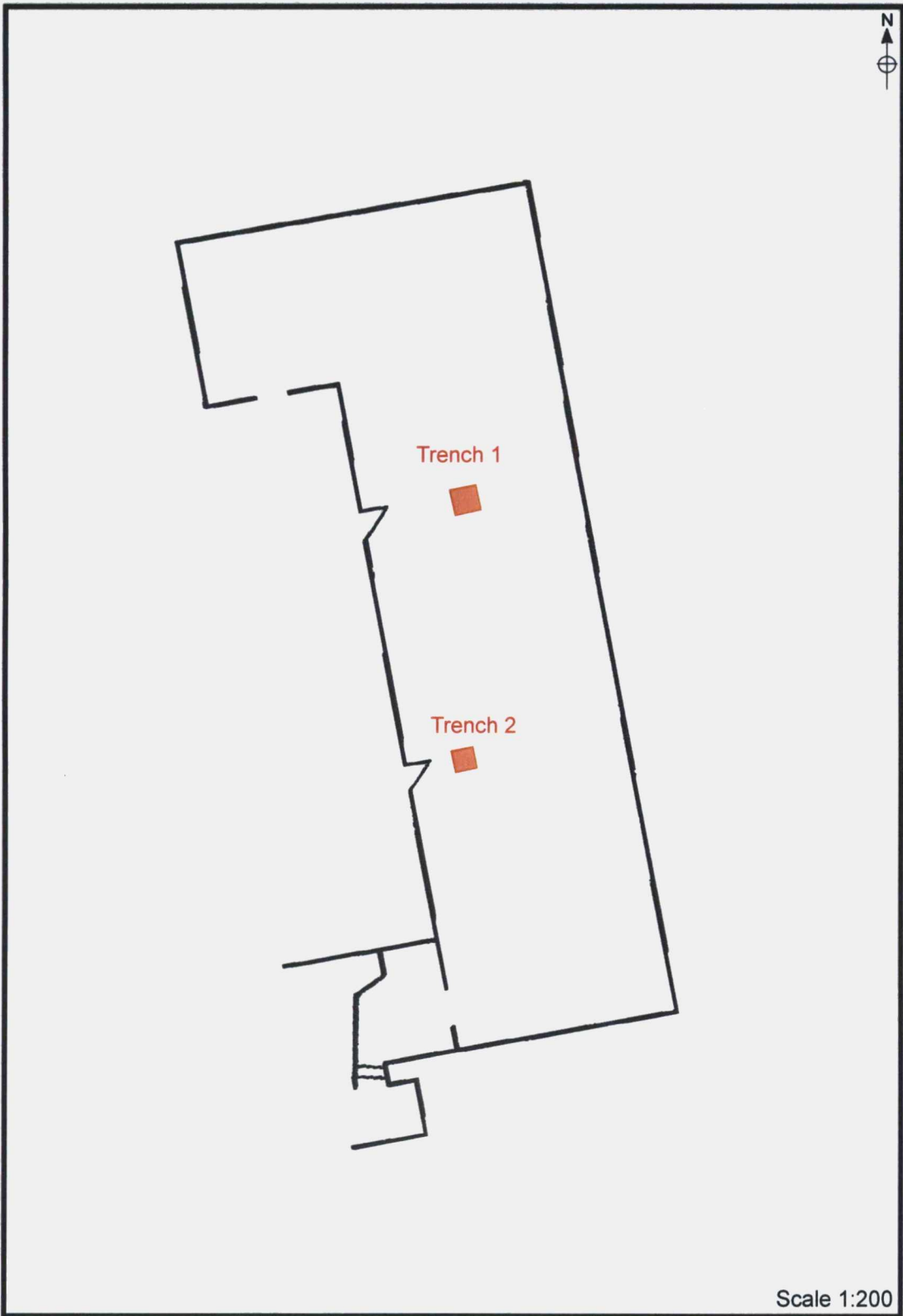


Figure 3. Watching Brief Trench Location



**Plate 1.** Watching Brief Trench 1, Facing North



**Plate 2.** Watching Brief Trench 2, Facing North