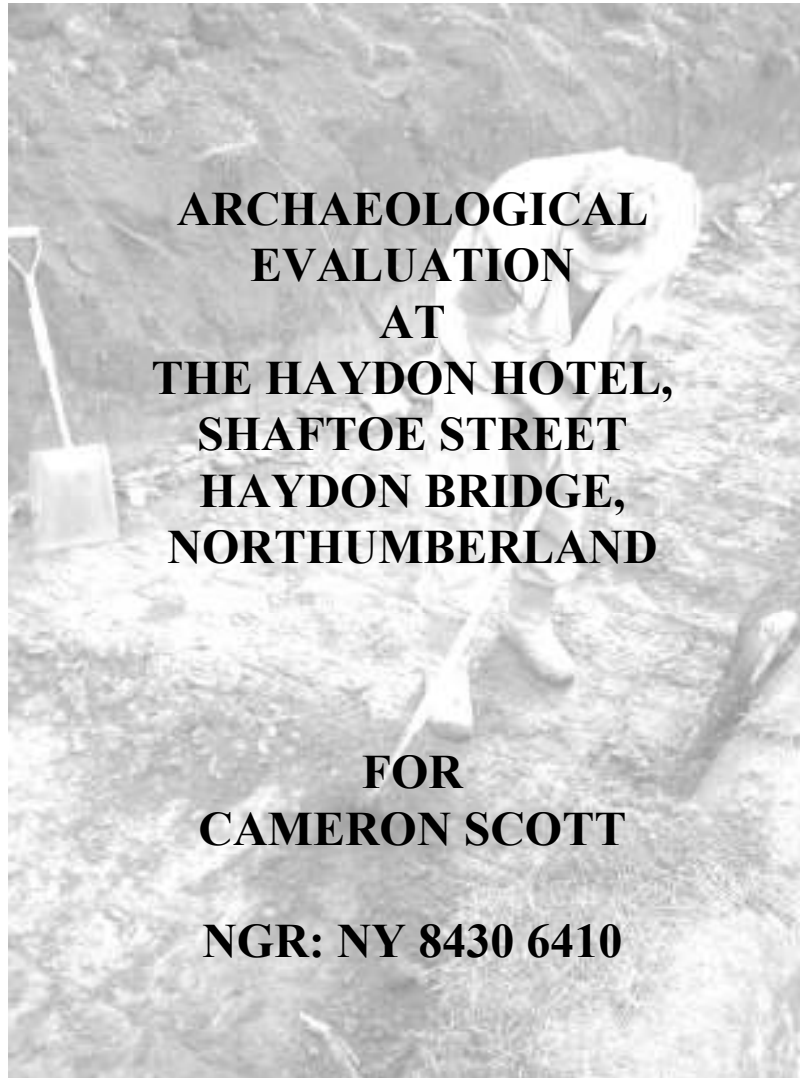

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Client Report No. CP/581/07



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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	III
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	IV
1. INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION.....	1
1.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY	1
1.2 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT	1
2. METHODOLOGY	2
2.1 SPECIFICATION	2
2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION	2
2.3 ARCHIVE.....	3
3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
4. EVALUATION RESULTS.....	6
4.1 TRENCH 1	6
4.2 TRENCH 2	7
5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	8
5.1 CONCLUSIONS.....	8
5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS	8
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT LIST.....	9

LIST OF PLATES, TABLES AND ILLUSTRATIONS

PLATES	Page
<i>Plate 1. The western half of the development area, looking east.</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Plate 2. The site looking west.</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Plate 3. Trench 1, looking east. The ranging pole is graded every 0.5m.</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Plate 4. Trench 2, looking east towards the former Haydon Hotel.</i>	<i>7</i>

TABLES	Page
<i>Table 1. List of Contexts.</i>	<i>9</i>

FIGURES	Page
<i>Figure 1. Location Maps.</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Figure 2. Evaluation Trench Location.</i>	<i>11</i>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In October 2007, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Cameron Scott to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development of land immediately to the west of the Haydon Hotel, Shaftoe Street, Haydon Bridge, Northumberland (NGR NY 8430 6410).

The site is of high medieval and post-medieval potential due to the location of the development on the fringes of the historic core of the town. Human settlement at Haydon Bridge is thought to date from at least the Saxon period, though the first known documentary reference to the town is in 1323 granting a fair and market. During the post-medieval period, Haydon Bridge's main settlement focus seems to have been on the southern side of the river, with numerous buildings and burgage plots. As a result, Northumberland County Council's Conservation Team recommended an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in accordance with a NCCCT brief (Ref. T21/9; 7612 and T21/9; 7613).

The evaluation consisted of the excavation of two trenches, one measuring 17m in length and 2m in width and the other 16.10m in length by 2.5m in width, both by machine down to natural subsoil. These were then hand-cleaned and recorded. Due to the lack of an archaeological presence within the evaluation trenches it is recommended that no further archaeological input is required on this development site.



Plate 1. The western half of the development area, looking east.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to offer thanks to Cameron Scott for commissioning the project, and for his assistance during the work.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Nick Best, Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland County Council for preparing the Project Specification and for his continued assistance during the fieldwork.

Tony Liddell, Project Supervisor, undertook the archaeological evaluation assisted by Angus Clark. The report was written and illustrations produced by Tony Liddell. The project was managed by Matt Town, Senior Project Officer for NPA Ltd, and Frank Giocco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Matt Town.

1. INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

1.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

1.1.1 The development area lies on the north side of Shaftoe Street, Haydon Bridge, Northumberland, on the south side of the River South Tyne, immediately to the west of the former Haydon Hotel. The area lies in overgrown garden land to the north of the now derelict Honey Pot Cottage as well as in the former Haydon Hotel's beer garden, now a residential garden area (NGR NY 8430 6410). The river marks the northern boundary of the site.

1.1.2 The development area lies on geology comprised of sedimentary rocks (sandstone and Carboniferous limestone and Millstone grit) overlain by glacial clay, with deposits of sand and gravel, and river-associated alluvium (Environmental Agency 2003).

1.2 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.2.1 The work follows a planning application for the construction of three residential properties on land to the west of the former Haydon Hotel (Planning Ref. 20070870 and 20070781).

1.2.2 The site is of high medieval and post-medieval potential due to the location of the development on the fringes of the historic core of the town. Human settlement at Haydon Bridge is thought to date from at least the Saxon period, though the first known documentary reference to the town is in 1323 granting a fair and market. During the post-medieval period, Haydon Bridge's main settlement focus seems to have been on the southern side of the river, with numerous buildings and burgage plots.

1.2.3 As a result, Northumberland County Council's Conservation Team recommended an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in accordance with a NCCCT brief (Ref. T21/9; 7612 and T21/9; 7613).

1.2.4 This report sets out the results of the fieldwork in the form of a short document outlining the findings of the evaluation, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential and recommendations for the area.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 SPECIFICATION

- 2.1.1 All fieldwork methodology was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), and generally accepted best practice.
- 2.1.2 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the Project Specification produced by Nick Best, Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland County Council.
- 2.1.3 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance to the Project Design, prepared by Matthew Town, Senior Project Officer for North Pennines Archaeology Limited, and approved by Nick Best, Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland County Council.

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of two evaluation trenches, one measuring 17m in length and 2m in width and the other 16.10m in length by 2.5m in width, both by machine down to natural subsoil. These were then hand-cleaned and recorded. Both trenches were aligned east-west. The evaluation took place on the 22nd October 2007.
- 2.2.2 The original specification requested the excavation of two evaluation trenches, both 20m in length and 2m in width, but due to access, logistical and spoil-heap location restrictions, the trenches detailed in Section 2.2.1 were excavated, approved in advance of excavation by Nick Best, Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland County Council. This resulted in 75.6m² of the 80m² specified being excavated.
- 2.2.3 The trenches were cut by a mini tracked excavator with a wide toothless ditching bucket, after the area of excavation was subjected to a digital CAT scan to search for unidentified services. All relevant COSHH regulations regarding the running of the machinery were followed.
- 2.2.4 In summary, 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;
 - 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 survived in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- 2.2.5 Site specific objectives were as follows:
 - to investigate the footprint of the building/access route
 - to investigate the footprint of other groundworks or landscaping proposed

2.3 ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 The full archive has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with the current English Heritage guidelines set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 2nd Ed. 1991). The archive will be deposited within an appropriate repository, and a copy of the report given to the County Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be available on request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA 07 HHG-A.
- 2.3.2 North Pennines Archaeology support the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological fieldwork. As a result, details of the results of this assessment will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project.



Plate 2. The site looking west.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 *This historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments in close proximity to the study area.*
- 3.1.2 **Prehistoric:** socketed Bronze Age axes and other traces of inhabitation have been discovered in the environs of Haydon Bridge.
- 3.1.3 **Romano-British:** Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site lies c. 1km to the north of Haydon Bridge. As with other towns located close to the wall (e.g. Hexham), there is evidence that Roman buildings, and Hadrian's Wall, were utilised as a ready quarry of stone during the medieval period. Squared Roman stones have been observed amongst the medieval ruins at the site of the medieval church, suggesting that Roman stone was robbed to build the foundations of the early church at Haydon Bridge.
- 3.1.4 **Early Medieval:** a settlement in the vicinity of the present Haydon Bridge is thought to have existed by the Saxon period, and the name '*Haydon*', may relate to a Saxon word for enclosure.
- 3.1.5 **Medieval:** the first documentary evidence for a settlement dates to 1312 when a market and fair was granted. At this time there appears to have been two settlements, one to the north, and one to the south of the River Tyne. The church associated with the settlement on the northern side was founded in the 12th century, and it still survives, though in a ruinous state. The chancel dates from this period and the font was originally a Roman altar. It is located at NY 843 653, near Haydon and Tofts farms. The settlement on the southern side of the river would have had a separate chapel, and was in the township of Langley, although the site of this chapel remains unknown. By the later 14th century, the two settlements seemed to have coalesced, for burgage plots have been described relating to the settlement 'both sides of the water'. This combined settlement is denoted on Speed's plan of Northumberland of 1610 by '*Hadon Bridg*'.
- 3.1.6 The presence of a bridge would have aided this merger. The first reference to a bridge was in 1309, when the '*Pontem de Haydon*' was referred to in an inquest in March of that year. In 1336 there was a grant of portage for four years, issued to Antony de Lucy for its repair, and further repairs are documented for 1426. The bridge has always been an important crossing point on the Tyne and during the period of border raids was apparently, on more than one occasion, chained against the reivers.
- 3.1.7 **Post Medieval:** the medieval bridge was rebuilt in c. 1680, and this bridge was washed away in the flood of 1771. The present bridge, now used only as a footbridge, was completed in 1773. In 1806 the collapse of one of the arches led to the necessity to rebuild three of them. The two northerly arches were widened in 1945, and have been replaced with concrete.
- 3.1.8 Haydon Bridge has connections with the Jacobite risings of 1715 and 1745. James and Charles, Viscounts Langley and Earls of Derwentwater who lived at Langley Castle, took part in the uprising and were beheaded for treason on Tower Hill in London.

- 3.1.9 During the post medieval period, it seems that the southern part of Haydon Bridge, on the southern side of the river, became the focus for the settlement, as shown by a heavier built-up area shown on Armstrong's plan of 1769. These buildings appear to be typical of the period, originating as medieval burgage plots fronting the streets with buildings, for small-scale cottage industries and habitation, with small-scale smallholdings on the land to the rear. The first school for the settlement appears to have been on the site of the present Shaftoe Trust School, and was founded in 1685 by the Reverend John Shaftoe. The extant school is comparatively modern. The present Church of St Cuthbert, Haydon Bridge Parish Church, dates to 1796.
- 3.1.10 Haydon Bridge remained a settlement based on agriculture and small-scale cottage industry until the Victorian era. Industry did not affect the town substantially, unlike at the nearby settlement of Haltwhistle. The only industries known from the area of this era are an ironworks and other unknown industrial works, neither of which exceeded small industries typical of the period. A smithy is also known to have existed in Haydon Bridge, but this was usual for a town of this size. The Anchor Hotel is thought to have 18th century origins, and the rear wing once served the purpose of Rent House for the Greenwich Hospital Commissioners. It is listed Grade II, and has since been altered during the 19th and 20th centuries. The Old Vicarage is also listed Grade II and was constructed in 1820.
- 3.1.11 **Victorian:** the railway came to Haydon Bridge in the 1830s with the building of the Newcastle to Carlisle railway, and the associated station at Haydon Bridge dates to 1838. The railway replaced an earlier scheme to build a canal between the two towns. No. 2 Station Cottages, formerly the stationmaster's office and ticket office for the station, and associated walls and railings are listed Grade II. With the establishment of the railway, came a population boom, although the railway did not bring new industry to the area, the main occupation remaining agricultural. In 1801 the population was 1084 and by 1851 this had risen to 2085. Swift population increase led to the need for new worshipping facilities to be constructed, and several churches in Haydon Bridge originate in this period. Once part of the extensive parish of Warden, from 1879 Haydon Bridge has been an ecclesiastical parish in its own right.
- 3.1.12 **Modern:** the street was named Shaftoe Street, at its south-western end, and John Martin Street towards its north-eastern end. The latter naming is due to Haydon Bridge being the birthplace of the 19th century painter John Martin who died in 1854.

4. EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 TRENCH 1



Plate 3. Trench 1, looking east. The ranging pole is graded every 0.5m.

- 4.1.1 The trench was excavated by machine to a total length of 17m and a width of 2m and to a maximum depth of 1.5m. The trench was orientated east-west and located north of Honey Pot Cottage (see *Figure 2* for location).
- 4.1.2 The topsoil and turf (**100**) was found to be c.0.35m deep, with a c.0.60m depth deposit of (**102**), a dark grey-brown sandy clay subsoil beneath. In the western 6m end of the trench, the subsoil was found to contain a dump of stone and rubble (**103**), the same depth as the subsoil. This rubble contained modern garden tags and one fragment of a late 18th century clay pipe stem. Beneath this deposit was the natural substrate (**101**), a yellow-brown sandy clay. All strata were disturbed by root activity from trees and shrubs planted in the garden of Honey Pot Cottage.
- 4.1.3 No structures or deposits of archaeological interest or value were discovered during the excavation of this evaluation trench.

4.2 TRENCH 2



Plate 4. Trench 2, looking east towards the former Haydon Hotel.

- 4.2.1 The trench was excavated by machine to a total length of 16.10m and a width of 2.5m, orientated east-west and excavated to a maximum depth of 1m (see *Figure 2* for location).
- 4.2.2 Turf and topsoil (**100**) lay to an average depth of c.0.30m, over a c.0.50m deposit of garden subsoil, a dark grey-brown sandy clay loam. Beneath this was natural substrate (**101**), a yellow-brown sandy clay. Into (**101**) was cut a modern drainage channel (**104**) running lengthways east-west with the trench. This linear drain was filled with modern gravel, brick chips and a dark brown sandy clay (**105**). A small piece of transparent plastic was recovered from the drain infill.
- 4.2.3 No structures or deposits of archaeological interest or value were discovered during the excavation of this evaluation trench.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 Although the evaluation trenches produced no archaeological structural remains or deposits of any kind, the potential for medieval and post medieval archaeology in the surrounding area remains high due to its proximity to the medieval and post-medieval Haydon Bridge settlement areas.
- 5.1.2 Natural substrate was encountered between 0.85m-1.00m below current ground surface. Only one find, an 18th century clay pipe stem fragment was found in the modern garden rubble deposit in Trench 1. Unfortunately due to the disturbed nature of the deposit, it is unlikely that the clay pipe stem represents a dateable item for the desposit, barring that of a *terminus post-quem*.

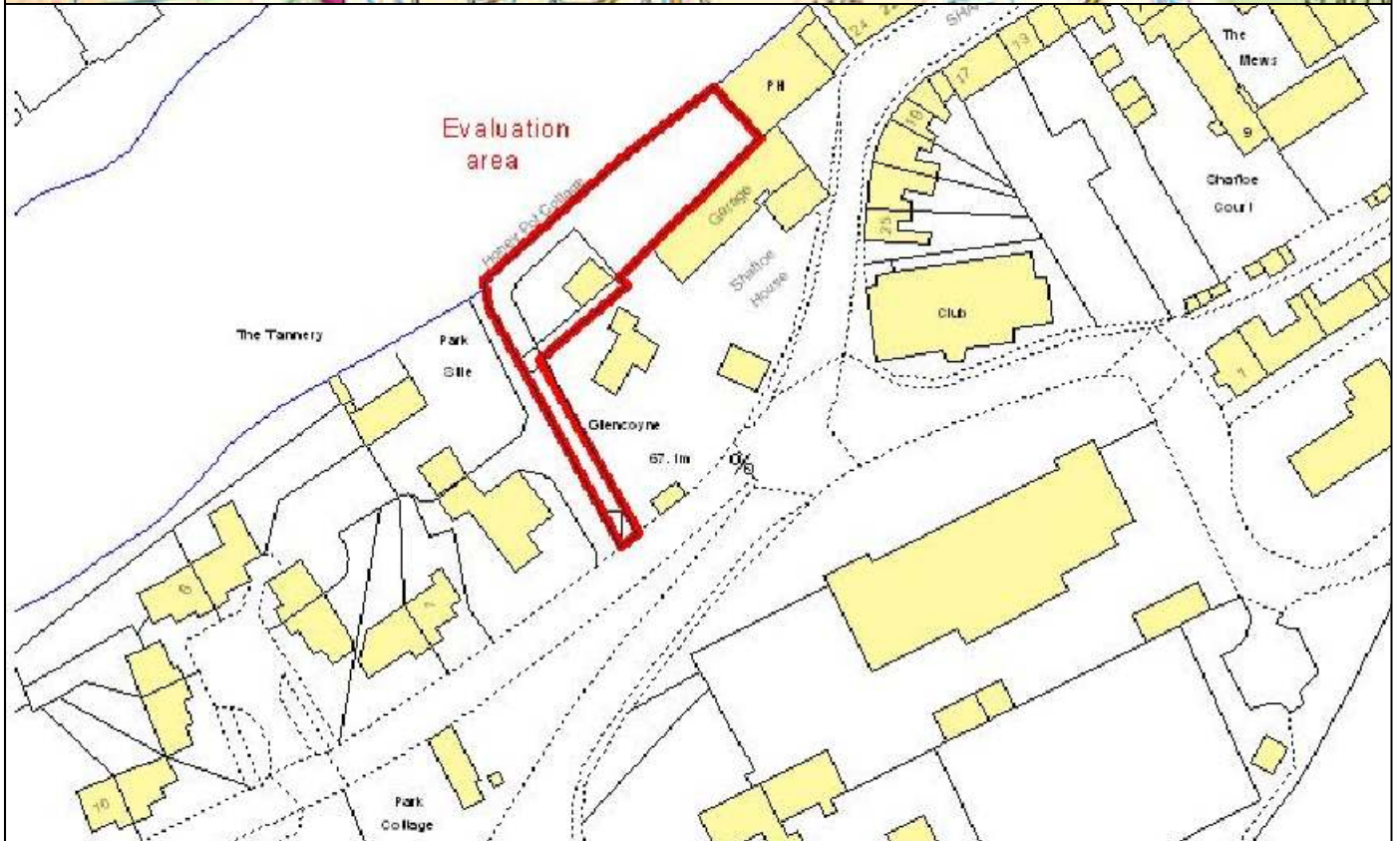
5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 Due to the lack of an archaeological presence within the evaluation trenches it is recommended that no further archaeological input is required on this development site.
- 5.2.2 However, due to the continued potential for medieval and post-medieval activity in the surrounding area, it is recommended that further evaluation takes place on any other groundworks outside the current area where further archaeological remains may survive.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Type	Description	Trench
100	Deposit	Topsoil and Turf	1, 2
101	Natural	Natural substrate. Yellow-brown sandy clay.	1, 2
102	Deposit	Dark grey-brown subsoil	1, 2
103	Deposit	Modern garden rubble	1
104	Cut	Drainage cut	2
105	Fill	Fill of drainage cut containing modern gravel, brick fragments and dark brown sandy clay.	2

Table 1. List of Contexts.

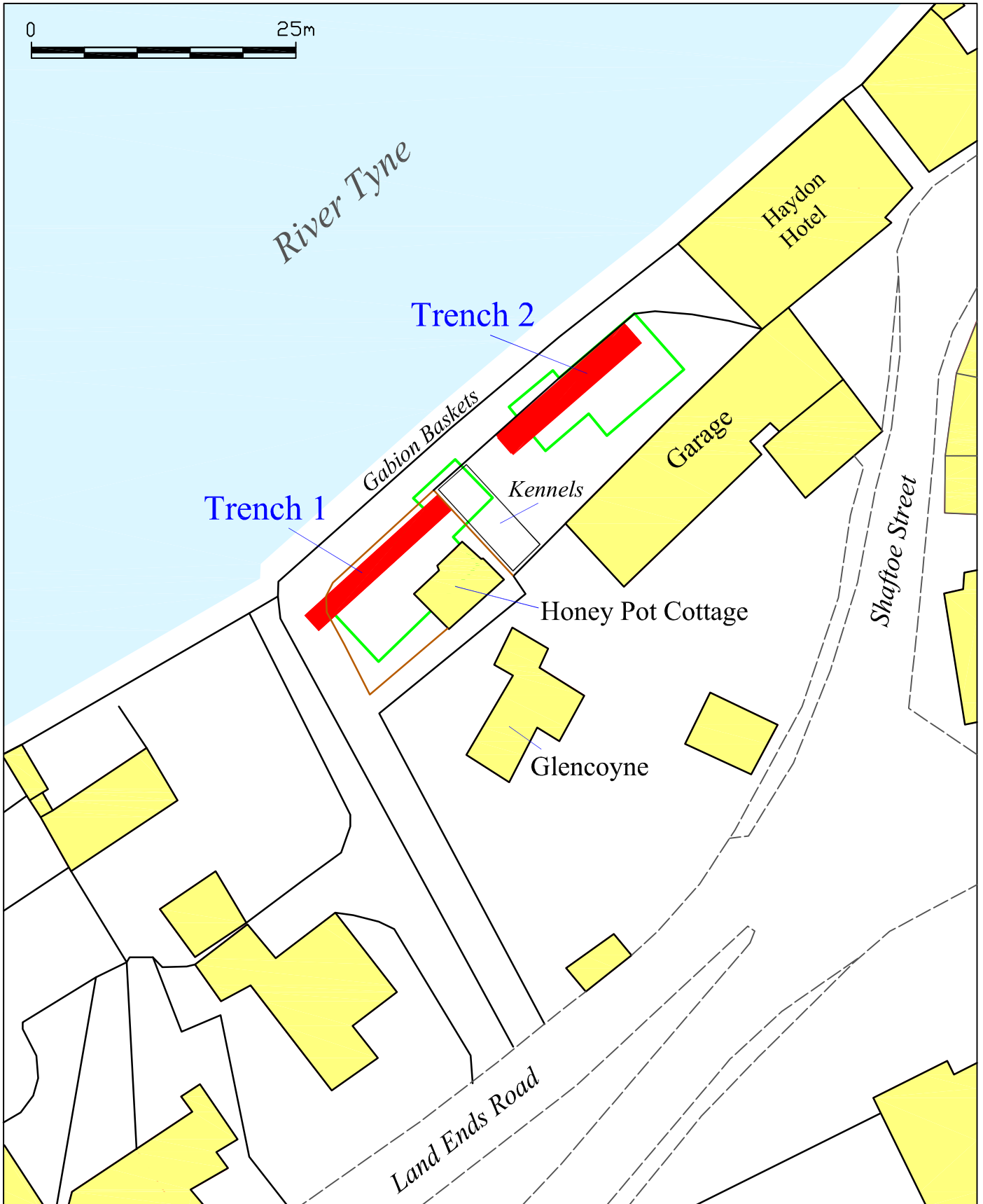






North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
2007

PROJECT: Haydon Hotel Evaluation
 SCALE: various
 REPORT No: CP 581/07
 CLIENT: Cameron Scott
 DRAWN BY: TL
 DATE: October 2007
 FIGURE No: 1

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Figure 1: Evaluation Site Location Map.



 <p>North Pennines Archaeology Ltd 2007</p>	PROJECT:	Haydon Hotel Evaluation	KEY:  standing building  trench location  proposed building
	SCALE:	1:500	
	REPORT No:	CP 581/07	
	CLIENT	Cameron Scott	
	DRAWN BY:	TL	
	DATE:	October 2007	
FIGURE No:	1		

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Figure 2: Trench Location within Evaluation Area