

**FORMER TARMAC
WORKS,
CHORLEY,
LANCASHIRE**



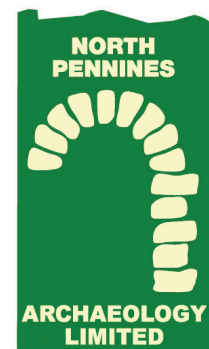
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT**

CP. No: 1187

23/05/2010

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Bellway Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at The Former Tarmac Works, Sandy Lane, Clayton Woods, Chorley, Lancashire (SD 5820 2322). This work follows a planning application (Planning Application No. 8/08/01079/OUTMAJ), for the construction of 100 new houses. Lancashire County Council granted planning consent for the development, on the condition that an Archaeological Evaluation was undertaken. The work was required as the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps showed several buildings which identified the site to be of archaeological interest.

The arrangement of these buildings suggested an industrial complex, with two associated ponds also existing within the site environs. The origin of this complex is believed to be post-medieval, dating specifically from the middle of the 19th century. Its exact use is unknown and was not indicated on historic maps of the area or elsewhere in any historic documents. There was therefore a potential for structural remains, associated with this complex, to be encountered by the development which would provide information both on the function of the site and when it was constructed.

The Archaeological Evaluation, which was undertaken between the 5th and 7th of May 2010, involved the excavation of three trenches, (Trenches 1 to 3) totalling 110m² of the development area. Trenches 1 and 3 were observed to contain no archaeological features.

Trenches 1 and 3 were devoid of any archaeological features or deposits, whilst Trench 2 contained the foundations of a wall. The modern deposition of material seen within each trench is most likely the result of levelling activity following the demolition of the Tarmac Works. It is possible that prior to the any building works on site the topsoil had been removed and other surfaces laid down removing the natural stratigraphy within the development area. As no finds were recovered from the trial evaluation it is difficult to ascertain the date of the stone wall, however the alignment suggests that it may be the remains of the building seen on the 1912 and 1931 Ordnance Survey Maps.

The archaeological evaluation found limited evidence for the presence of archaeological features potentially related to a possible 19th century industrial complex located at the site. It is therefore likely that buildings do still exist, albeit in truncated form, at the site and may further aid the interpretation of what the site functioned as, and the date it operated from.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank John Barnes for Bellway Homes Ltd (North West Division), for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work. NPA Ltd would also like to thank Doug Moir, Lancashire County Archaeological Service, for all his assistance throughout the project. Further thanks are extended to the staff at the County Record Office in Preston for their help during this project.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Ailsa Westgarth, Joanne Wilkinson and Natalie Ward. The report was written, and the drawings produced by Ailsa Westgarth. The project was managed by Matt Town, Project Manager for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Matt Town, Project Manager for NPA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In May 2010 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd were invited by Bellway Homes Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at The Former Tarmac Works, Sandy Lane, Clayton Le Woods, Chorley, Lancashire, SD 5820 2322 (Figure 1). This was undertaken prior to proposed groundworks associated with the development of a new housing estate.
- 1.1.2 The proposed works lie within the immediate vicinity of several buildings noted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps, indicating the presence of post-medieval buildings with two associated ponds. Potentially dating from the mid 19th century, the function and exact date of use of this complex are poorly documented.
- 1.1.3 As a result, Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS) requested that all ground reduction be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation. This is in line with government advice as set out in the DoE Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16).
- 1.1.4 This report outlines the results of the excavation undertaken on-site, and the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 Following a request by Bellway Homes Ltd, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of the study area. The work was undertaken in accordance within a Specification produced by Doug Moir of LCAS. This Specification was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 2.2.1 The County Records Office in Preston was consulted in order to study maps and documents relevant to the study area. This included the collection of historic maps, including Tithe or Enclosure maps and early Ordnance Survey maps. Several secondary sources and journals, such as the local trade directories, were also consulted.

2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 2.3.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of three trenches covering 110 m² of the proposed development area. This equated to three trenches; one trench measuring 25m in length and 2m in width, and two trenches measuring 15m in length and 2m in width.
- 2.3.2 The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity, the evaluation trenches being located to target buildings shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1848. All work was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2002).
- 2.3.3 In summary, the main objectives of the field 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 survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- 2.3.4 Overburden was removed by mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features were investigated and recording according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2010).
- 2.3.5 All finds encountered were retained, including those from excavated topsoil, and were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines, and recorded under the supervision of F. Giecco (NPA Ltd Technical Director). All spoil and trenches were subject to a metal detector survey.
- 2.3.6 All deposits encountered were deemed unsuitable for environmental sampling, and therefore no samples were retained.
- 2.3.7 The three evaluation trenches were scheduled to be backfilled at the discretion of the client, following excavation and recording.
- 2.3.8 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Edition, 1991).

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2007). The archive will be deposited with the Museum of Lancashire, with copies of the report sent to the County Historic Environment Record at Preston, Lancashire, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA10, CHO-A, CP 1187.
- 2.4.2 North Pennines Archaeology, and Lancashire County Council, support 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 North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project, under the unique identifier northpen-3-77058.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 The Former Tarmac Works lies within the parish of Clayton le Woods, Chorley, Lancashire, approximately 6 miles south of Preston, Lancashire, at a height of approximately 81m AOD. The land around the proposed development area has previously been developed to provide housing and a school. The development area is adjacent to the Lord Nelson public house, which dates to the 17th Century. The remains of the Tarmac Works were originally located on the site but have since been demolished. The area is shown in Figure 2.
- 3.1.2 The underlying geology is Triassic red marl and sandstone (British Geological Survey North Sheet, Third Edition Solid 1979) with overlying Moranic Drift, glacial sand, gravel and Alluvium (British Geological Survey North Sheet, First Edition Quaternary, 1977). The overlying deposits are modern crushed concrete and backfill materials.

3.2 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.2.1 *Tithe Map and Schedule 1838*: the Tithe map of 1838 (Plate 1) shows the land in the ownership of Lord Chesham, George Cavendish. The development area was rented to Robbert Hubbertsty and is listed as house, gardens, orchard and paddock. The only building within the area was what is now the Lord Nelson Public House.
- 3.2.2 *1848 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map*: the First Edition map (Plate 2) clearly shows a large building and three smaller buildings within the development site. There are also two ponds visible by the road side, the buildings are suggestive of an industrial complex.
- 3.2.3 *1893 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map*: the Second Edition map (Plate 3) shows the Lord Nelson public house to the west of the site and the largest of the three buildings still remaining.
- 3.2.4 *1912 Ordnance Survey Map*: the 1912 map (Plate 4) shows that the original buildings shown within the site have now gone, and a single long north-west south-east aligned building is now shown on the site.
- 3.2.5 *1931 Lancashire and Furness Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,560*: the latest map (Plate 5) still shows the long rectangular building shown on the 1912 map. There are still no indications of the use of this building.

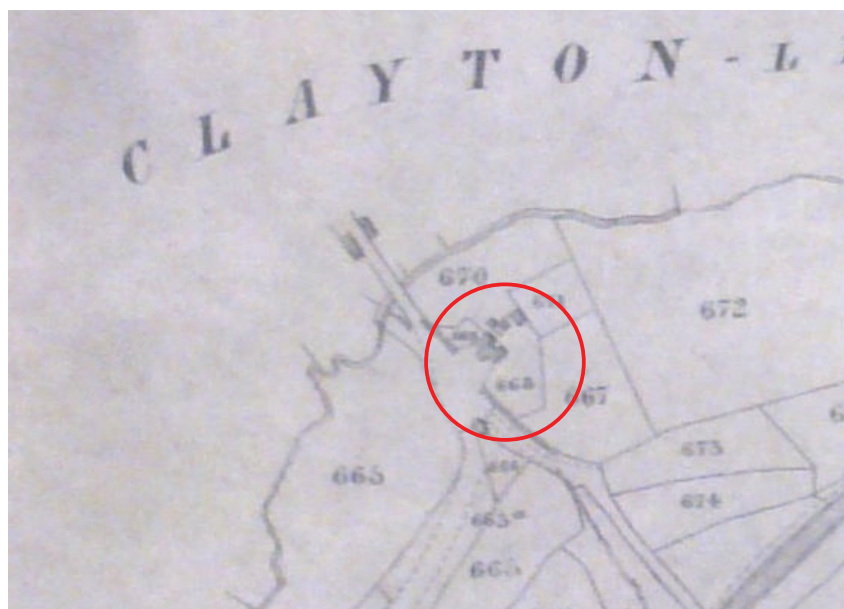


Plate 1: 1838 Tithe Map



Plate 2: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1: 10,560 1848



Plate 3: Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,560 1893-94



Plate 4: 1912 Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,560



Plate 5: 1931 Lancashire and Furness OS Map 1:10,560

3.2.6 ***Trade Directories:*** the only reference to any industry in this area comes from the two directories by Mannex (1855 and 1866). The 1855 edition describes The Lord Nelson Public House and the landlord as Robert Hubbersty. It also lists the industries within Brindle and Clayton le Woods, and comprised: a brick and tile works; quarry; tannery and a chemical works close to the Lancaster canal, which skirts the west side of the parish, and lies just east of the site. The chemical works mentioned are in the most likely position for the buildings seen on the earlier maps. The 1866 version of the same directory does not mention industrial activity within the township and local area, however it still lists the landlord of the Lord Nelson public house as Robert Hubbertsty.

3.3 PREVIOUS WORK

3.3.1 The Lancashire HER does not hold any information on the development area as no previous work has been undertaken within the area.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken in one phase, between 5th to 7th May 2010 (Figure 2). Each trench was excavated using a JCB 3 CX with a flat ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The three trenches were targeted over the assumed position of the buildings shown on the 1848 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map. Trench 1 was aligned north-west south-east and aimed to locate the smaller building located to the north of the road. Trench 2 was located east-west across the largest of the buildings. Trench 3 was aligned north-south over the two smaller buildings to the north of the largest building (Figure 2). The location of trench 3 was moved to the north due to the presence of a high voltage electricity cable.

4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 **Trench 1:** the trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.71m revealing sands and gravels mixed with clay (108) below c.0.71 of mixed modern crushed building material comprised of brick, concrete, metal rebar and dark grey brown silty sand (Plate 6).

4.2.2 There were no archaeological remains within Trench 1.

4.2.3 **Trench 2:** the trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.83m revealing red marl clay (108) below c.0.52m of mixed dark grey brown sands and gravels (104). The gravels were overlain by a layer of very dark blue black sandy clays between 0.10 and 0.45m depth (103). Organic layer (103) may have leached into the deposits below changing their colour. An east-west aligned wall was found in the west half of Trench 2 (106), built on top of the organic layer. The trench was sealed by a 0.38m to 0.60m-depth layer of modern crushed building material (101) (Plate 7 and 8). There were no finds within Trench 2.

4.2.4 Wall (106) measured 7.6m in length and comprised a single course of fairly degraded sandstone, aligned east-west across the north edge of the trench. It was rough hewn with a line of square cobbles just visible to the north of the wall at the trench edge (Plate 9, Figure 3). It was truncated to the east by the cut for a sewer pipe. The overlying modern crushed material (101) also deepens to the east perhaps indicating an area of deeper excavation. There were no finds within Trench 3



Plate 6: Trench 1 general view



Plate 7: Trench 2 showing area of organic deposit and deeper excavation



Plate 8: Trench 2 Section of modern build up and darker organic layer



Plate 9: Wall (106) within Trench 2, showing deeper excavation to the north

4.2.5 **Trench 3:** the trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.64m revealing mixed sands and gravels **(108)** overlain by 0.46m of modern crushed building materials. There were no archaeological features or finds within the trench.

4.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

4.3.1 No archaeological finds were recovered, and no environmental samples were retained during the groundworks.

5 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 During the archaeological field evaluation at Sandy Lane, Chorley, three trenches were excavated over three separate areas, covering 110m² of the proposed development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity, the evaluation trenches being located to target buildings shown on the 1848 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map. All trenches were excavated down to the top of the natural substrate.
- 5.1.2 Trenches 1 and 3 were devoid of any archaeological features or deposits, whilst Trench 2 contained the foundations of a wall. The modern deposition of material seen within each trench is most likely the result of levelling activity following the demolition of the Tarmac Works. It is possible that prior to the any building works on site the topsoil had been removed and other surfaces laid down removing the natural stratigraphy within the development area. As no finds were recovered from the trial evaluation is it difficult to ascertain the date of the stone wall, however the alignment suggests that it may be the remains of the building seen on the 1912 and 1931 Ordnance Survey Maps.

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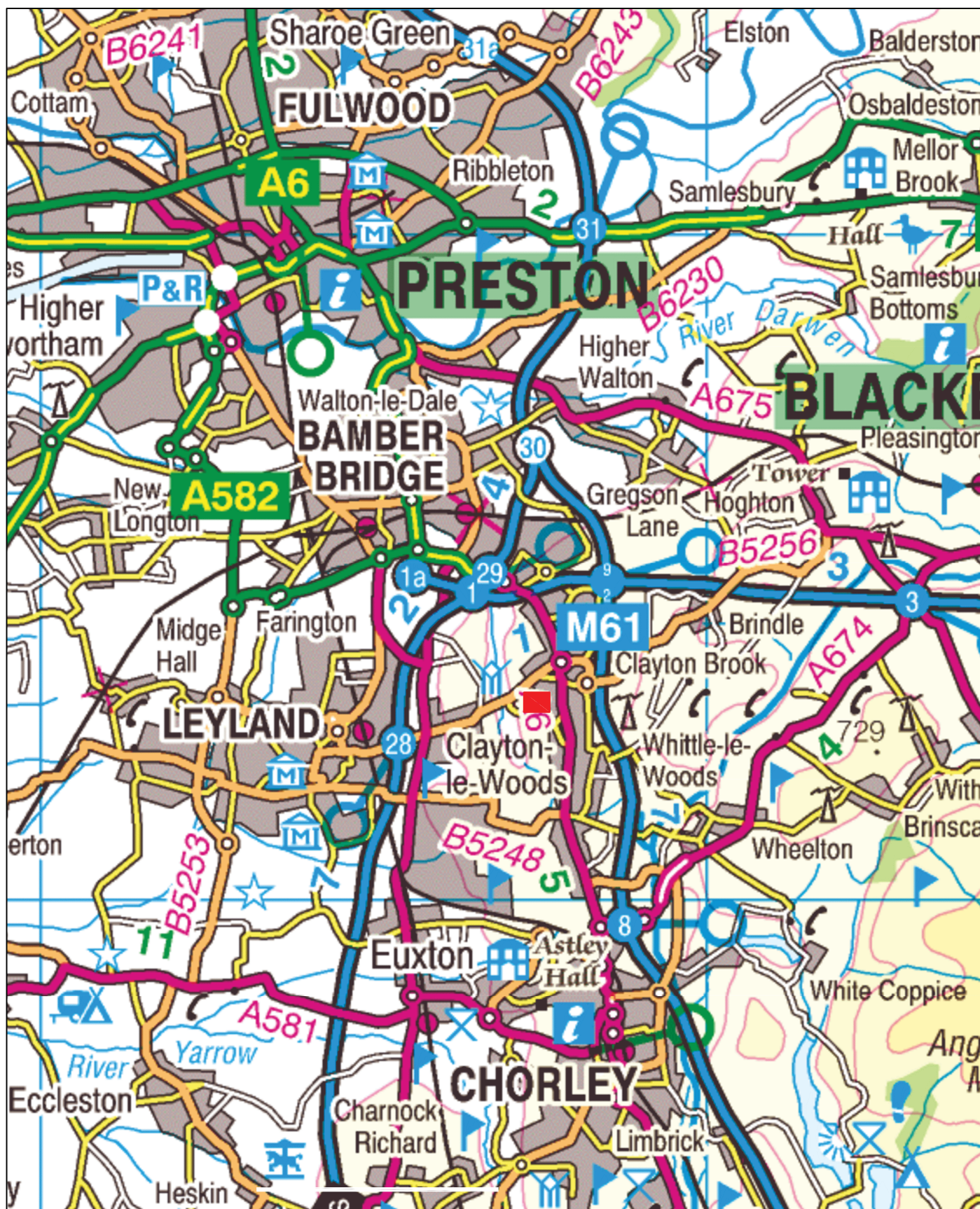
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Mannex, P (1866) *Topography and Directory of North and South Lonsdale, Mounderness, Leyland and the history of Southport Town with a history of Furness Abbey and the religious orders and an essay on the geology of the Lake District*, 1866 Edition Harkness, Preston

UKIC (1990) *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*

APPENDIX 1: FIGURES





 <p>North Pennines Archaeology Ltd 2010</p>	<p>PROJECT: Former Tarmac Works, Sandy Lane</p> <p>SCALE: See Scale Bars</p> <p>REPORT No: CP1187</p> <p>CLIENT: Bellway Homes Ltd</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AJW</p> <p>DATE: 11/05/2010</p> <p>FIGURE: Figure No. 1</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 20px; height: 10px; background-color: red; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <p>Site Boundary</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100014732</p> </div>
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Figure 1: Site location map.



Former Tarmac Works, Chorley

Bellway Homes Ltd

DRAWN BY: AJW

DATE: 11/05/10



Trench location

CP 1187/10

Trench Location Plan



Figure 2: Trench location plan overlaid 1848 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map

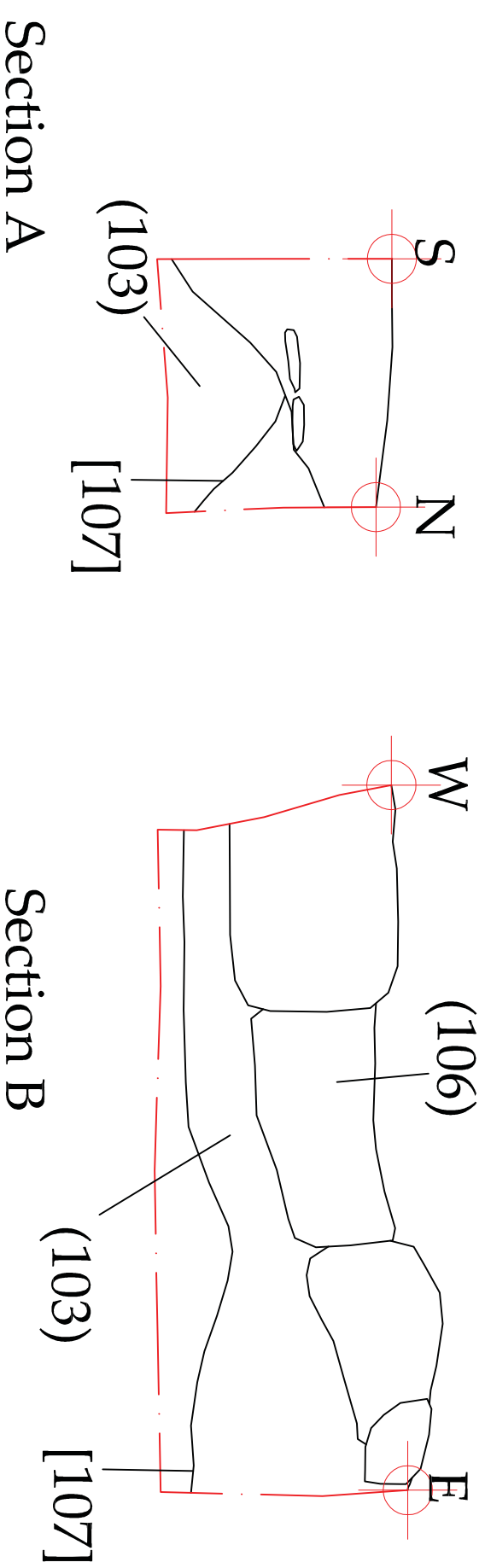
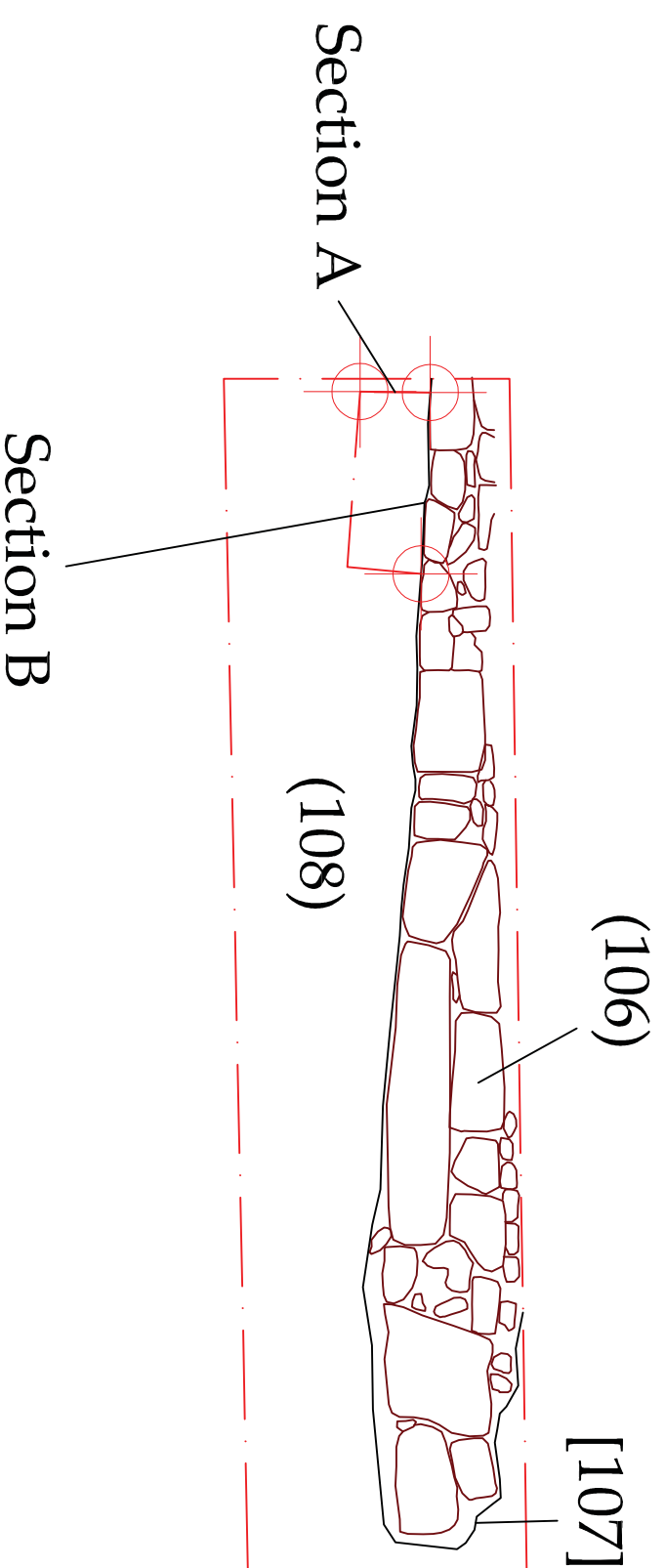


Figure 3: Trench 2 plan, including sections from within a sondage excavated within Trench 2

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd
2010

Former Tarmac works, Chorley

CLIENT:
Bellway Homes Ltd

SCALE:
Plan: 1:50 at A3
Sections: 1:20 at A3

DRAWN BY: AJW

DATE: 11/05/2010

KEY:
Trench outline
Foundation coursing

REPORT No: CP 1187/10

FIGURE:
Figure No 3

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