



Long Lane North, Chapel-En-Le- Frith,

Derbyshire

Strip and Record and Evaluation Report



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Prepared by: Paul Dunn
Position: Supervisor
Date: March 2014

Checked by: Jamie Quartermaine Signed.....
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: March 2014

Approved by: Alan Lupton Signed.....
Position: Operations Manager
Date: March 2014

Oxford Archaeology North

Mill 3, Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

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Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

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SUMMARY

An area of land adjacent to Long Lane, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire (NGR SK 055 801) has been earmarked for development by Seddon Construction Ltd. An earlier survey had recorded a long earthwork features within the development site, which is described as an earthwork bank running parallel to Long Lane before curving to the south-west, where it terminates at the embankment of the former Midland Railway line. Following on from the survey, Derbyshire County Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken to test whether the earthwork is of any antiquity or if there are any other buried features within the study area. In the event, this archaeological procedure was not implemented, and a programme of strip and record and limited evaluation was established in its place following the initial soil strip. This revised programme was agreed with the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Officer, who also approved a revised project design for the work programme.

The strip and record was conducted over five days, 27th November to 5th December 2013. The main area of the site was cleaned by an 8 ton 360° excavator with toothless ditching bucket before a process of selective manual cleaning of revealed features was undertaken to clarify their form and character. Two evaluation trenches were excavated by the same machine through the two earthwork banks down to natural geology.

The evaluation trenching established that that the two low-lying banks were very similar in composition, and were comparable in depth and that they both overlay shallow ditches that had similar orientations to the banks. The fills of both ditches were very similar in character, being redeposited natural, which suggests that they were backfilled shortly after construction. It would appear that both the banks and ditches were part of a field system, which defined the perimeter of a rectilinear enclosure (or field). The earliest elements of this field system were the ditches, and, although no dating evidence was recovered from them, eighteenth century pottery was recovered from the overlying bank, Site 02. Although the two banks have a similar character, Site 01 was significantly wider (4.57m wide) than Site 02 and was perhaps too wide to have been established solely as a field boundary. One possibility is that it served not only as a boundary, but also as an embanked trackway that would have allowed vehicular access above adjacent boggy ground. Both banks were then seemingly overlain by the railway embankment, which had been established by 1867 when the Manchester Branch of the Midland Railway was opened.

The other features observed during the fieldwork were of modern origin, including, several phases of field drainage, a rubble trackway, **106**, and a post-hole alignment, probably a modern fence, which followed the alignment of the stone wall to the east of the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Seddon Construction Ltd for commissioning the project and, in particular, for the support from Keiron Moore and Steve Dawson. Thanks are also due to Steve Baker, Development Control Officer, Environmental Services from Derbyshire County Council.

The strip and record was undertaken by Ric Buckle, Phil Cooke and Paul Dunn, who also wrote the report, with the drawings produced by Anne Stewardson. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine, who also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 An area of land adjacent to Long Lane, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire (Fig 1) has been earmarked for development by Seddon Construction Ltd. An earlier survey had recorded a long earthwork bank within the development site (OA North 2013a) (Derbyshire HER 3588), which was described as an earthwork bank running parallel to Long Lane before curving to the south-west, where it terminates at the embankment of the former Midland Railway line. Following on from the survey Derbyshire County Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken to test whether the earthwork is of any antiquity or if there are any other buried features within the study area. In the event, this archaeological procedure was not implemented, and a programme of strip and record, and limited evaluation was established in its place following an initial soil strip. This revised programme was agreed with the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Officer, who also approved a revised project design for the work programme (OA North 2013b; *Appendix 1*).
- 1.1.2 The strip and record fieldwork and limited evaluation trenching was conducted over five days, 27th November to 5th December 2013. This report presents the findings of the strip and record and evaluation programme.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The site is located within a triangular-shaped field of approximately 1.3ha, defined on the east side by Long Lane, and on the west side by a railway embankment (NGR SK 055 801) (Fig 1); the southern boundary is defined by a single track road. The site lies approximately 1.5km to the south-west of Chapel-en-le-Frith town centre. The west and south boundaries comprised post-and-wire fences, whilst the eastern boundary was a stone wall.
- 1.2.2 The survey area is mostly level ground and laid down to rough pasture, with the earthwork features forming obvious raised banks (Plate 1). The south-west corner of the site was flooded at the time of the survey and much of the remaining southern quarter of the site was very boggy. The centre of the field is 238m above Ordnance Datum.

1.3 GEOLOGY

- 1.3.1 The solid geology consists of Carboniferous Period mudstones, siltstones and sandstones of the Millstone Grit Group (www.bgs.ac.uk). The drift geology comprises Quaternary Period glacio-lacustrine deposits of clay and silt in the northern half of the site with deposits of till in the southern half (*ibid*). The soils within the site are classified as slowly permeable, seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils (www.landis.org.uk).



Plate 1: General appearance of the survey area looking north-west prior to stripping operations

1.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.4.1 Presented below are the results of the landscape survey (OA North 2013a) that preceded the present strip and record / evaluation investigations and which served as the archaeological premise for further investigation.
- 1.4.2 **Map Regression:** analysis of the 1st and 2nd edition 1: 2,500 Ordnance Survey maps of 1879 and 1898 (Plates 2 and 3) found that the Manchester Branch line of the Midland Railway had cut through an earlier field perhaps associated with Marshfield Farm to the south. It is evident that the railway line had cut through what had been a whole field. The name of Marshfield Farm may allude to the low-lying nature of the land and its poor drainage: archaeological features from the study area found in the earlier geophysical and topographic survey (OA North 2013a; *Section 1.4.5*) are indicative of efforts to improve the drainage. The southern boundary of the study area coincided with a curved strip of woodland on the east side of the railway. On the west side of the railway a stream is depicted, it is possible that the eastern side of the railway also had a water course and buried as an underground channel at the time that the railway was built.
- 1.4.3 The railway line was constructed in 1866 and Chapel-en-le-Frith Station was open to passengers and goods in 1867 (Wright 2014; Williams 1874; The National Archives RAIL 471) The Ordnance Survey maps of 1879 and 1892 show that the southern boundary of the study area comprised a track from Long Lane to a crossing over the railway; this led to a south-west track providing access to two farms south and west of the study area (Plates 2 and 3).

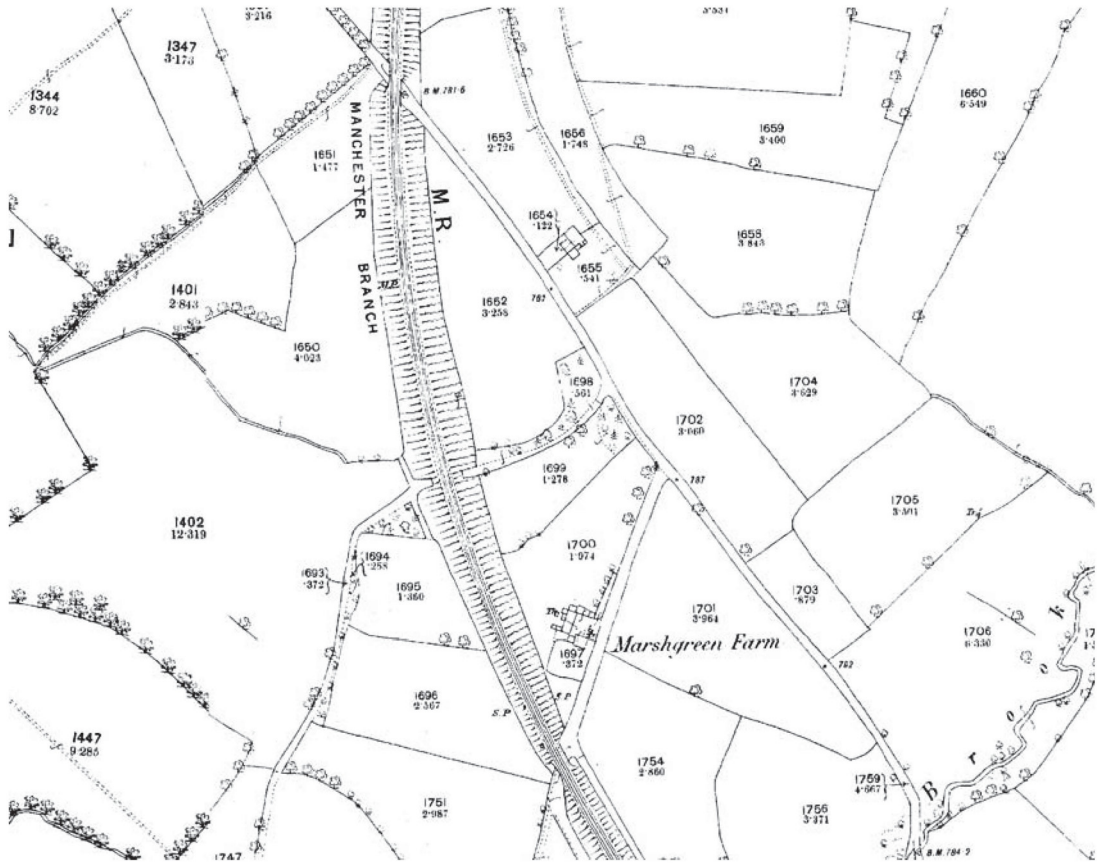


Plate 2: First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (1879)

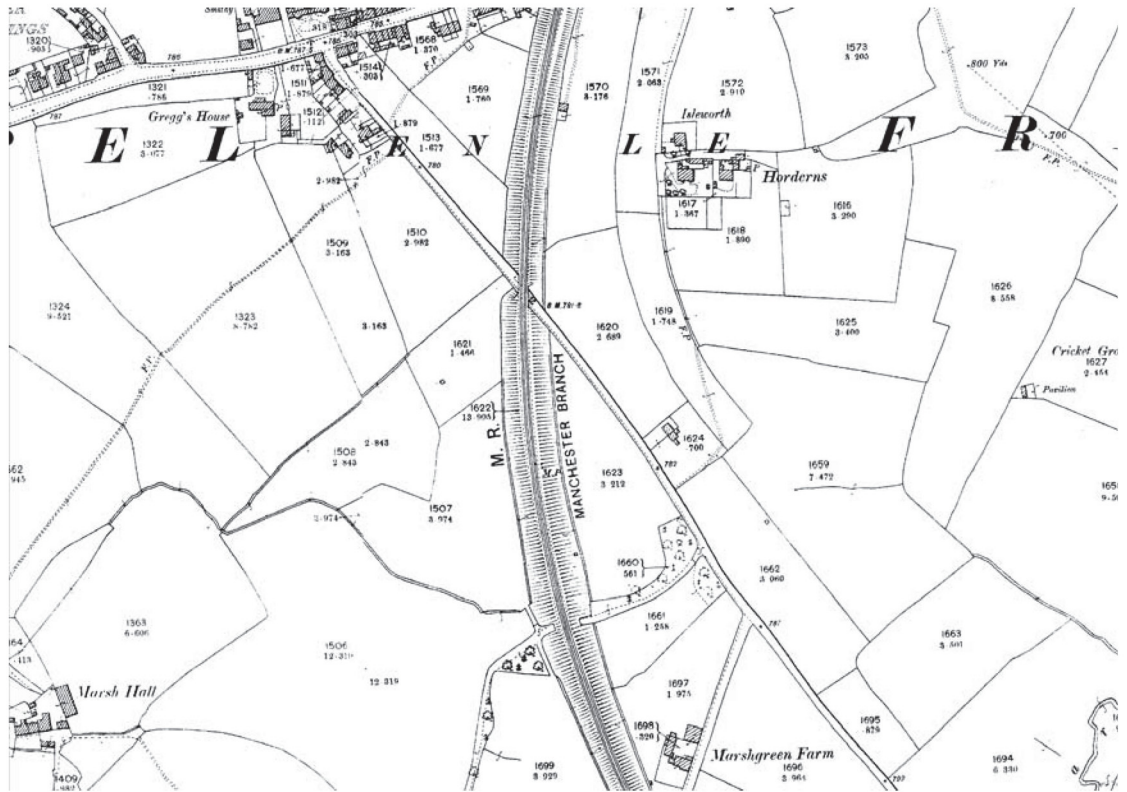


Plate 3: Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (1898)

- 1.4.4 The study area was depicted as a cleared field at the time of the 1st edition map in 1879; there was no change or further development by the time of the second edition map in 1898, or indeed by the OS map edition of 1921-2 and 1938 and there were no indications of any internal features, that would correspond to the earthworks recorded by the topographic survey (OA North 2013a). According to the Ordnance Survey maps of 1969-73, the area on the east side of Long Lane had been intensely developed with housing in the period after 1969.
- 1.4.5 **Landscape Survey Results:** the landscape survey identified a number of features within the field adjacent to Long Lane, the most obvious being two linear earthworks (Plate 4). The HER entry (HER 3588) describes the features within the site as a ‘linear boundary running adjacent to Long Lane curving south-west and apparently cut by the railway’, implying that a single earthwork is present. The survey showed that the curving earthwork described in the HER, in fact, comprises two separate features (Sites 1 and 2) that may have been related (Plate 4). They both define edges of a raised, triangular-shaped, flat-topped platform, and have marked drops on their respective north-eastern and southern sides. On top of the platform are two subtle gullies, which were potentially agricultural features, such as lines of furrows.

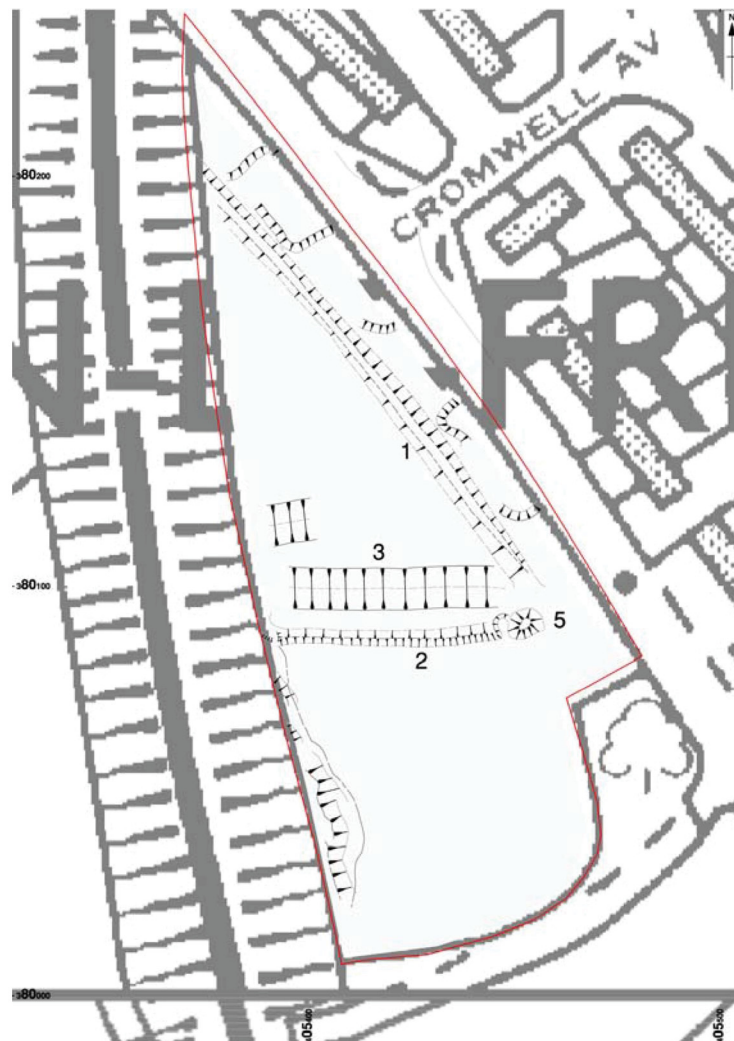


Plate 4: Initial topographic survey of the study area (after OA North 2013a)

- 1.4.6 The area where the two earthworks may once have possibly intersected appeared to have been disturbed, as suggested by the presence of building rubble in this location. A circular mound (Site 5) at the eastern end of linear bank Site 2 may also have comprised rubble. The earthworks differed slightly in their appearance, with the earthwork parallel to Long Lane (Site 1) being flat-topped and slightly wider. Both of the earthworks were possibly overlain by the railway embankment, suggesting that they were both earlier features. Neither of these earthworks were visible in the geophysical survey data.
- 1.4.7 A feature that was visible in both the landscape survey data and the geophysical survey data, is an east/west-aligned depression (Site 3) running across the middle of the field. The depression is quite shallow and only just visible on the ground, but is clearly visible in the geophysical survey data as a negative magnetic anomaly. Several positive and negative linear anomalies that were detected in the northern half of the site are all on the same alignment, and is suggestive of past agricultural practices, such as ploughing or drainage.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

- 2.1.1 A written scheme of investigation (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by OA North in response to discussions with Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist, Derbyshire County Council. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant IfA and English Heritage guidelines (Institute for Archaeologists 2008a, 2008b, 2010; English Heritage 2006).

2.2 METHODS

- 2.2.1 The topsoil on the area had been stripped by a D5 bulldozer down to natural deposits prior to OA North being called in to undertake the strip and record programme (Plate 5). The area was then cleaned by an 8 ton 360° excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision (Plate 6). Two trenches were also dug through the north/ south bank (Site 1; Trench 1) and the east/west earthwork bank (Site 2; Trench 2), these trenches were excavated using the 8 ton excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, extending into the natural geology. A process of selective manual cleaning of any features revealed was undertaken to clarify their form and character.



Plate 5: General shot of the site looking south, following stripping but prior to cleaning

- 2.2.2 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the former Centre for Archaeology of English Heritage, with an accompanying pictorial record (plans,

sections, and monochrome contacts/digital photographs). Primary records were available for inspection at all times.



Plate 6: General shot of the site looking south once the cleaning was completed

2.2.3 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts were recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute for Archaeologists guidelines).

2.3 FINDS

2.3.1 The recovery of finds and sampling programmes were carried out in accordance with best practice (following current Institute for Archaeologists guidelines), and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration.

2.4 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*), and in accordance with current IfA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2006). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with Buxton Museum on completion of the project. The material archive is to be retained by the landowner/deposited with Buxton Museum.

3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The main area of the site was cleaned by an 8 ton 360° excavator with toothless ditching bucket before a process of selective manual cleaning of any features revealed was undertaken to clarify their form and character. Two evaluation trenches were excavated by the same machine through the two earthwork banks down to natural geology (Fig 2).

3.2 STRIP AND RECORD RESULTS

3.2.1 The natural geology, **103**, across the area was observed as a light-yellow, with patches of light grey, clay; this was overlain by 0.30m of topsoil (**101**) (Plate 6). The only features observed cutting the natural geology were seemingly modern and comprised three lines of postholes of regular sizes, approximately 0.40m in diameter and surviving to a depth of 0.10m (Fig 2; Plate 7). These were filled by topsoil and clay, and one, **115**, contained a fragment of clay tobacco pipe. The postholes were all approximately 1.50m to 2.00m apart, suggesting that these were for, relatively recent, post and rail fences. Six of these postholes were excavated and recorded, **109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119**.



Plate 7: General shot looking north with postholes to the west of the water main

3.2.2 The natural geology was also cut by several field drains. The drains in the southern part of the area ran north-west to south-east and were ceramic field drains. In the main part of the area, to the north of the east/west earthwork (Site 2) and to the west of the north/south earthwork (Site 1), there were two phases of drainage. The earlier system was stone-lined and ran north-west/south-east across the area. The later system ran east/west and comprised ceramic field drains. To the east of the north/south earthwork (Site 1) the drainage ran north / south and comprised ceramic field drains; the field drains appeared to respect the earthworks.

- 3.2.3 A trackway, **106**, was observed running north/south to the east of the north/south earthwork (Site 1; **104**; Plate 8). The trackway was made up of small cobbles and sandstone rubble, and is fairly irregular in shape, suggesting that it was a modern farm track that had been placed to fill in wheel ruts. The track was overlain by a thin subsoil deposit, **107**, which contained nineteenth and twentieth century pottery and clay tobacco pipe; clay pipe was also recovered from within the cleaning deposits of the track fabric.



Plate 8: Part of trackway **106** looking south

- 3.2.4 A modern water main, running along the eastern edge of the site, was identified which explained the high magnetic response that had been encountered during the geophysics (OA North 2013a).

3.3 EVALUATION TRENCHES

- 3.3.1 Trench 1 examined the north/south earthwork bank (Site 01), and Trench 2 examined the east/west bank (Site 02), both revealed underlying ditches.
- 3.3.2 **Trench 1:** the excavation of Trench 1 revealed a ditch, **121**, orientated north-west/south-east (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 9). The ditch cuts the natural, **103**, and appears to have been filled shortly after its construction by fill **120** and was then overlain by the fabric of the north-west/south-east orientated bank, **104**. The ditch had steep sides, but a flat bottom, and survives to a depth of 0.40m; its fill, **120**, was uniform in character comprising redeposited natural, which was a yellow-grey firm clay with no inclusions.
- 3.3.3 The earthwork bank (Site 01; **104**) was 4.75m in width and extended to 0.28m above the upper level of the ditch, and had a gentle sloping, flat-topped profile; the bank extended only over the western part of the flat-bottomed ditch, and to the west it overlay the natural deposits, **103**. The bank was made from orangey-grey clay with no inclusions and contained fragments of nineteenth century pottery.



Plate 9: North-facing section of Trench 1 showing earthwork bank **104**, ditch **121**, and stone lined drain **105**

- 3.3.4 The north/south bank, **104**, and the ditch fill, **120**, were cut on their north-eastern sides by a stone-lined drain, **105**, running north-west/south-east, which was 0.49m wide and 0.35m deep, and which appeared to respect the orientation of the bank. The drain contained a fragment of nineteenth / twentieth century pottery. Above the bank, **104**, and the drain, **105**, was a shallow lens of topsoil, **101**, that had survived the top-soil strip operations.
- 3.3.5 **Trench 2:** the excavation of Trench 2 revealed a ditch, **123**, orientated east/west (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 10). As with ditch **121**, ditch **123** cuts the natural, **103**, and appears to have been filled shortly after its construction by fill **122**. It was then overlain by the east/west orientated bank, **102** (Fig 3). The ditch had rounded sides and, where it was exposed, a curvilinear base, and survives to a depth of 0.70m; its fill, **122**, was uniform in character comprising redeposited natural, which was a yellow-grey firm clay with no inclusions.
- 3.3.6 The earthwork bank (Site 02; **102**) had been severely truncated during the initial top-soil strip, and its profile could not be determined with any precision; however, the surviving indications are that it was *c* 2.5m in width and extended to greater than 0.4m above the ditch (Fig 3). The bank extended over the southern part of flat bottomed ditch, **121**, and to the north the bank overlay the natural deposits, **103**. The bank was made up of an orangey-grey clay with no inclusions and contained fragments of nineteenth century pottery. Above the bank, **102**, was a shallow lens of topsoil, **101**, that had survived the top-soil strip operations.



Plate 10: East-facing section of Trench 2 showing earthwork bank **102** and ditch **123**

3.4 THE FINDS

3.4.1 A very small, but relatively unabraded assemblage of pottery, clay pipe, and ironwork, was recovered during the project. The distribution of artefacts is shown below in Table 1.

Context	Pottery	Clay pipe	Ironwork	Totals
101	2	2		4
102	1			1
107	2	2	1	5
115		1		1
Totals	5	5	1	11

Table 1: Range of Artefacts

3.4.2 **Pottery:** the pottery from contexts **101** and **102** can probably be dated to the late eighteenth century. A fragment from a slip-decorated press-moulded dish from the former (Plate 11), is typical of the eighteenth century (Barker 1993), although it must be noted these continued to be produced into the nineteenth-century by rural potteries. A fragment of Staffordshire-type yellow ware from **102** is also likely to be of eighteenth-century date. A fragment from a Pearlware shell-edge plate or dish from **101** could be as early as *c* 1780, but the fabric continued in production well into the nineteenth century (Sussmann 1977). Both small fragments of pottery from context **107** are later nineteenth century or later refined white earthenwares.

Plate 11: Press-moulded slipware from context **101**

3.4.3 **Clay Pipe and iron work:** all of the clay pipe comprises undiagnostic stem fragments, and cannot be used to refine the dating. The single fragment of ironwork from context **107** is a small curved bar, but its purpose cannot be identified.

Context	Material	Category	Quantity	Description	Date
101	Ceramic	vessel	2	One small fragment slip-decorated press-moulded plate; one fragment blue shell-edged dish.	Eighteenth century and possibly to 1830
101	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	2	Two undiagnostic stem fragments.	Not closely dateable
102	Ceramic	vessel	1	Base fragment yellow ware hollow vessel.	Eighteenth century
107	Ceramic	vessel	2	Two small rim fragments refined white earthenware plates or saucers.	Nineteenth century or later
107	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	2	Two undiagnostic stem fragments.	Not closely dateable
107	Iron		1	Curved bar.	Not closely dateable
115	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Undiagnostic stem fragment .	Not closely dateable

Table 2: Catalogue of the finds

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 **Banks and Ditches:** the evaluation trenching examined the two low-lying banks (Sites 01 and 02) identified by the earlier survey (OA North 2013a) and established that that they were very similar in composition, that they were comparable in depth and that they both overlay shallow ditches that had similar orientations to the banks, but which were slightly displaced to one side of the respective bank. The fills of both ditches were very similar in character, being redeposited natural, which suggests that they were backfilled shortly after construction.
- 4.1.2 Given their stratigraphic relationships it is evident that the banks and ditches could not have been in existence at the same time, and, given the comparable orientation, it is probable that the ditches were the forerunners of the banks. While no finds were recovered from the shallow ditches, there were eighteenth century finds from the upper deposits (**102**) of earthwork bank Site 02, but no finds came from bank **104** (Site 01).
- 4.1.3 Given that the character of the banks and ditches were similar it is probable that they had similar origins and were part of a similar complex. The banks were respected by later drains and have been use as field boundaries and it would appear that both the banks and ditches were part of a field system, which defined the perimeter of a rectilinear enclosure (or field). The earliest elements of this field system were the ditches, which rapidly filled, and were superseded by the two banks. Whilst no dating evidence was recovered from the ditches, the eighteenth century pottery from Site 02 provides a *Terminus Ante Quem* date for the ditches. The two banks were seemingly contemporary and related as indicated by their similar character, but Site 01 was significantly wider (4.57m wide) than Site 02 and was perhaps too wide to have been established solely as a field boundary. One possibility is that it served not only as a boundary, but also as an embanked trackway that would have allowed vehicular access over the adjacent boggy ground. Both banks were then seemingly overlain by the railway embankment, which had been established by 1867 when the Manchester Branch of the Midland Railway was opened.
- 4.1.4 **Other Features:** there were very few archaeological features across the area, and, with the exception of the banks and ditches, the other features identified during the strip and record were of modern origin. These comprised various phases of field drainage, a trackway, **106**, running north-west/south-east alongside the earthwork bank **104**, and post-hole alignments running alongside the eastern edge of the site (**109**, **111**, **113**, **115**, **117** and **119**). All of these features contained twentieth century pottery. Given their modern date, they were of little archaeological significance.

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Web Resources

mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/

The National Archives, The Catalogue, Full Details, RAIL 471, <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/SearchUI/details/redirect/?CATID=11446&CATLN=3>

APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 An area of land adjacent to Long Lane, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire (Fig 1) has been earmarked for development by Seddon Construction Ltd. An earthwork feature contained within the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER 3588; NGR SK 055 801), is described as an earthen bank running parallel to Long Lane before curving to the south-west, where it terminates at the embankment of the former Midland Railway line and was potentially an early historic boundary. This was subject to a topographic and geophysical survey (OA North 2013) at a pre-planning application stage. Following on from this work the following conditions relating to the heritage on the site have been stipulated for the planning consent, and are in line with NPPF Para 141.

Condition A

No development shall take place until a Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological work has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing, and until any pre-start element of the approved scheme has been completed to the written satisfaction of the local planning authority. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and

1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
2. The programme for post investigation assessment
3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation"

Condition B

No development shall take place other than in accordance with the archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (a)."

Condition C

The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (a) and the provision to be made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured."

- 1.1.2 Following discussions with Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist, Derbyshire County Council, the following WSI is submitted and is intended to satisfy the requirements for a programme of archaeological strip and record of the site to be undertaken during the early stages of the proposed development. This would entail the maintenance of an archaeological watching brief during topsoil strip operations, and then a programme of selective cleaning / recording of features exposed during the topsoil strip across the extent of the site which is approximately 1.3ha in extent. This would be followed by sample excavation.
- 1.1.3 Such archaeological investigations are required as a condition of planning to advise on archaeological significance as required by National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) para 128 (DCLG 2012). The present WSI provides for a methodology to undertake the archaeological recording and investigation within the extent of the impact area.

2. METHODS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 Presented below is a programme of archaeological strip and record, which will examine the extent of the site and would examine areas highlighted by the earlier topographic and geophysical surveys as well as areas where there are no confirmed features.

2.2 STRIP AND RECORD

- 2.2.1 A programme of Strip and Record will be undertaken in the area of the proposed development area and extends across an area defined by the attached figure:
- 2.2.2 The ground in each of the areas will be topsoil stripped, using plant to be provided by the main contractor, down to the level of a significant archaeological horizon. Excavation of the uppermost levels of modern overburden material will be undertaken in successive, level spits, by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological level. The work will be supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Following machining the ground surface will be left in a levelled and mechanically cleaned state.
- 2.2.3 The ground will be examined for archaeological features and selective manual cleaning of the ground surface will be undertaken by hoe around any identified features. Pre-excavation plans of the stripped areas will be produced using an accurate differential GPS.
- 2.2.4 **Excavation:** following the cleaning of the site and the identification of the archaeological resource a programme of sample excavation will be implemented. The costs and time on site for this element are reliant on the extent of the features identified during the topsoil strip. The sample excavation will be by manual techniques. A 25% sample of the pits and postholes will be subject to a 50% by volume controlled stratigraphic excavation. Linear cut features, such as ditches and gullies, will be subject to up to a maximum of 25% by volume controlled stratigraphic excavation, with the excavation concentrating on any terminals and intersections with other features which would provide important stratigraphic information. Linear features with a uniform fill will be subject to 10% excavation.
- 2.2.5 Extensive linear deposits or homogeneous spreads of material will be sample excavated by hand to a maximum of 10-20% by volume (the size of the sample to be agreed following consultation with the Development Control Archaeologist). If features/deposits are revealed which need to be removed and which are suitable for machine excavation, such as large-scale dump deposits or substantial linear cut features, then they would be sample excavated to confirm their homogeneity before being removed by machine.
- 2.2.6 Structural remains will be excavated manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. Any hearths and/or internal features will be 100% sample excavated to provide information on their date and function, and the extent of any associated floor surfaces will be determined.
- 2.2.7 Cut features identified against the edges of the excavation will not be excavated below a safe working limit of 1.2m unless it is confirmed by the Assistant County Archaeologist that they are of exceptional importance.
- 2.2.8 Any cremations and inhumations that are discovered will be subject to a 100% by volume controlled stratigraphic excavation (it should be noted, however, that should intact cremations be revealed then the vessels will be lifted whole for excavation later under laboratory conditions). All human remains will be recorded using skeleton recording forms. The grave cut and/or coffin and contents will be recorded in plan at 1:20. Significant details of any grave goods, should they be discovered, will be planned at 1:10. Photography will be used to provide a further detailed record of the skeleton. The removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under Home Office Licence as required by the *Burials Act 1857*.
- 2.2.9 **Recording:** All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times. The trenches will be located by use of high accuracy differential GPS equipment; altitude information will be established with respect to Ordnance Datum. Archaeological features within the trenches will be planned by means of the GPS. All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans,

- sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 2.2.10 Results of all field investigations will be recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using a similar system, and, following on-site processing, will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.
- 2.2.11 All contexts would be recorded using *pro-forma* sheets, and similar object record and photographic record *pro-formas* would be used. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts would be cross-referenced from *pro-forma* record sheets using sequential numbering. A Harris matrix will be developed for stratified deposits as required.
- 2.2.12 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts would be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation would be generated. Photography would be undertaken by digital photography using a 18megapixel digital camera, and also a 35mm camera on archivable black and white print film as well. All frames would include a visible, graduated metric scale.
- 2.2.13 **Environmental Sampling:** if archaeological features are identified, bulk samples (40 litre) will be taken from contexts in sealed plastic buckets from all secure deposits. These will be assessed for charred and waterlogged plant remains and other possible biological indicators for example invertebrate remains and fish bone.
- 2.2.14 If any waterlogged deposits are identified, either from archaeological features, such as ditch fills, wells, or ponds or natural deposits, such as peat or former lake deposits, they will be sampled for pollen and other biological indicators with cores or monolith tins. If buried soils are identified, they will be sampled with kubiena tins or other suitable containers, and will then be assessed for their potential for soil micromorphology and pollen analysis.
- 2.2.15 Subject to the results of the excavation an assessment of any environmental samples will be undertaken by appropriate specialists, who will examine the potential for further analysis. The assessment would examine the potential for macrofossil, arthropod, palynological and general biological analysis. The palaeoecological assessment will only be called into effect if good waterlogged deposits are identified and will be subject to the agreement of the Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist and the client.
- 2.2.16 **Absolute Dating:** subject to the availability of material from secure contexts, it may be appropriate to undertake radiocarbon dating of sampled organic material if the possibility can be demonstrated that this technique will aid the establishment of a tight chronology and would be in accordance with the project aims to establish the chronology of the identified features. Absolute dating will be particularly useful for the interpretation of archaeological remains from which no other dating material is available, and for palaeoecological material. Sufficient dates will be required to improve the reliability and accuracy of dating. The actual number required will be subject to the results of the trenching. The dates will be taken by the OA North palaeobotanist, who will undertake the initial processing of the dates and submit them to the radiocarbon laboratory.

2.3 EVALUATION

- 2.3.1 In the event that the top soil strip does not extend to the top of significant archaeological horizons, then it is proposed that a programme of archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) be undertaken down the level of the upper archaeological horizons or natural deposits. The programme of trial trenching would establish the presence or absence of any previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, would then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. In this way, it is possible to adequately sample the threatened available area.
- 2.3.2 **Trench configuration:** while the wider development area is 1.3ha in extent, and the evaluation is required to examine 2% of the impact area, and this would equate to the excavation of 8 trenches which are each 15m x 2m in extent. These would target features identified by the topographic and geophysical surveys, but would also check on areas where there are no identified features. In particular it is proposed that at least two examine the line of the long earthwork feature, even if the upper levels of the feature have been removed by the topsoil strip (See attached trench plan).

2.3.3 **Methods:** the programme of trenching would establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits or structures and, if established, would then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. The trenches would be excavated by a combination of mechanised and manual techniques; the topsoil would be removed by mechanical excavator, fitted with a 2.0m wide toothless bucket. Archaeological excavation would be to the top of significant archaeological remains, although a sondage would be taken to natural deposits or to the maximum safe working depth. The uppermost levels of overburden would then be removed using the same machine to the top of the first significant archaeological level. The work would be supervised closely by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Machine excavation would then be used to define carefully the extent of any surviving foundations, floors, and other remains. Thereafter, structural remains would be cleaned to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. It should be noted that no archaeological deposits would be entirely removed from the site. If the excavation is to proceed below a depth of 1.2m, then the trenches would be widened sufficiently to allow the sides to be stepped in. One long section of each trench would be manually cleaned to enable close examination and recording. Sensitive deposits would be manually excavated, which would enable an assessment of the nature, date, survival and depth of deposits and features. The trench would be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand.

2.4 FINDS

2.4.1 **Finds policy:** finds recovery and sampling programmes would be in accordance with best practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines). all finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines. All finds would be treated in accordance with OA North standard practice, which is cognisant of IFA and UKIC Guidelines. In general this would mean that (where appropriate or safe to do so) finds are washed, dried, marked, bagged and packed in stable conditions.

2.4.2 **Faunal remains:** if there is found to be the potential for discovery of bones of fish and small mammals, a sieving programme would be carried out. These would be assessed as appropriate by a specialist in faunal remains, and subject to the results, there may be a requirement for more detailed analysis. A contingency has been included for the assessment of such faunal remains for analysis.

2.4.3 **Human Remains:** any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and character of the burial. The Derbyshire Development Control Officer and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential, the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations. The cost of removal or treatment will be agreed with the client and costed as a variation.

2.4.4 **Treasure:** any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.

2.5 REPORT

2.5.1 **Digital Presentation:** the recording would be collated within a CAD environment. A digital copy of the archive can be provided in shape file format alongside the final report. Digital photography would be provided, and would be appropriately indexed.

2.5.2 **Reporting:** the report would include the results of the recording programme and would present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme, and would include a full index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project. The reports would consist of an acknowledgements statement, lists of contents, summary, introduction summarising the brief and project design and any agreed departures from them. The report could also include sections on the following:

- A concise, non-technical summary of the results;
- Historical background
- Methodology

- Results of the strip and record;
 - Summary of finds assemblages, coupled with any specialist reports, and a list of, and dates for, finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified;
 - Outline of the landscape development, following on from the earlier surveys;
 - An interpretation of the findings and any management recommendations arising;
 - A site location plan related to the Ordnance Survey national grid;
 - Plans and sections of the site at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of deposits, together with the position of each feature of architectural or archaeological interest;
 - Copies of plans, photographs, and other illustrations as appropriate, with individual descriptions;
 - Index to the archive
 - Bibliography
 - Copies of the project brief and project design
- 2.5.3 The report would incorporate appropriate illustrations, including copies of the site plans, all reduced to an appropriate scale. The site mapping would be based upon the CAD base. The report would be accompanied by photographs and historic illustrations illustrating the principal elements of the landscape.
- 2.5.4 **Editing and submission:** the report would be subject to the OA North's stringent editing procedure and then a draft would be submitted to the client for consultation. Following acceptance of the report ten bound copies of the report would and a PDF copy would be submitted.
- 2.5.5 **Output:** two hard and one digital copies and of the full report would be submitted to the client, and a bound copy of the report would be submitted to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record. Each report would be illustrated by a selection of prints and maps.
- 2.5.6 **Publication:** a summary report of the results would be submitted to a regional journal, and information from the project would be fed into the OASIS project (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigation).
- 2.6 OPTIONAL POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT**
- 2.6.1 **Post-Excavation Assessment for Regionally / Nationally Important Remains:** if the archaeological results are deemed to be of regional or national importance as a result of discussions with the Development Control Archaeologist, then an assessment of the archive will be undertaken, and the resource requirements for analysis and publication will be defined; the process is in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2006). This would involve an assessment of the dataset generated by the excavation, followed by a review of the excavation archive to establish the potential for further analysis. This assessment will take place in close consultation with the client and the format for the final report will also be agreed at this stage of the work. The Harris Matrix, largely produced during the excavation programme, will be completed and checked as part of the assessment. The assessment will involve the compilation of a brief archive report, detailing the stratigraphic history of the site, and outlining the significance of the structural, artefactual and environmental evidence.
- 2.6.1 The project assessment will include an updated project specification, which will comprise a full project design for a programme of full analysis and publication, and will be in accordance with MORPHE (English Heritage 2006). This document will be submitted to Northumberland Council Conservation Team within 6 months of the completion of the fieldwork.
- 2.6.2 **Analysis and Publication:** an appropriate programme of analysis should then be undertaken to prepare a research archive, as detailed in Appendix 6 of *Management of Archaeological Projects*; however, the costs for this element are not presented here and will instead be defined within the updated project specification. Following the analysis of the excavation results, a report will be written which will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme and will

incorporate specialist reports on artefact assemblages and environmental reports. It will include an index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project, with an assessment of the site's development. It will incorporate appropriate illustrations, including copies of the site plans and section drawings all reduced to an appropriate scale.

- 2.6.3 The results of the programme of works detailed above should be placed in the public domain by a number of routes, firstly by publication and secondly by deposition of the archive in an appropriate museum. A synthesis of the work should also be placed in the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record. The cost implication of this element of the programme will be subject to the updated project specification.

2.7 ARCHIVE

- 2.7.1 *Archive:* the results of all archaeological work carried out during fieldwork would form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) 2006). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. It would include summary processing and analysis of all features, finds, or palaeoenvironmental data recovered during fieldwork to the appropriate level. OA North conforms to best practice in the preparation of project archives for long-term storage. This archive would be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis would be submitted to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). The ordered archive will be prepared according to the Museums in Derbyshire guidelines 'Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives (2003)', and will ensure that entire the archive is retained together. The original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) along with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) will be deposited with Buxton Museum. The Derbyshire Development Control Officer will be notified once the archive is deposited with the museum.

- 2.7.2 The contacts for the museum are:

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery

Terrace Road

Buxton

Derbyshire

SK17 6DA

Tel: 01298 24658

Buxton.museum@derbyshire.gov.uk

- 2.7.3 The accession number for the museum is: DERSB 2013.18

3. OTHER MATTERS

3.1 ACCESS

- 3.1.1 It is assumed that there will be unrestricted pedestrian and vehicular access to the study area for the duration of the project.

3.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.2.1 Full regard would, of course, be given to all constraints (services) during the survey, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. The OA North Health and Safety Statement conforms to all the provisions of the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Unit Managers) Health and Safety manual, as well as the OA Health and Safety Statement. Risk assessments are undertaken as a matter of course for all projects, and would anticipate the potential hazards arising from the project.

3.3 INSURANCE

- 3.3.1 The insurance in respect of claims for personal injury to or the death of any person under a contract of service with the Unit and arising in the course of such person's employment shall

comply with the employers' liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 and any statutory orders made there under. For all other claims to cover the liability of OA North in respect of personal injury or damage to property by negligence of OA North or any of its employees there applies the insurance cover of £10m for any one occurrence or series of occurrences arising out of one event.

3.4 PROJECT MONITORING

3.4.1 OA North would inform the client of all significant developments, and any potential departures from the agreed programme would be discussed and agreed with them prior to implementation. The project would be monitored on behalf of the local planning authority by Steve Baker, Derbyshire Development Control Officer (01629 539773; steve.baker@derbyshire.gov.uk). He would be informed at least a week in advance of the dates for the proposed fieldwork and would be notified in the event of significant findings. At an advanced stage of the fieldwork a site meeting would be arranged to review the findings, and to provide guidance on any further work.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

4.1 The phases of work would comprise:

4.1.1 *Monitoring of Strip and Record*

A watching brief would be maintained during the strip and record, and the duration of the operation will be determined by the lead contractor.

4.1.2 *Cleaning and Recording*

A process of manual cleaning will be undertaken around all identified possible features, which will then be subject to a process of mapping. The duration of this element is dependent upon the number and complexity of features identified.

4.1.3 *Sample Excavation*

A process of sample excavation will examine a representative sample of the features identified during the strip and record process. The duration of this element is dependent upon the number and complexity of features identified.

4.1.4 *Archive and Reporting*

25 days would be required to complete this element.

4.1.5 *Optional Post-Excavation Assessment and Analysis*

Subject to the results of the excavation the results may be deemed to be of regional or national importance and subject to instruction from the Development Control Archaeologist may require a programme of post-excavation assessment and analysis culminating in dissemination by publication. The timetable of this element would be subject to the excavation results.

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Context No	Category	Description
<i>101</i>	Deposit	Topsoil, mid grey brown friable sand silt
<i>102</i>	Earthwork	Earthwork bank, orange grey brown firm clay
<i>103</i>	Deposit	Natural, light yellow with patches of grey firm clay
<i>104</i>	Earthwork	Earthwork bank, orange grey brown firm clay
<i>105</i>	Field Drain	Stone-lined Field Drain
<i>106</i>	Track way	North / south aligned track way
<i>107</i>	Deposit	Layer overlying <i>106</i> , grey firm clay
<i>108</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>109</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>109</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>110</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>111</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>111</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>112</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>113</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>113</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>114</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>115</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>115</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>116</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>117</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>117</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>118</i>	Deposit	Fill of posthole <i>119</i> , mixed brown yellow friable clay silt
<i>119</i>	Cut	Posthole
<i>120</i>	Deposit	Fill of ditch <i>121</i> , yellow grey firm clay
<i>121</i>	Cut	North/south aligned ditch
<i>122</i>	Deposit	Fill of ditch <i>123</i> , yellow grey firm clay
<i>123</i>	Cut	East/west aligned ditch

124	Deposit	Orange grey brown firm clay similar to body of bank 102
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ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Plan of features exposed during the strip and record

Figure 3: Sections through earthwork banks **102** and **104**

PLATES

Plate 1: General appearance of the survey area looking north-west prior to stripping operations

Plate 2: First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (1879)

Plate 3: Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (1898)

Plate 4: Initial topographic survey of the study area (after OA North 2013a)

Plate 5: General shot of the site looking south, following stripping but prior to cleaning

Plate 6: General shot of the site looking south once the cleaning was completed

Plate 7: General shot looking north with postholes to the west of the water main

Plate 8: Part of trackway **106** looking south

Plate 9: North-facing section of Trench 1 showing earthwork bank **104**, ditch **121**, and stone-lined drain **105**

Plate 10: East-facing section of Trench 2 showing earthwork bank **102** and ditch **123**

Plate 11: Press-moulded slipware from context **101**

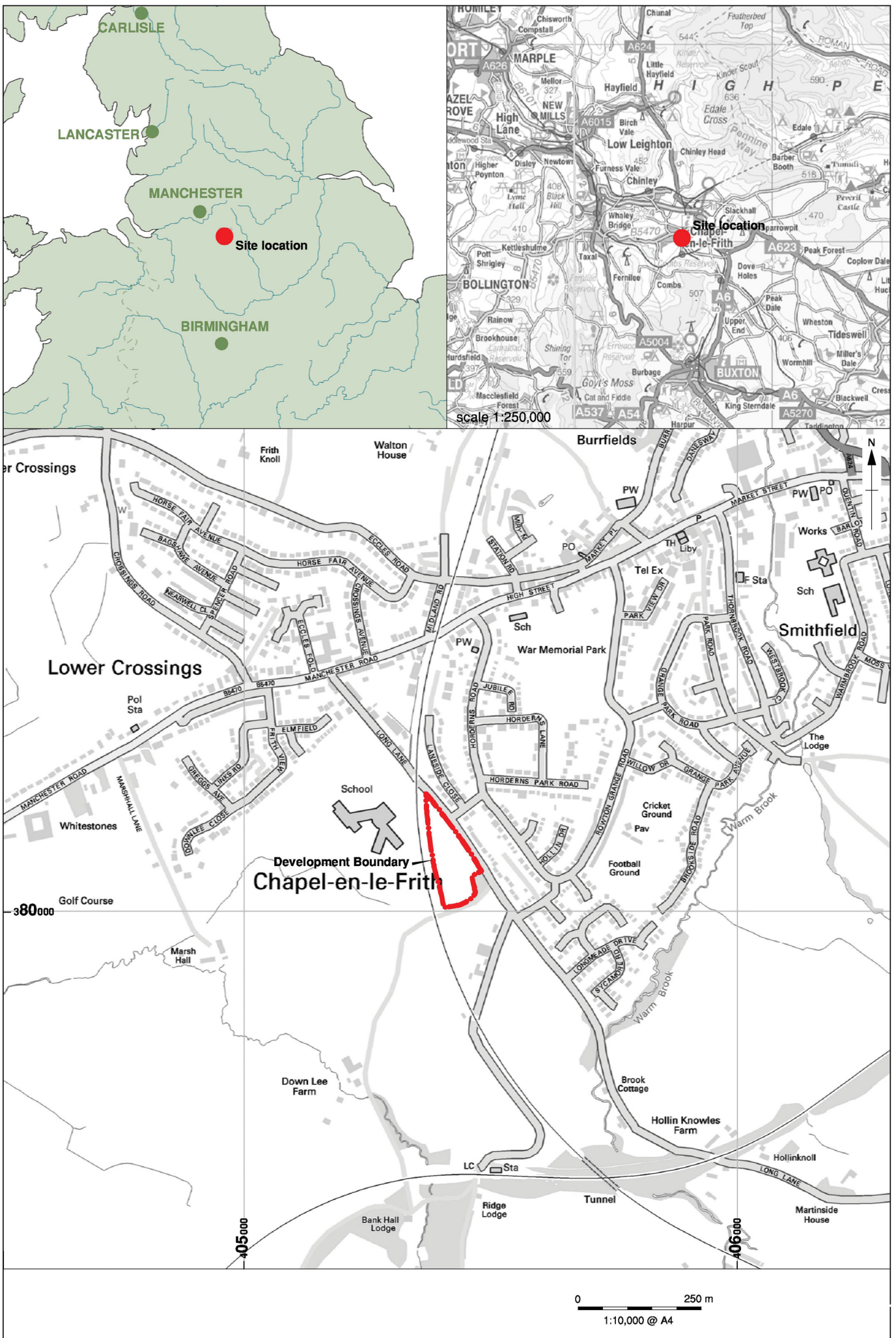
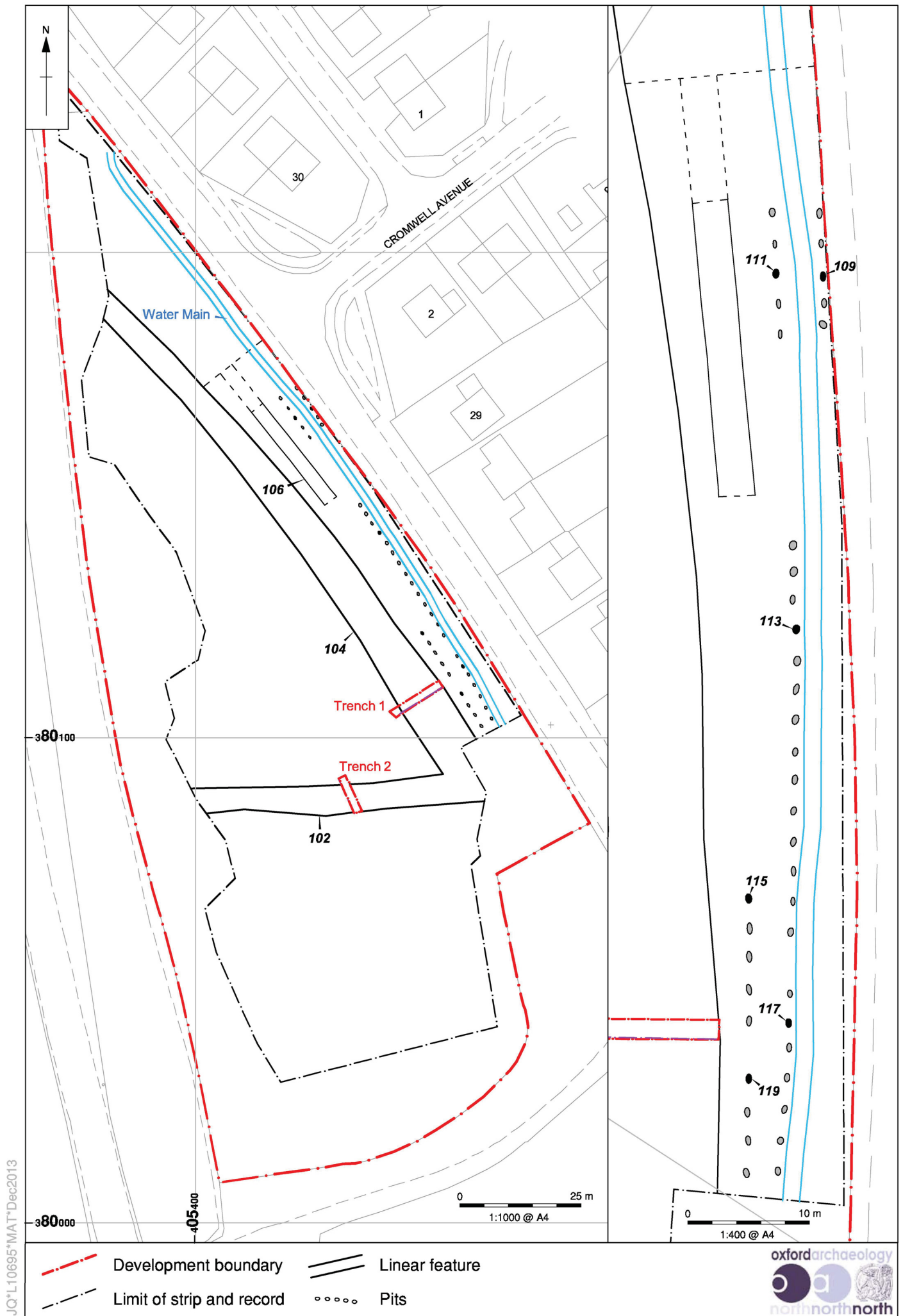
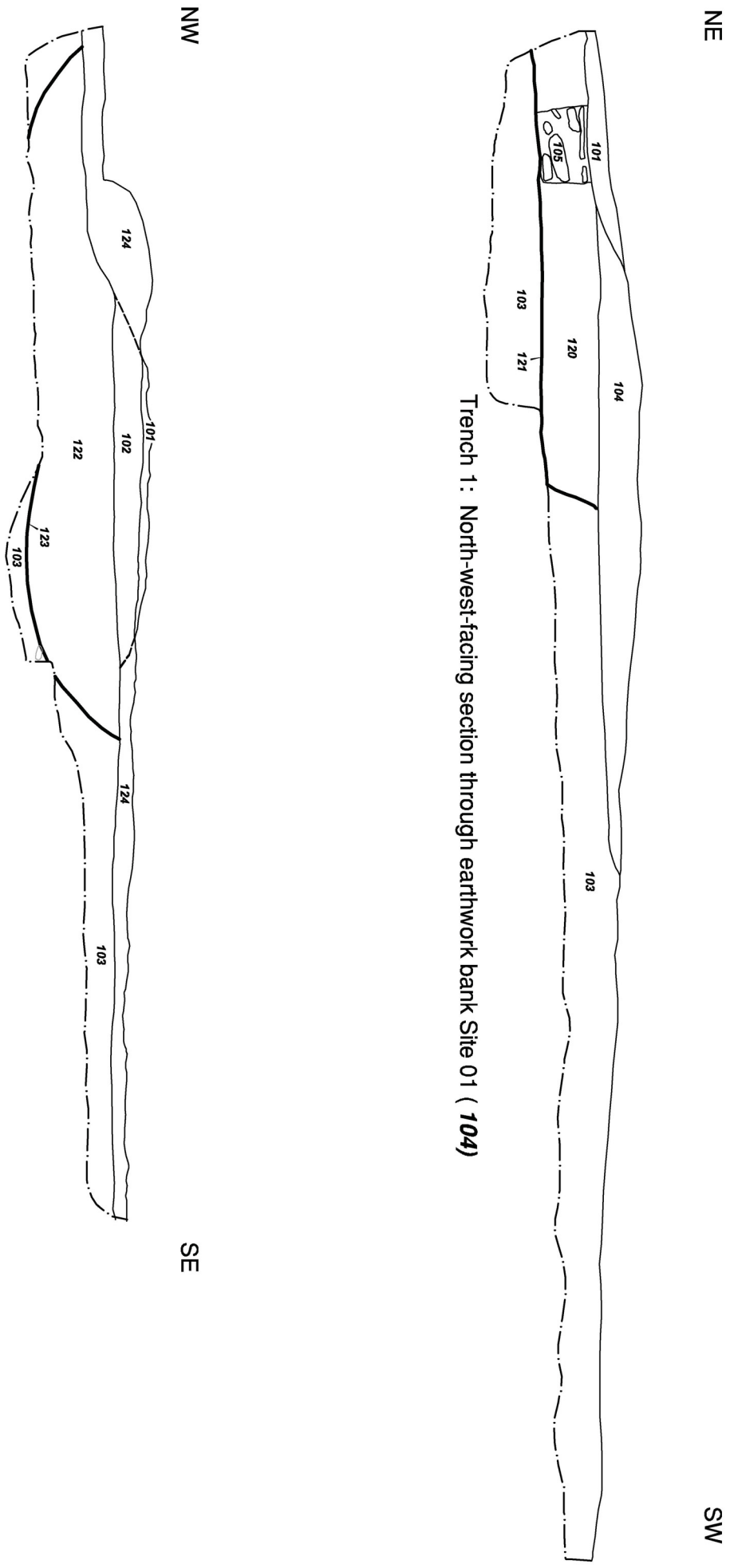


Figure 1: Site location



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Figure 2: Plan of features exposed during the strip and record



Trench 2: East-facing section through earthwork bank Site 02 (102)

Trench 1 : North-west-facing section through earthwork bank Site 01 (104)

Figure 3: Sections through earthwork banks 102 and 104