



Church Road, Levens Cumbria

Evaluation Report



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SUMMARY

In advance of a residential development, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by DW Parsons to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Church Road, Levens, Cumbria (SD 4851 8568). The work took place in February 2007, and followed on from a previous excavation undertaken in 2002-3 at 7 Nelson Square, which was adjacent to the Church Road site, up-slope from it and approximately 9.5m to the north. Here, five crouched inhumations of late Iron Age date (172-44 cal BC (2089±24 BP, KIA 24385)) had been revealed.

After mechanical stripping and manual cleaning of the entire evaluation area, which measured approximately 115m², five features were found cut into the bedrock. From the finds they contained, all were of post-medieval/modern date. Three of the features were modern postholes, one still containing a wooden post. The remaining two features were the bases of two modern/post-medieval pits. The remains of four recently deceased geese occurred within the topsoil, along with a single sherd of medieval pottery and sherds of post-medieval pottery.

The evaluation revealed that the underlying limestone bedrock was gently sloping downwards from the north-west to the south-east and only in the lower part of the site was there evidence of a subsoil.

No human burials were found within the footprint of the two new dwellings. It must be concluded that the area of the current proposal lies outside of, and downslope from, the group of human burials. Although the results were disappointing, the evaluation was helpful in establishing the southern extent of the cemetery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank DW Parsons for commissioning the work. Thanks are also due to Jeremy Parsons of the Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service for his help and advice in the course of the project.

The evaluation was undertaken by Vix Hughes ably assisted by Ged Callaghan and Kathryn Levey, with the survey being carried out by Marc Storey. The report was written by Vix Hughes with the illustrations by Ann Stewardson and was edited by Fraser Brown and Alan Lupton; the project was managed by Fraser Brown.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 A planning application was submitted to South Lakeland District Council by D W Parsons (hereafter the 'client') (Planning no. 5/05/1433). The application proposed the erection of two new semi-detached houses on land at Church Road, Levens, Cumbria (SD 4851 8568) (Figs 1 and 2). The client was advised by Cumbria County Council's Archaeology Service (CCCAS) that a programme of archaeological works was required prior to the development taking place.
- 1.1.2 OA North carried out an archaeological evaluation of the site in February 2007, stripping an area of 115m², coterminus with the footprint of the new buildings. The plot of land was immediately south of 7 Nelson Square, which, when excavated in 2002-03, revealed five late Iron Age inhumations, deemed of regional importance. The project design was adhered to in full.

1.2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 **Location:** the site is situated towards the southern end of the village of Levens, South Cumbria, (Fig 1) approximately 100m south of St Michael's church, and lies on gently sloping ground at around 11m OD. Levens is on the raised ground on the eastern side of the low-lying Lyth valley, which is edged on its western side by the imposing Whitbarrow ridge. The Lyth valley is an area of extensive wetland that was eventually drained in the nineteenth century (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 50).
- 1.2.2 **Solid geology:** the solid geology, as mapped by the Institute of Geological Sciences (1982) and described by Taylor *et al* (1971, 46-7 and pls V and XIII), comprises calcareous limestones belonging to the Viséan stage of the Dinantian, otherwise known as the Lower Carboniferous, with a total thickness of around 500m. The Carboniferous period dates to between 345 and 280 million years ago. In the Furness area, on the periphery of which the study area lies, Taylor *et al* (1971, 48-9) state that the upper strata belong to the Gleaston Group, comprising 'shales, thin sandstones, and thin dark cherty or crinoidal limestones'. It may be that the upper rock exposures belong to the underlying Urswick Limestone formation of the Asbian stage, since these 'rhythmic, thick-bedded, pale grey limestones with thin shale bands usually developed above potholed or palaeokarst surfaces' (Mitchell 1978, 175).
- 1.2.3 To the north, east, and west of the study area, the Dinantian rocks overlie banded mudstones and siltstones belonging to the Bannisdale Slates of the Silurian's Ludlow Series (Taylor *et al* 1971, 26-7). Where it is exposed, the top of the pre-Carboniferous surface is red-stained, indicating that it was exposed to arid conditions before being submerged (Mitchell 1978, 168).
- 1.2.4 **Soils:** the soils in the study area comprise very shallow, well-drained loamy soils of the Crwbin Association (Jarvis *et al* 1984, 147-9).
- 1.2.5 **Geomorphology:** the late Quaternary origins of the modern South Cumbrian landscape can only be vaguely discerned, thanks to the paucity of

environmental archives. From study of what stratigraphical evidence is available, it seems likely that after the maximum glaciation of the Devensian, perhaps c14,000-16,000 BC, deglaciation of the Morecambe Bay area was sufficiently well advanced by 12,000 BC to deposit clays, gravels, and sands over a wide area (King 1976). This probably formed the raw material for re-sorting by subsequent aeolian processes. Although the fragile soils which developed have long since been removed by overland flow in most areas, modified loess deposits survive to this day on the limestone knolls surrounding the Bay, thanks to the relative permeability of the bedrock-reducing erosive forces (Catt 1977).

- 1.2.6 **Marine Transgressions:** there is evidence that at least six marine transgressions, of varying intensity, affected the coasts around Morecambe Bay during the prehistoric and early Roman periods (Kidson and Tooley 1977, 138-9). The first transgression probably began to make its presence felt c 8980-7943 cal BC (9270±200 BP), and by 7060-6707 cal BC (7995±80 BP) the lowest reaches of the Levens Estuary had been inundated. A second transgression dating to between c 4500 cal BC - c 5000 cal BC has been recorded from Silverdale, Helsington, and Ellerside Mosses, and was probably short-lived (Oldfield 1960; Kidson and Tooley 1977, 138). A third transgression, reaching nearly +5.0m OD in places, seems likely to have affected the Duddon Estuary and Lyth valley in the north of Morecambe Bay, and Arnside Moss to the east, around 4300-3700 cal BC (Smith 1958; Kidson and Tooley 1977, 139, 142).
- 1.2.7 Even in between these transgressions, the Lyth valley was an area of wetland, and was not intensively farmed until the medieval period when the land was subject to agricultural encroachment from the fourteenth century AD onwards (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 50). The present Lyth valley landscape was largely formed as a result of the draining of the mosses between 1803 and 1843, and the corresponding enclosure (*op cit*, 53).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 This historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments around the study area.
- 1.3.2 **Late Palaeolithic Period:** the first evidence of human activity in the county comes from the limestone coasts of southern Cumbria. Kirkhead Cave near Grange appears to have been occupied during the Upper Palaeolithic period and has produced artefacts defined typologically to this period, while three Palaeolithic-type blades have been claimed from Lindale Low Cave to the north-east of Kirkhead, near the mouth of the River Kent (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). Radiocarbon dating of Elk antlers, considered by Gale and Hunt (1985) to be associated with the artefacts in Kirkhead Cave, produced a date of 11027-10077 cal BC (10650±200 BP). However, the association of the antlers with the artefacts may be suspect due to sediment disturbance by previous attempts at excavation. Despite this, the Kirkhead and other South Cumbrian material would appear to represent scattered fragmentary evidence of early hunters exploiting the megafauna of the tundra on the edge of the retreating ice.

- 1.3.3 **Mesolithic Period:** the opening of the Flandrian period was marked by the rapid amelioration of the climate and the establishment of a shrubby mixed woodland on the newly formed soils. Birch led the invasion, followed by other trees, such as oak, elm, and alder, but it was hazel which was to become a dominant member of the flora after 9000-8000 cal BC (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 1.3.4 There is a certain amount of evidence that the caves around Morecambe Bay witnessed continued occupation during the Mesolithic period, such as the Whitbarrow Bone Cave (SD 450 860) which revealed faunal remains; there is some uncertainty, however, as to the date of this material.
- 1.3.5 **Early Neolithic Period:** whilst it has proved possible to characterise Mesolithic settlement across the landscape in a rather crude manner, the transition to the Neolithic period and the adoption of farming has proved elusive in South Cumbria. The lack of clear differences between assemblages of late Mesolithic and Neolithic date has meant that there is a period in the late fifth and early fourth millennia in which sites are difficult to identify, particularly in the absence of well-dated ceramic and lithic assemblages and monuments. For instance, a timber trackway, from Meathop Moss, could potentially be of early Neolithic date (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 1.3.6 There is some palaeoenvironmental evidence that the character of the environment was beginning to change at this time. Work on the South Cumbrian Mires by Birks (1982) examined a short period c 4000-6000 cal BC and discovered that there was no evidence of local forest disturbance until the uppermost sediments, in which the Elm Decline was clearly discernible. The inference from this limited research is that, during the Neolithic period around the coastal fringes of the Furness peninsula (Smith 1958; 1959; Birks 1982), minor clearance was being undertaken by a small population which does not appear to have been engaged in cultivation of crops. This is suggested by the presence of open ground indicators such as *Plantago lanceolata* immediately prior to, and continuing after, the Elm Decline (dated regionally to c 3990-3640 cal BC, Hibbert *et al* 1971).
- 1.3.7 **Late Neolithic and Bronze Age:** following c 3000 cal BC, information on human interaction with the Morecambe Bay landscape becomes more detailed, due to extensive studies undertaken at the Foulshaw and Helsington mire complexes by Guy Wimble (1986) and Wimble *et al* (2000). A small peak of cultural indicators (eg *Plantago* sp, Gramineae), and falls in the values of elm, ash, and lime, probably represent a small clearance episode during the late Neolithic period, c 2570-2140 cal BC (3870±70 BP) (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). Recovery of mixed oak forest followed this, with high values of hazel, and it seems probable that the clearance was concentrated on the nearby calcareous limestone soils. The limited palynological record probably reflects a genuinely low level of human activity in the hinterland of Morecambe Bay at this time, as other studies from around its fringes also record a similar story (eg Smith 1958; Oldfield and Statham 1963; Wells *et al* 1997; Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 1.3.8 The first significant clearance evidence in the north Morecambe Bay area dates to after 2300-1890 cal BC (3690±70 BP) when steep falls in elm, ash, and lime pollen occur (Wimble 1986; Wimble *et al* 2000). Pollen and spores of 'cultural indicators' (eg plantains, bracken, and nettles) then reach over 10% of the pollen sum for the first time. Three small-scale clearances followed at

Foulshaw and Helsington. A birch-led regeneration followed each clearance and, once more, the mix of trees affected is suggestive of the attacks being concentrated on the surrounding limestone woodlands (Wimble 1986; Wimble *et al* 2000). The activity, which ended 1592-1260 cal BC (3140±70 BP), bears all the hallmarks of *landnam*-type clearances (*sensu* Iversen 1949), being of short duration with rapid recolonisation by trees after abandonment. They may be interpreted as representing either a few fairly large clearings, or many widely scattered smaller clearings, some of which occurred close to both Foulshaw and Helsington. There is a real paucity of cereal pollen or other arable indicators associated with these clearances, suggesting a lack of cultivation near the wetlands (Wimble 1986; Wimble *et al* 2000).

- 1.3.9 Between 1592-1260 cal BC (3140±70 BP) and 1158-820 cal BC (2805±65 BP) the Lyth Valley area seems to have suffered an episode of clearance and open conditions greater than any hitherto recorded. Non-arboreal pollen attained 30%, with elm and ash taking the brunt of the reductions, although alder was also greatly reduced. Cereal cultivation also appears to have been taking place for the first time, although conclusive evidence relates only to Foulshaw Moss (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 43).
- 1.3.10 The first significant clearance episodes in South Cumbria coincided with a marked increase in the frequency and variety of archaeological material from the north Morecambe Bay area. There are two known concentrations of Beaker burials within the eastern Morecambe Bay area, at Sizergh and at Levens Park (Turnbull and Walsh 1996), both of which have received antiquarian attention. Two of the Sizergh group were excavated at the beginning of the twentieth century, when five inhumations were revealed in what appears to have been a cist; fragments of an All Over Corded Beaker were recovered from a site to the immediate east (McKenny Hughes 1904a; 1904b; Fell 1953, 1-5).
- 1.3.11 The cairn excavated at Levens Park (Turnbull and Walsh 1996), although the work was carried out under modern conditions, had also been subjected to earlier investigations, which has had a consequent effect upon the interpretation of the site, although the excavation revealed a ring cairn with a primary burial associated with Beaker pottery and a pair of flint knives of possible Yorkshire origin (*ibid*). The site clearly had a continued funerary function with possibly two phases of subsequent inhumation after the primary burial. A polished axe of the Cumbrian type and four patinated flints, including a small scraper and two flakes with re-touch, were found near to the Levens Park ring cairn (SMR 2504; Cherry and Cherry 1987). One of the more pertinent sites for the present study was a Bronze Age cremation cemetery, which has recently been discovered in Allithwaite to the west of Levens (Wild 2003).
- 1.3.12 The most impressive archaeological structure recorded from the locality of the study area must be the brushwood corduroy trackway from Foulshaw Moss to the south-east of Whitbarrow, which is dated to the Bronze Age (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000).
- 1.3.13 **Iron Age:** the very end of the Bronze Age saw a return to a more densely forested landscape around the South Cumbrian mosslands as the clearances were recolonised by secondary woodland (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). This is in part reflected in the archaeological record where a steep drop in the recorded material from the late Bronze Age occurs in this area. The nature of the

evidence also demonstrates a marked change from that which preceded it: from the relative abundance of archaeological material which typified the middle Bronze Age, with axes and other weapons represented, as well as ceramic material and extensive evidence for the settlement of formerly marginal land. The period is characterised by the introduction of defended sites, and hillforts; in particular there are several defended enclosed settlements which, perhaps significantly, appear to overlook the low-lying wetlands. These include Castlehead hillfort near Meathop (SD 2742 7517), which has produced a large number of artefacts. The evidence for the Iron Age in the vicinity of Levens relies on a few articles of metalwork and a number of large, yet poorly understood, settlement sites (*ibid*).

- 1.3.14 Five crouched inhumation burials have been discovered at a plot of land, adjacent to the current site, within the village of Levens (OA North 2004). These were dated by radiocarbon methods on the skeletal remains themselves, since no artefacts were associated with the remains. The dates returned as 172-44 cal BC (2089±24 BP, KIA 24385), meaning that they were of late Iron Age date. In addition to these, bog bodies have occasionally been recovered from Cumbrian mosses, such as one from Seascale Moss, in West Cumbria, which is believed to date to the Iron Age (Turner 1989) but the date of the remains has not been proved absolutely (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 78).
- 1.3.15 **Roman Period:** as in much of the North West, the pattern of rural settlement changed little with the Roman invasion, the greatest change being the appearance of Roman military sites, such as the forts at Watercrock (Kendal), Lancaster, and Ambleside (Shotter 1997). There are also records of scattered Romano-British finds from across the area, including ‘*a considerable number of Roman antiquities...found in various parts of the parish [Cartmel] (largely a coin hoard of 524 pieces), but no marks of forts, camps, roads, dikes, or other permanent works*’ (Baines 1836, 628). These coins and those also found at Grange-Over-Sands, the latest minted in AD 250, suggest some contact between the Roman military with local tribes, perhaps by trading. Other finds include a tombstone from Lindale and some finds from Kirkhead cave, including an enamelled pin, an iron axe, a trefoil-shaped fibula, and a coin of Domitian (AD 81-96) (King 1974, 196), whilst further finds from Dog Holes, Warton, have been dated to this broad period (Benson and Bland 1963). A site within Levens Park (Turnbull and Walsh 1996, 15), known as ‘The Temple of Diana’, has yielded first century material with superimposed post-Roman structures. Burial cairns on Sizergh Fell and bracelets and other finds in a cave at Haverbrack provide evidence of a native population, continuing the Iron Age way of life, in the area during the Romano-British period (Satchel 1983, 31).
- 1.3.16 **Early Medieval Period:** as is the case throughout Cumbria, evidence for early medieval activity is extremely limited. Once the administration of Rome was finally rescinded *c* AD 410, the ‘native’ Britons reverted to autonomous rule, with the Kendal area perhaps becoming part of the British Kingdom of Rheged (Kirby 1962). From the early seventh century onwards the expanding kingdom of Northumbria began to influence the area, and a fragment of an Anglian cross, discovered in Trinity Church, Kendal, is one of the few tangible pieces of evidence relating to this period (Collingwood 1904). Kenyon (1991, 72 fig 3.2) credits nearby Cartmel as a British lordship, from the reference to King Ecgfrith of Northumbria endowing St Cuthbert with Cartmel ‘and all the Britons within

it' in AD 677, related in the twelfth-century history of Cuthbert by Simeon of Durham (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 2, 4).

- 1.3.17 During and after this time, land use within the assessment and wider area seems to have been largely pastoral; Bryant's Gill, Kentmere, dating to the eighth century and consisting of a rectangular, stone-footed structures, is perhaps typical of contemporaneous farmsteads encountered in the uplands of the region (Dickinson 1985). Population movements from Scandinavia eventually led to the settlement of people of Hiberno-Norse extraction in Cumbria by the tenth century (Higham 1986, 330). The placename evidence (Smith 1967) indicates the influence of these people in the landscape throughout Cumbria, both settling new areas and also integrating into the local population (Fellows-Jensen 1985, 80). Norse cultural evidence, however, is rare from the immediate environs of the study area, although a pattern welded sword found near Whitbarrow in 1898 is one of only a few finds (Edwards 1998). Four skeletons were also discovered near Levens in 1911, which have been attributed, on somewhat doubtful evidence, to the early medieval period (McKenny-Hughes 1912, 403).
- 1.3.18 **Later Medieval and Post-medieval Periods:** the manor of Levens is one of the few in Cumbria to appear in the Domesday Book, where it is called 'Lefuenes', and listed as a subsidiary to Beetham, being in the possession of Roger de Poitou, and held by Earnwine the Priest (Faull and Stinson 1986, 30 w40). Little is known of the manor subsequent to this, until the construction of the present Levens Hall in the Elizabethan period. The history of the village of Levens is even less certain; it lies within the manor of Levens and was originally known as Beathwaite Green. This name is probably of Danish origin meaning Bega's clearing, but was changed to Levens at some point in the early twentieth century (McKenny-Hughes 1912, 405). Little of the architecture of the village is of great antiquity and it is possible that its foundation relates to shrinkage in the boundaries of Levens Park.
- 1.3.19 In the Lyth valley area, settlement was, as previously, concentrated around the margins of the wetland areas. These lowland areas provided a source of peat, which was the principal domestic fuel (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 50). By the eighteenth century, peat was not only used for domestic needs, but also industrial purposes, such as fuel for lime kilns and, in conjunction with charcoal, for the firing of an iron furnace at nearby Leighton Beck in the 1730s (*op cit*, 51).
- 1.3.20 Between 1803 and 1843 a series of acts were passed which effectively established the modern landscape of the Lyth Valley through the implementation of a system of drainage which would both drain the mosses and act as a drain for the surrounding hard land. This drainage work included the raising of the river banks and the insertion of two sluices at the east and west of the River Gilpin, which emptied the waters into the River Kent (*op cit*, 53). This had the effect of creating a large area suitable for cultivation and the farms of Gilpin Bank and Lords Plain Farm were created by Levens Hall in 1808 (*ibid*).
- 1.3.21 The Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record holds 12 entries for the village of Levens, mostly of post-medieval date. Six of the Sites and Monuments Records are for quarries (SMR 12902-3, 12905, and 12924-6) of which five are datable to the nineteenth century. Other sites of interest include a field system

associated with ridge-and-furrow ploughing, which may be indicative of a medieval date (SMR 14906). A brick bake oven has also been identified at Greengate Farmhouse (SMR 6851) that probably dates to the eighteenth century.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 2*) was submitted by OA North in response to a project brief (*Appendix 1*) from Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES). The main aim of the investigation was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any buried archaeological remains surviving *in-situ* and liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An overall evaluation area encompassing the footprint of the new buildings was implemented to achieve this objective. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, generally accepted as best practice.

2.2 FIELDWORK

2.2.1 The site was investigated by mechanically stripping an area approximately 115m² as shown in Figure 2. Since the plot of land to the north (7 Nelson Square) had yielded five late Iron Age burials, the potential for further inhumations was good. Stripping the entire evaluation area rather than trenching it would establish for certain the presence or absence of further burials.

2.2.2 Excavation of the uppermost levels of topsoil and subsoil material was undertaken by a 3-tonne machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. This revealed the underlying limestone bedrock. The work was supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist. Spoil from the excavation was stored adjacent to the trench, with the topsoil eventually being transported off site for use as garden soil. Any finds identified within the topsoil were collected (*see section 3.2.7*).

2.2.3 Thereafter, the area was cleaned manually, using hoes initially followed by trowels, to expose the bedrock and define any possible features more clearly. All features of archaeological interest were investigated by careful manual excavation and recorded. The discrete features were fully excavated to ensure that no human remains were within them. All excavation was undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features which appeared worthy of preservation *in-situ*.

2.2.4 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.

2.2.5 The results of the evaluation were recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets. The site archive includes a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale. All artefacts and ecofacts were recorded using the same system, and were handled and stored according to standard practice

(following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.

2.2.6 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts was maintained and general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation were generated. Photography was undertaken using 35mm cameras on archivable black and white print film and colour transparency, and all frames included a visible, graduated metric scale. Extensive use of digital photography was made throughout the course of the fieldwork for presentation purposes. Photographic records were maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

2.2.7 ***Finds policy:*** all finds were exposed, lifted, cleaned, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition). All identified finds and artefacts were retained from all material classes; these were hand collected from stratified deposits.

2.3 ARCHIVE

2.3.1 The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct. As such a full archive of this project has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with current guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The project archive includes summary processing and analysis of all features and finds recovered during fieldwork, which will be catalogued by context. OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects and a copy of the report with the appropriate County Record Office, (Kendal) and the material finds, subject to discussion with the legal owner, will be deposited with the nearest museum, to meet the Museums and Galleries Commission Guidelines (MGC 1992), situated in Kendal. A copy of this report, together with an index to the archive, will be given to the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (the index to the archive and a copy of the report), and an archaeological fieldwork record form will be forwarded for deposition to the National Monuments Record.

3. EVALUATION RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The following section details the results obtained from the evaluation, and is presented in trench order. Full context descriptions can be found in *Appendix 3*.

3.2 EVALUATION AREA

3.2.1 The area (Plate 1) had maximum dimensions of 14m by 12.4m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6m (9.44m aOD), (Figs 2 and 3). The area was located towards the southern end of the plot, approximately 9.5m from the boundary with 7 Nelson Square to the north.

3.2.2 The earliest deposit seen within this trench was the underlying geology *111* (Plate 2). This comprised limestone pavement extending beyond the limit of the excavation. This was blocky in nature, the blocks (clints) formed by the weathering of joints in the rock, which created fissures (grykes). The overall orientation of the clint and gryke formation was north-east / south-west.

3.2.3 Above this layer was a subsoil (*101*). This comprised a mid-orange -brown silty clay that contained less than 10% small-sized sub-angular stones. The material had a fine texture consistent with a water-lain deposit that had gradually accumulated as it was eroded downslope. The deposit was only located along the southern and eastern parts of the evaluation area, which was at greater depth.

3.2.4 Truncating subsoil *101*, were two features, *105* and *108*, the remains of intrusions, possibly pits (Fig 3). Both were approximately 0.6m in length and width, with *105* being 0.25m deep (Plate 3) and *108* only 0.12m deep. The pits were sub-square in plan, reflecting the surrounding blocky nature of the bedrock into which they were cut. The fills (*104* and *107*) were both similar to *101* but slightly more mixed and darker. Fill *107* in pit *108* contained one sherd of post-medieval pottery, dated to the seventeenth/eighteenth century.

3.2.5 Truncating the bedrock and aligned north-east/south-west along the western side of the site were two postholes, *103*, *110* (Plate 4) and a third that was not excavated as it still contained a modern wooden post. They were of similar dimensions (approximately 0.3m in length and width and, where excavated, were 0.15m in depth). The postholes were sub-square in plan, due to the nature of the bedrock. Of the excavated postholes, *103* in the north had vertical sides while *110* had stepped sides. The fills (*102* and *109*) were loose, dark grey sandy silts that appeared to be fairly recent; *102* filling *103* contained a complete, degraded iron nail. The postholes were 2.2m apart and probably formed part of a modern/late post-medieval fence line.

3.2.6 In the south-eastern part of the evaluation area was a thin layer (*106*) of pale grey crushed stone fragments. The layer was clearly modern in date.

3.2.7 Overlying this layer and above the fills of all the features was the topsoil, *100*, which consisted of a dark brownish black silty clay. In total, four ?goose

skeletons (*112-115*) were found within the upper part of the topsoil. These were of very recent date, one (*113*) having a plastic leg tag still present. A single sherd of medieval pottery and several sherds of post-medieval pottery were also retrieved from the topsoil.

3.3 FINDS

- 3.3.1 In total, 34 artefacts were recovered during the excavation, the majority of which were fragments of pottery, with three fragments of iron, and three fragments of ceramic building material. The majority of finds were recovered from the topsoil *100*. A sherd of pottery came from pit fill (*107*) and an iron nail from posthole fill (*102*).
- 3.3.2 All artefacts are tabulated in *Appendix 4* and, generally, date to the post-medieval period, more specifically from the late eighteenth to late nineteenth centuries. The exceptions were a small fragment from the body of a vessel from the medieval period, distinctive with its pale green glaze, found in the topsoil *100*, and a sherd of seventeenth to eighteenth century, probable trailed slip ware, from pit fill *107*.
- 3.3.3 The pottery fragments represent a small domestic assemblage, including many black and brown-glazed red earthenware kitchenware vessels such as crocks and pancheons. The tableware present included a tiny amount of dinnerware such as the blue transfer pattern 'Willow', and vessels decorated with a blue shell edge.
- 3.3.4 There was also a small amount of animal bone from topsoil *100*, including four goose skeletons (*112-115*).

4. INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.1 INTERPRETATION

- 4.1.1 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological deposits or features. The only features encountered were the postholes for a modern fence and two unremarkable pits, which, at the latest, date to the post-medieval period. This is in contrast to the results for 7 Nelson Square to the north, which, occupying a higher elevation, seems to have been favoured as a burial site in the late Iron Age. It can be concluded that the cemetery is most likely confined within a discrete area and does not extend down the slope.
- 4.1.2 The presence of the moderate amount of pottery recovered, including a single sherd of medieval pottery and several sherds of eighteenth to nineteenth century wares, is consistent with the location of the site within Levens village. The assemblage can not be used to determine the function of the site in the past.

5. IMPACT

5.1 IMPACT

- 5.1.1 The results of the evaluation demonstrated no survival of significant archaeological remains within the footprint of the new buildings.
- 5.1.2 The archaeological significance of the building footprint would appear to be low, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

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APPENDIX 1
PROJECT BRIEF

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

CHURCH ROAD, LEVENS, CUMBRIA

Issued by the

County Archaeology Service

Environment Division, Community Economy and Environment



COUNTY COUNCIL

Date of Brief: 09 November 2006

This Design Brief is only valid for 1 year after the above date. After this period the County Archaeology Service should be contacted. Any specification resulting from this Brief will only be considered for the same period.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY

Site: Church Road, Levens

Grid Reference: SD 4851 8568

Planning Application No.: 5/05/1433

Size of Evaluation Trench: approximately 115 square metres

Detailed proposals and tenders are invited from appropriately resourced, qualified and experienced archaeological contractors to undertake the archaeological project outlined by this Brief and to produce a report on that work. The work should be under the direct management of either an Associate or Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and any response to this Brief should follow IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavations, 1994. No fieldwork may commence until approval of a specification has been issued by the County Archaeology Service.

PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has been consulted by South Lakeland District Council regarding a planning application for two dwellings at Church Road, Levens.
- 2.2 The scheme affects an area of archaeological potential, as it lies adjacent to a site where five Iron Age crouched inhumations were excavated in 2003 (Oxford Archaeology North, 2004, *7 Nelson Square, Levens, Cumbria*, Excavation Assessment Report, unpublished report). Consequently, the County Historic Environment Service has advised that the applicant provide information concerning the potential impact of the proposal on archaeological remains. In order to provide this information an archaeological evaluation is necessary comprising the excavation of the area of the footprint of the proposed two dwellings of the site. If significant archaeological remains are revealed then further archaeological recording will be required in line with another design brief produced by this office.
- 2.3 This advice is given in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning) and with policy C19 of the South Lakeland Local Plan.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The remains of five crouched inhumations were excavated in 2003 in an adjacent plot of land (Oxford Archaeology North, 2004, *7 Nelson Square, Levens, Cumbria*, Excavation Assessment Report, unpublished report). This brief must be read in conjunction with that report. There was a lack of artefacts from the excavation but a radiocarbon date taken from one of the skeletons revealed that it originated in the late Iron Age. Such burials are unique in the North West of England.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- 4.1 Objectives

- 4.1.1 The evaluation should aim to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 4.2 *Work Required*
- 4.2.1 The site has already been the subject of a desk-based assessment and a synthesis of the results of the OAN 2004 report will need to be included.
- 4.2.2 The area of the footprint of the proposed two dwellings, approximately 115 square metres in extent, should be excavated by a mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless ditching blade and working under archaeological supervision. All archaeological features and deposits revealed in the area of excavation, except human burials (see 4.2.3) must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the County Historic Environment Service.
- 4.2.3 Human remains must be left in situ, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation should normally be permitted beyond that necessary to establish the date and character of the burial, and the County Historic Environment Service and the local Coroner must be informed immediately. If removal is essential, it can only take place under appropriate Department of Constitutional Affairs and environmental health regulations.
- 4.2.4 The following analyses should form part of the evaluation, as appropriate. If any of these areas of analyses are not considered viable or appropriate their exclusion should be justified in the subsequent report.
- ❖ A suitably qualified specialist should assess the environmental potential of the site through the examination of suitable deposits, including (1) soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and (2) the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits.
 - ❖ Advice is to be sought from a suitably qualified specialist in faunal remains on the potential of sites for producing bones of fish and small mammals. If there is potential, a sieving programme should be undertaken. Faunal remains, collected by hand and sieved, are to be assessed and analysed, if appropriate.
 - ❖ The advice from a suitably qualified soil scientist should be sought on whether a soil micromorphological study or any other analytical techniques will enhance understanding site formation processes of the site, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. If so, analysis should be undertaken.

SPECIFICATION

- 5.1 Before the project commences a specification must be submitted to, and approved by, the County Archaeologist.
- 5.2 Proposals to meet this Brief should take the form of a detailed specification prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd ed. 1991, and must include:
- ❖ A description of the excavation sampling strategy and recording system to be used
 - ❖ A description of the finds and environmental sampling strategies to be used
 - ❖ A description of the post excavation and reporting work that will be undertaken
 - ❖ Details of key project staff, including the names of the project manager, site supervisor(s), finds and environmental specialists and any other specialist sub-contractors to be employed
 - ❖ Details of on site staffing, expressed in terms of person days

- ❖ A timetable for the fieldwork and post-excavation assessment, with a projected timetable for the post-excavation analysis and publication
- 5.3 Any significant variations to the specification must be agreed by the County Archaeologist in advance.

REPORTING AND PUBLICATION

- 6.1 The archaeological work should result in an interim report, this should include as a minimum:
- ❖ A site location plan, related to the national grid
 - ❖ A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
 - ❖ A concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - ❖ A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and outline of the results obtained
 - ❖ A list of, and spot dates for, any finds recovered
 - ❖ A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and outline of the results obtained
 - ❖ The dates on which the project was undertaken
- 6.2 Three copies of this report should be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within six months of completion of fieldwork. This will be on the understanding that the report will be made available as a public document through the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 6.3 A summary report should also be submitted to the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society within one year of completion of fieldwork. If archaeological remains of significance are identified, one or more full reports should be also be published in a relevant period journal or national archaeological publication.
- 6.4 A copy of the full archive report should be submitted to the County Archaeology Service within two years of the completion of the fieldwork stage of the project.
- 6.5 *Cumbria SMR is taking part in the pilot study for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> must therefore also be completed as part of the project. Information on projects undertaken in Cumbria will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.*
- 6.6 *The involvement of the County Archaeology Service should be acknowledged in any report of publication generated by this project.*

THE ARCHIVE

- 7.1 An archive must be prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd ed. 1991, and arrangements made for its long term storage and deposition with an appropriate repository. A copy shall also be offered to the National Monuments Record.
- 7.2 The landowner should be encouraged to transfer the ownership of finds to a local or relevant specialist museum. In this case Kendal museum is the most likely repository. The museum's requirements for the transfer and storage of finds should be agreed before the project commences.
- 7.3 The County Archaeology Service must be notified of the arrangements made.

PROJECT MONITORING

- 8.1 One weeks notice must be given to Cumbria County Council's Archaeology Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 8.2 Fieldwork will be monitored by the Assistant Archaeologist on behalf of the local planning authority. Monitoring notes will be recorded on a standardised form, which will be completed following receipt of the final project report. Copies of the form will be forwarded to the contractor and their clients.

FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 9.1 All aspects of the excavation shall be conducted in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Code of Conduct* and the IFA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavations*.
- 9.2 It is the policy of the County Archaeology Service to ensure that the results of archaeological work in Cumbria are made available to the public through a variety of mediums. The presentation of the site is therefore encouraged through, where appropriate, the issue of press releases, a suitable 'open day' for visitors, and public displays and talks.
- 9.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to establish safe working practices in terms of current health and safety legislation, to ensure site access, and to obtain notification of hazards (eg. services, contaminated ground, etc.). Before commencing work a risk assessment must be carried out to ensure all potential risks are minimised. **The County Archaeology Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this Brief or subsequent specification.**

APPENDIX 2
PROJECT DESIGN

December 2006

Oxford

Archaeology

North

CHURCH ROAD,

**LEVENS,
CUMBRIA**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr Parsons, for an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land at the Church Road, Levens, Cumbria.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 A planning application has been submitted to South Lakeland District Council for two dwellings at Church Road, Levens. The proposed development lies adjacent to a site at 7, Nelson Square, which was investigated by a recent excavation (OA North 2004) that revealed five crouched inhumations set into the limestone. A radiocarbon date from one of the skeletons demonstrated it was Late Iron Age, a unique find in the region and such sites have been identified in the North West Regional Archaeological Research Framework as of prime importance for investigation and analysis (Hodgson and Brennand 2005 and 2006).

1.1.2 As a result of this excavation, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has recommended that an archaeological evaluation of the adjacent Church Road site is necessary, due to the potential presence of significant archaeological remains (CCCHES 2006). A written evaluation report will also be required to assess the significance of the data generated by this evaluation within a local and regional context.

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH (OA NORTH)

1.2.1 OA North has considerable experience of the evaluation and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 20 years. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OA North is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, number 17, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct. OA North were involved in all aspects of the archaeological fieldwork and assessment incurred as a result of the adjacent development at 7, Nelson Square.

1.3 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

1.3.1 The results of the evaluation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.

1.3.2 The paper archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site should be deposited with the Cumbria Record Office (here at Kendal) and the finds with Kendal Museum, as this is the nearest museum which meets MGC criteria for the long term storage of archaeological material. A copy will be offered to the National Monument Record.

1.3.3 Any burials, encountered during the evaluation phase of the project will initially be left *in situ*. Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to the receiving museum, subject to the landowner's permission being granted.

1.3.4 A synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and a copy of the evaluation report) will be deposited with the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (see 2.2.2-3).

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 ACADEMIC AIMS

- 2.1.1 The aim of the evaluation will be to effectively characterise any archaeological remains discovered, and present this information in a format suitable for informing any future programme of archaeological excavation that should be deemed necessary.

2.2 REPORT PRODUCTION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

- 2.2.1 The site records, finds and any samples from the excavation programme outlined below will form a checked and ordered site archive as outlined in the English Heritage guideline document *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd edition, 1991b) (hereafter MAP 2).
- 2.2.2 There are two possible scenarios for reporting the site, with different costing implications (both cost are given in Section 7). If no inhumations are detected in the evaluation, then a standard MAP2 evaluation report will be produced on the completion of the fieldwork. A copy will be supplied to the client and two copies will be deposited with the archive.
- 2.2.3 However, if inhumations are detected, then it is anticipated that all parties will prefer to avoid any unnecessary delay, and that the evaluation will proceed directly to excavation. In this case, subject to agreement with the client and the Assistant Archaeologist, a brief interim report, which is sufficiently detailed to inform the development of an appropriate excavation strategy, will be produced immediately and circulated to all parties. Instead of being published separately, the detailed results of the evaluation will be included as part of a revised post-excavation assessment report (an original report for the work to date has already been produced (OA North 2004)), and the costs for this will be agreed as part of the excavation design.

3 METHODS STATEMENT

3.1 The following work programme is submitted in line with the aims and objectives summarised above.

3.2 Prior to the fieldwork commencing OA North will contact the client to obtain any information relating to live services on the site.

3.3 FIELDWORK

3.3.1 The area of investigation will be the footprint of the proposed new build and will entail the excavation of approximately 115m². The topsoil and any overburden will be mechanically removed; the uppermost levels of modern overburden material will be undertaken in successive, level spits, by a machine fitted with a wide, toothless ditching bucket to the level of the significant archaeological resource or the underlying limestone bedrock. The work will be supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist on the first day of the project. Spoil will be stored adjacent to the excavation, outside of the impact area.

3.3.2 Thereafter, the area will be selectively cleaned by hand; except for any large homogenous deposits which are suitable for excavation by machine. Pits and postholes will be subject to a 50% by volume controlled stratigraphic excavation, with the remainder of the feature, should it prove necessary to be removed in entirety, excavated quickly keeping only that dating evidence which is securely derived from the feature in question. Burials will be left *in situ* and protected, after initial identification and characterisation.

3.3.3 Linear cut features, such as ditches and gullies, will be subject to a 10-20% by volume controlled stratigraphic excavation, with the excavation concentrating on any terminals and intersections with other features which would provide important stratigraphic information. As with pits and postholes, should it prove necessary to remove the remainder of the feature to expose underlying features and/or deposits, it will be excavated quickly keeping only that dating evidence which is securely derived from the feature in question.

3.3.4 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.

3.3.5 It should be noted that no archaeological deposits will be entirely removed from the site unless their excavation is necessary for reasons of artefact/sample recovery or to reveal other features and/or deposits. If the excavation is to proceed below a depth of 1.2m then the sides will be stepped in.

3.3.6 **Recording:** all information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, 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.

3.3.7 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 (1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same 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.

3.3.8 **Environmental Sampling:** environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from suitable deposits (ie. the deposits are reasonably well dated and are from contexts the derivation of which can be understood

with a degree of confidence). An additional cost may be incurred, if certain kinds of palaeoenvironmental deposit are encountered that may require specialist analysis - as set out in the Project Brief (CCCHES 2006). These potential costs have been identified as a contingency and are set out in Section 7.

- 3.3.9 **Dating Methods:** the deposits sampled during the evaluation will be assessed for their potential for radiocarbon and archaeomagnetic dating, and costs for such work have been identified as a contingency (Section 7). The contingency costs allow for two accelerator dates, which would be undertaken under the supervision of Dr Gordon Cook at the Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre at East Kilbride. It should be noted that this does not include any inhumations that may be identified in the evaluation, as it is envisaged that costs for radiocarbon dating these would be included within any subsequent excavation design.
- 3.3.10 If necessary, access to conservation advice and facilities can be made available. OA North maintains close relationships with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, employs artefact and palaeoecology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.
- 3.3.11 The position of the excavation will be recorded using a Total Station and/or DGPS. The information will be tied in to OD.
- 3.3.12 **Human Remains:** there is a potential for prehistoric burials, as identified by the Project Brief (CCCHES 2006). During the evaluation, it is not proposed that OA North will carry out any excavation of human remains, beyond their initial identification and characterisation. The burials will then be covered and protected, and the CCCHES and the local Coroner informed immediately. If removal proves essential, it will only take place under appropriate Department of Constitutional Affairs and environmental health regulations.
- 3.3.13 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.
- 3.4 OTHER MATTERS**
- 3.4.1 Access to the site will be arranged via the Client.
- 3.4.2 Spoil removed from the excavation will be stored in the same area as the spoil removed in the initial machining of the site.
- 3.4.3 The client is asked to provide OA North with information relating to the position of live services on the site. OA North will use a cable detecting tool in advance of any machine excavation.
- 3.4.4 Normal OA North working hours are between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday, though adjustments to hours may be made to maximise daylight working time in winter and to meet travel requirements. It is not normal practice for OA North staff to be asked to work weekends or bank holidays and should the client require such time to be worked during the course of a project, a contract variation to cover additional costs will be necessary.
- 3.5 HEALTH AND SAFETY**
- 3.5.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers

(1991). OA North will liaise with the client to ensure all health and safety regulations are met. A risk assessment will be completed in advance of any on-site works.

3.6 CONTINGENCIES

- 3.6.1 Due to the presence of Iron Age inhumations in near proximity to this site, there is the possibility that other features associated with the cemetery may occur. There may be a requirement to effectively date these, with radiometric or archaeomagnetic techniques, even if no further burials occur. Similarly, a possibility exists that certain palaeoenvironmental deposits might occur, which the Project Brief (CCCHES 2006) requires undergo specialist analysis. For the purposes of the present costing, it is assumed that there will be no such features or deposits in the evaluation. If they do occur, there may need to be a corresponding increase in costs, which will be subject to agreement with the client and the Assistant Archaeologist.
- 3.6.2 Thus, in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists guidance, these contingency costs, to cover variation from those circumstances that are predictable from the earlier excavation results are defined in the costings section (Section 7).

4 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

4.1 STAFF PROPOSALS

- 4.1.1 Day to day management of the project will be undertaken by **Fraser Brown** (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 4.1.2 The excavation will be directed by either an OA North Project Officer or Project Supervisor. OA North Project Officers or Project Supervisors are experienced field archaeologists who have undertaken supervision of numerous small- and large-scale evaluation and excavation projects.
- 4.1.3 The site director will be assisted by two archaeological assistants.
- 4.1.4 The processing and analysis of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be carried out by **Elizabeth Huckerby BA, MSc** (OA North project officer), who has extensive experience of the palaeoecology of the North West, having been one of the principal palaeoenvironmentalists in the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.
- 4.1.5 Assessment of any finds from the excavation will be undertaken by **Chris Howard-Davis**. Assessment of the skeletal material will be by **Ceri Boston**.

4.2 PROGRAMMING

- 4.2.1 It is anticipated that a four day period will be required to carry out the evaluation of the 115m² area. This will commence on the first day with the removal, by machine, of the modern overburden material, under the archaeological supervision of the excavation director. The site will then be subject to cleaning and investigation, by a team of three people including the excavation director.
- 4.2.2 Processing and analysis of palaeoenvironmental samples is dependent on the presence of environmentally sensitive deposits and the number of samples that it is necessary to take, and so can not be predicted at this stage (see 3.6.1).
- 4.2.3 The project archive will be compiled and a MAP 2-style evaluation report will be produced following the completion of the fieldwork (but see 2.2.2-3). A copy will be sent to the client and a further two copies to the Assistant Archaeologist.

5. PROJECT MONITORING

- 5.1 The project will be monitored by the Assistant Archaeologist, who will be kept informed of commencement of the work.
- 5.2 A preliminary meeting/discussion will be held with the Assistant Archaeologist at the commencement of the project. Further meetings/discussions will be held during the course of the fieldwork, on completion of the fieldwork and commencement of the assessment, on completion of the assessment, and on completion of the analysis and final publication report detailing the results of the excavation.
- 5.3 OA North will ensure that any significant results are brought to the attention of the Client and the Assistant Archaeologist as soon as is practically possible.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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 APPENDIX 3 CONTEXT LIST

CONTEXT NUMBER	Description
<i>100</i>	Topsoil
<i>101</i>	Subsoil
<i>102</i>	Fill of modern posthole <i>103</i>
<i>103</i>	Cut of modern posthole
<i>104</i>	Fill of post-medieval pit <i>105</i>
<i>105</i>	Cut of post-medieval pit
<i>106</i>	Layer of crushed stone, modern
<i>107</i>	Fill of post-medieval pit <i>108</i>
<i>108</i>	Cut of post-medieval pit
<i>109</i>	Fill of modern posthole <i>110</i>
<i>110</i>	Cut of modern posthole
<i>111</i>	Natural geological bedrock
<i>112</i>	?Goose skeleton within topsoil, modern
<i>113</i>	?Goose skeleton within topsoil, modern
<i>114</i>	?Goose skeleton within topsoil, modern
<i>115</i>	?Goose skeleton within topsoil, modern

APPENDIX 4 FINDS SUMMARY

Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Date range
100	6	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware (coarseware)	Late seventeenth - late nineteenth century
100	3	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware (coarseware)	Late seventeenth - late nineteenth century
100	9	Pottery	White-glazed white earthenware	Eighteenth to nineteenth centuries
100	4	Pottery	Transfer-printed wares	Eighteenth to nineteenth centuries
100	2	Pottery	Trailed Slip ware ?	Eighteenth to nineteenth centuries
100	2	Pottery	Unident degraded	Post-medieval
100	1	Pottery	Creamware ?	Eighteenth to nineteenth centuries
100	3	Pottery	Buff-glazed stonewares	Eighteenth to nineteenth centuries
100	3	Ceramic building material	Drain or tile	Post-medieval
100	1	Pottery	Green-glazed	Twelfth to sixteenth centuries
107	1	Pottery	Trailed slip ware	Seventeenth to eighteenth century
112	10+	Animal Bone	?goose	-
113	10+	Animal Bone	?goose	-
114	10+	Animal Bone	?goose	-
115	10+	Animal Bone	?goose	-
100	7	Animal Bone	Small mammal	-
100	2	Iron	fragments	Post-medieval to modern
102	1	Iron	nail	Post-medieval to modern

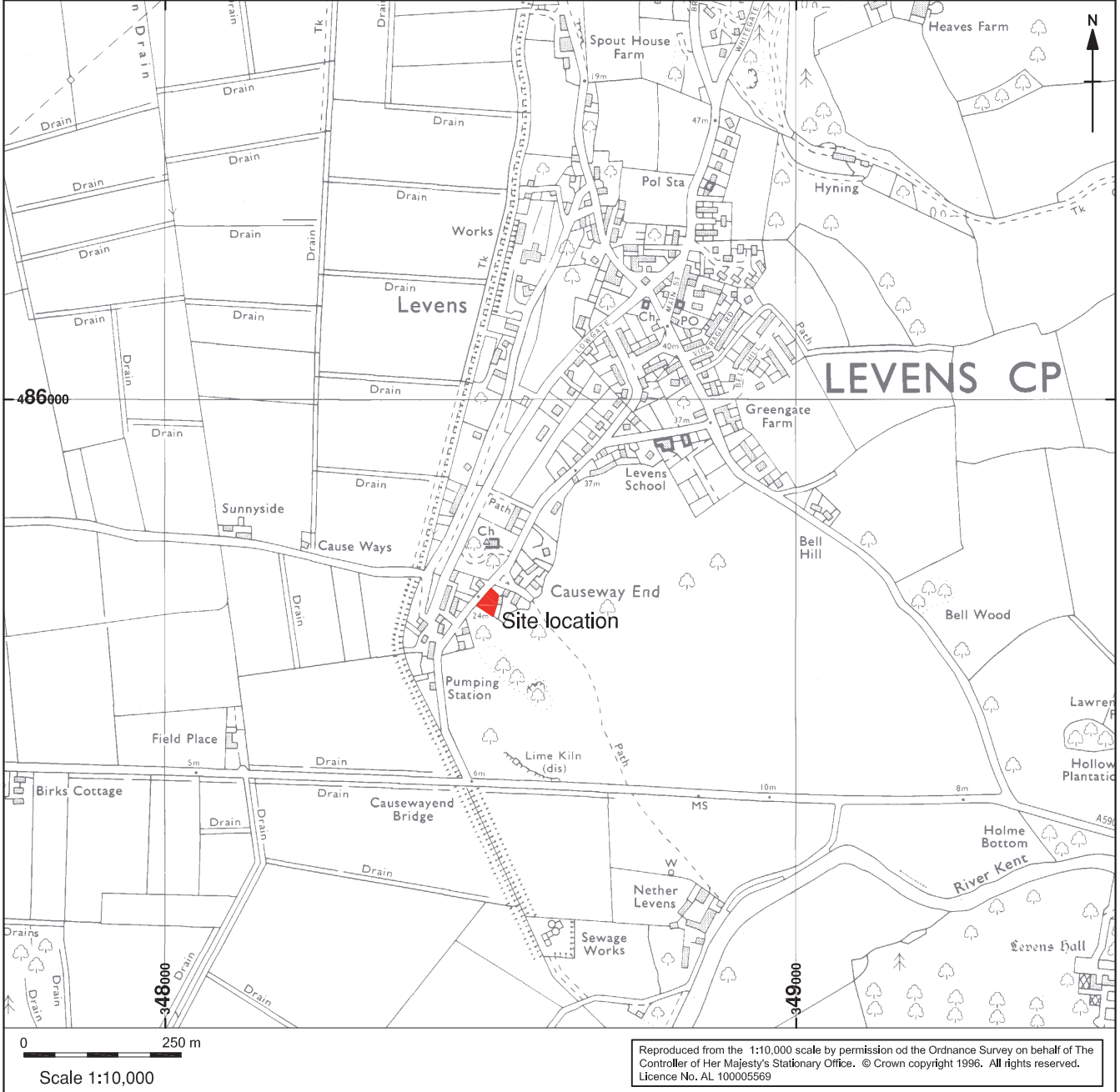
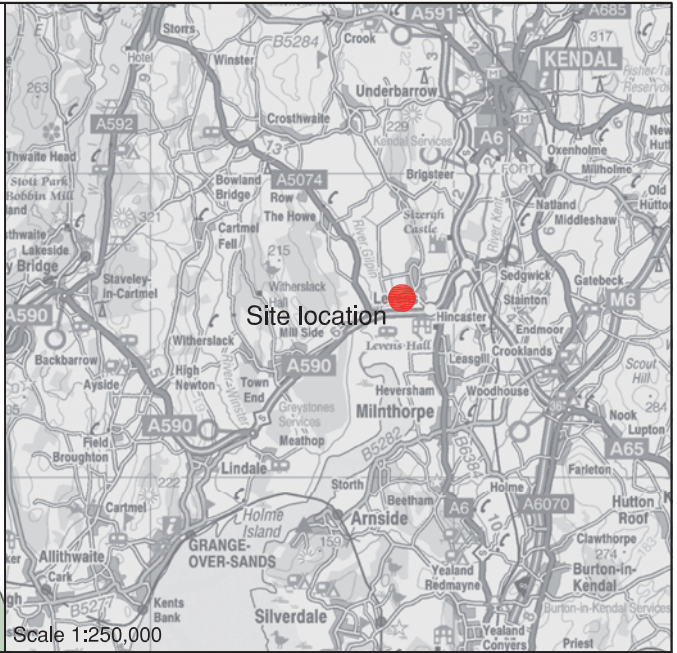
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Plate 3 Post-medieval pit **108**, post-excavation, looking west
Plate 4 Modern postholes, looking north



X:Fraser*L9819*Levens, Church Road*AMS*01.03.07

Figure 1: Site location

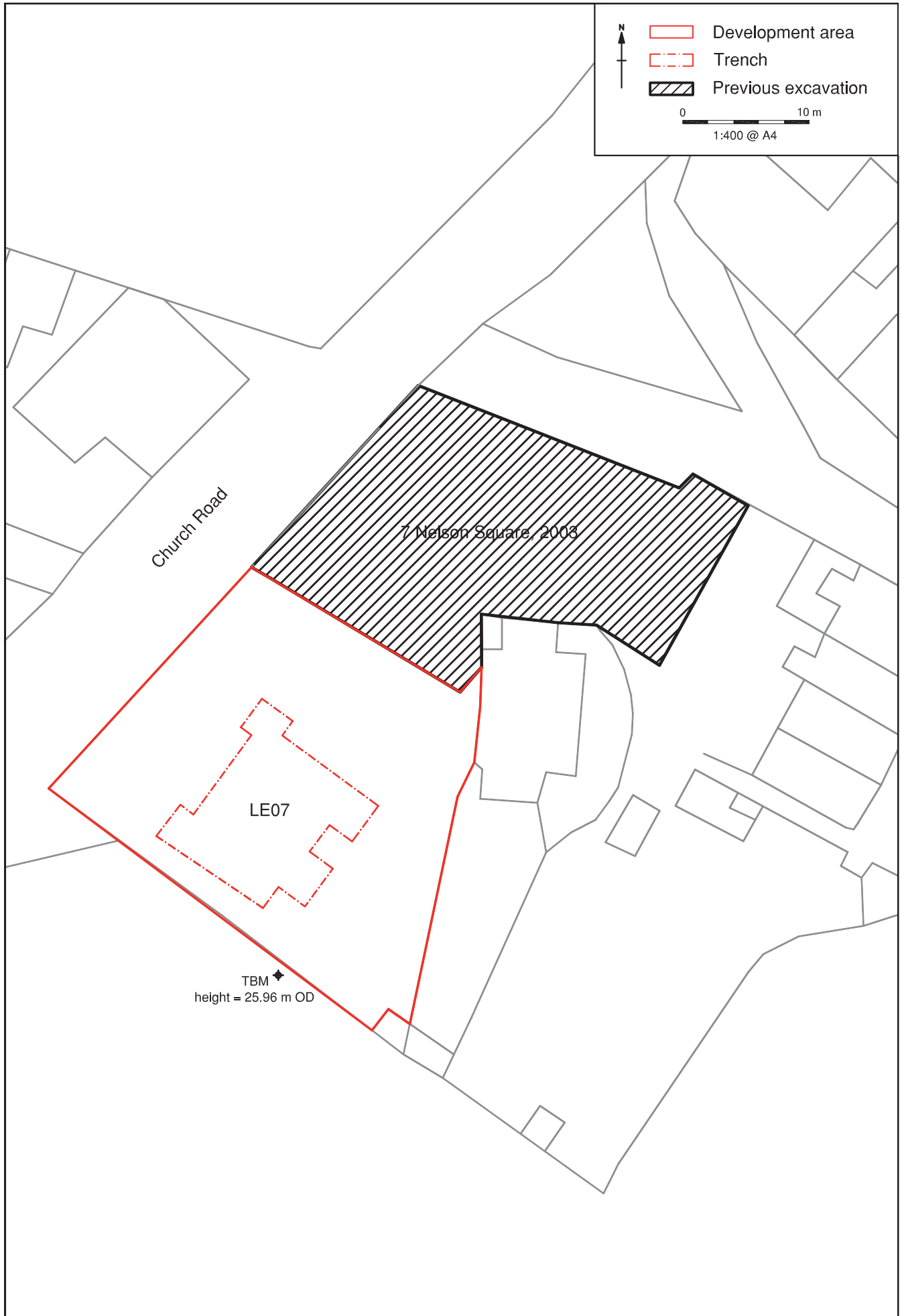


Figure 2: Detailed location map.

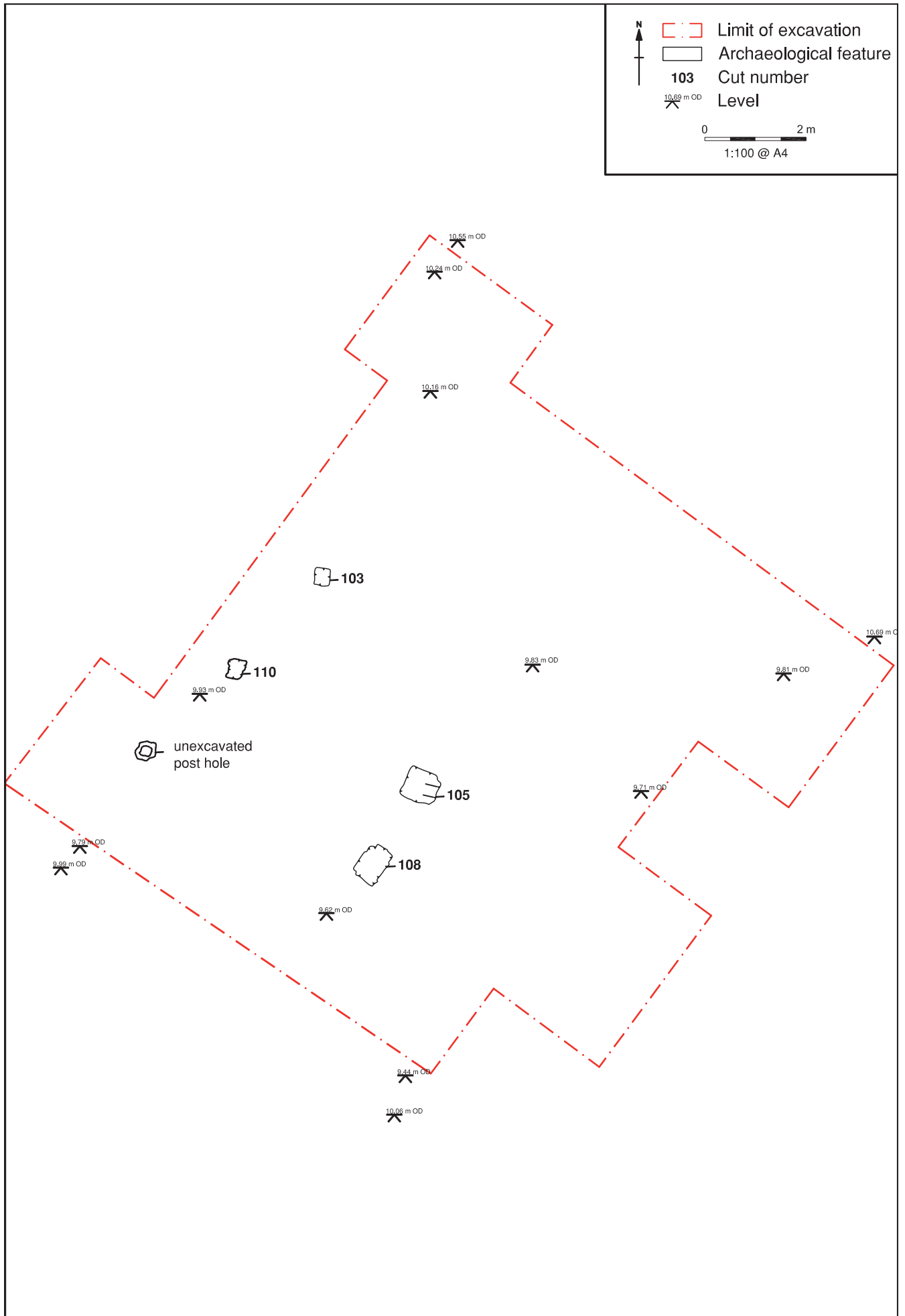


Figure 3: Plan of the excavation area showing features



Plate 1: evaluation area after stripping, looking south



Plate 2: evaluation area after manual cleaning, looking south



Plate 3: post-medieval pit *108*, post-excavation, looking west



Plate 4: modern postholes *103* and *110*, looking north