



LANCASHIRE ENTERPRISE ZONE, BAE SAMLESBURY, LANCASHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Oxford Archaeology North

January 2015

Lancashire County Council

Issue No: 2014-15/1603
OA North Job No: L10808
NGR: SD 626 314

Document Title: LANCASHIRE ENTERPRISE ZONE, BAE SAMLESBURY,
LANCASHIRE

Document Type: Archaeological Evaluation Report

Client Name: Lancashire County Council

Issue Number: 2014-15/1603
OA North Job Number: L10808
National Grid Reference: SD 626 314

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SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was instructed by Lancashire County Council (LCC) to undertake a programme of archaeological trial-trench evaluation on the proposed site of the Lancashire Enterprise Zone at BAE Samlesbury, Myerscough Smithy Road, Balderstone, Lancashire (NGR: SD 626 314). The proposed enterprise zone includes much of the eastern part of Samlesbury Aerodrome, and encompasses several archaeological sites, including six former farmsteads or tenements that are shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1848. Six evaluation trenches were agreed upon, each targeting domestic elements of the farmsteads or tenements. The fieldwork was completed over two weeks, in November and December 2014.

Trench 1 was situated over the putative remains of Lane Side (formerly Part of Pepper Hill); however, the land had become waterlogged, and had standing water over the entire location of the building. It was not practicable to excavate this trench at this time; however, a metal probe inserted into the ground at several locations around the trench footprint proved that there were still possible structural elements surviving beneath the ground. Trench 2, which targeted Little Yew Tree and Worstead Row, excavated the remains of several buildings and a cobbled surface. The trench had been moved slightly to accommodate modern services, but the remains can still be related to various external and internal dividing walls of a number of the domestic structures. Trenches 3 and 4 were situated over the location of Coblers, latterly Collins Bridge farmstead. Trench 3 was blank, which was surprising considering its position relative to the probable original farmhouse, and may indicate the structure has largely been destroyed. Structural remains in Trench 4 were massively truncated by modern services, making interpretation difficult, but probably relate to an outbuilding added sometime in the later half of the nineteenth century. Trench 5 targeted the remains of Yew Tree and contained relatively well preserved foundations relating to various aspects of the building. The footprint of the domestic building was observed, with an internal wall and a hearth, suggesting that this was a double pile building. Boulder foundations observed to the south-west are perhaps evidence of an earlier method of construction. The building to the west of this had been modified, with the addition of a cellar, but the footprint remained that shown on the earlier edition mapping. Trench 6 was intended to target the farmhouse of Old College, however, the eventual location was dictated by a modern bank, bounding a compound with storage buildings therein. The trench revealed remains of an outbuilding associated with the farm and a perimeter wall, but did not evaluate any of the domestic buildings.

The structures in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 6 were generally partial in nature; it would seem that the construction of the airfield had required the buildings to be almost completely flattened. No floor surfaces at ground level were observed (with the exception of the cobbles in Trench 2), which reiterates the almost complete demolition of the farmsteads. With this said several of the trenches could not be excavated in their intended position, while Trench 1 could not be excavated at all. The possibility therefore exists that further and perhaps more substantial remains relating to most of the locations under investigation still survive. The exception to this may be the site of Coblers Farm, where Trench 3 was excavated, more or less, exactly where the original farm building should have been, and largely failed to identify any substantive features. By comparison, Trench 5 was highly successful, identifying

reasonably well preserved structural elements attributable to Yew Tree Farm, which has origins in the late eighteenth century.

Based upon the results of the evaluation and map regression it would appear that the largely un-investigated site of Tanners, and the better sampled remains of Yew Tree, represent the earliest among the investigation sites, probably established some time in the early eighteenth century, if not earlier. In the case of Yew Tree, the structural remains identified were found to be relatively well preserved, and to comprise evidence for more than one phase of construction. The site of Coblers and perhaps Little Yew tree were probably established next, sometime towards the middle of the eighteenth century. Of the two sites, Little Yew Tree may be the better preserved, with little of the original building at Coblers identified by the trenching, although probable remains of late eighteenth-century outbuildings may still be represented. The remaining investigation sites of Worsted Row and Lane Side were probably established towards the end of the eighteenth century and certainly by the first quarter of the nineteenth century, although investigation of the physical remains of Lane Side was prevented.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North would like to thank Emma Prideaux and Kathryn Molloy of Lancashire County Council for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Doug Moir from Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS), and David Jackson and Rob Heminsley from BAE Samlesbury, as well as John Nelson from T. Clarke for facilitating the onsite works.

The evaluation was undertaken by Jeremy Bradley and Becky Wegiel, assisted by Alex Batey, Catherine Chapman, and Steve Clarke. The report was written by Jeremy Bradley, who also examined the finds, Becky Wegiel and Adam Tinsley. The drawings were produced by Mark Tidmarsh. The project was managed by Stephen Rowland, who, together with Adam Tinsley also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was commissioned by Lancashire County Council (LCC) to undertake a programme of archaeological trial-trench evaluation on the proposed site of the Lancashire Enterprise Zone at BAE Samlesbury, Myerscough Smithy Road, Balderstone, Lancashire (NGR: SD 626 314; Fig 1). The proposed enterprise zone includes much of the eastern part of Samlesbury Aerodrome, and encompasses several archaeological sites, including six former farmsteads or tenements that are shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848. These sites included:

- A farmstead originally listed as part of Pepper Hill, subsequently changed to the name of Lane Side, presumably with the break up of the former farm estate *c* 1893;
- The farmstead of Little Yew Tree, possibly established *c* 1786;
- The tenement block of Worsted Row, probably established *c* 1818;
- A farmstead originally listed as Coblers, probably established between 1720 and 1757, subsequently renamed Collins Bridge *c* 1893;
- The farmstead of Yew Tree, probably established *c* 1720;
- A farmstead originally listed as Tanners, subsequently renamed Old College *c* 1883.

1.1.2 In accordance with a specification from Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) (*Appendix 1*), the programme of evaluation sought to establish the presence and characteristics of the archaeological resource at each of the six historic sites, through the mechanical excavation of trial trenches. In addition a map regression exercise was undertaken to place the farmsteads within their historical context. This report sets out the results of the trenching in the form of a short document, outlining the findings and assessing the impact of the proposed development.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 **Location:** the proposed investigation area lies within the north-eastern part of the former RAF Samlesbury Aerodrome, now the site of BAE Samlesbury. The sites occupy grassland to the north of the runway system, and to the south of the modern internal road system. Samlesbury Aerodrome lies in the Ribble Valley, surrounded by the villages and hamlets of Balderstone, Osbaldeston, Samlesbury, and Mellor, with Preston some 9km to the west and Blackburn about 6km to the south-east.

1.2.2 **Topography:** the land was generally flat, boggy grassland. Large man-made banks (spoilheaps from modern construction) were present around the edges of

the development site. The landscape immediately surrounding Samlesbury Aerodrome is typical of the Lancashire Valleys Joint Character Area, with dispersed settlement, substantial farmsteads and farmhouses, and irregular pre-seventeenth-century enclosure (English Heritage 2006a, 36-37; Ede and Darlington 2002, 97).

- 1.2.3 **Geology:** the solid geology of the area consists of red and green mudstones covered by glacial drift, which consists of boulder clays (Countryside Commission 1998). The soil is generally of the Salop series, which is typical stagnogley (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1983).

1.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 **Introduction:** the historical and archaeological background presented below is not intended to be an exhaustive account, but rather to place the sites within their historical context. Further information can be found in the RSK desk-based assessment (2007).

- 1.3.2 **Prehistoric period:** the Ribble Valley has been the focus of human activity since prehistoric times. The earliest evidence dates to the Mesolithic period (when people practised an economy based generally on nomadic hunting, fishing and gathering) and includes a mattock fashioned from red deer antler and dated to c 5400 BC, which was found on the banks of the Ribble in Preston (Hunt 2003, 15). Although traditionally the Neolithic period is defined by the introduction of agriculture and more permanent settlement, in Lancashire, the Neolithic economy appears little different from that of the Mesolithic (Middleton 1996, 36–9). The closest Neolithic activity to the Samlesbury site comprises finds of single polished axes from the Ribble Valley at Penwortham and Samlesbury Bottoms, 11km and 3km, respectively, from the site (*op cit*, 44). Depositions of Bronze Age material are represented within the broader environs of the site, particularly in areas fringing the Ribble and its estuary. A large assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the construction of Preston Dock, some 11km to the west, which included human skulls, animal remains, two dugout canoes and a possible structure (Crosby 2000, 10–11; Middleton 1996, 46).

- 1.3.3 The Iron Age is notoriously under-represented in Lancashire (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 51; Haselgrove 1996, 61). This reflects the poor survival and identification of material of this date and the inherent difficulty of recognising potentially subtle regional site types (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 53; Cowell 2005, 75; Haselgrove 1996, 64), as much, if not more than, the often-quoted suggestion of a low population density (Haselgrove 1996, 64). The closest known Iron Age site to the excavation area lies approximately 11.5km to the north-east, at Portfield Camp in Whalley (Cowell 2005, 68–72), whilst an evaluation at Roman Way, Red Scar, some 6km to the north-east, revealed possibly pre-Roman ditches (Earthworks Archaeological Services 2001).

- 1.3.4 **Romano-British period:** Lancashire lies within the Roman military hinterland to the rear of the Hadrianic frontier. The Samlesbury site is located in an area that was linked by the Roman roads that pass between the late first-century

fort at Ribchester and the site at Kirkham (Buxton and Howard-Davis 2000; Howard-Davis and Buxton 2000), and between Wigan and Preston. The first of these roads passes within 3km of the site (Margary 1973, 106, Road 703), and was evaluated archaeologically in the area of the Red Scar Industrial Estate (LUAU 1995). The road comprised a 9m-wide cambered surface consisting of sub-rounded stones and cobbles overlain by fine gravels (*ibid*). The postulated route of the Roman road between Wigan and Preston (Margary 1973, 359, Road 70a) is likely to have passed through or close to Walton-le-Dale, approximately 7km downstream from the Aerodrome, close to the position of the current A6 (Philpott 2006, 60). Walton-le-Dale was a significant industrial centre during the Romano-British period and, considering its position within the riverine and road network, may have functioned as a part of a system of supply bases (*op cit*, 70; 75).

- 1.3.5 **Early medieval period:** archaeological evidence for early medieval activity in the wider locale is not particularly extensive, but is extremely significant: the largest Scandinavian hoard in north-west Europe was found at Cuerdale, 6km to the west of the proposed development area (RM Newman 1996, 103). The 40kg hoard, dated to c AD 905, comprised 75% hack silver, together with over 7250 coins, many minted in York (*ibid*; Newman 2006, 111). It has been suggested that the hoard, given its location so close to the Ribble, may have represented funds being gathered to finance a reinvasion of Ireland, following the expulsion of the Norsemen in AD 902 from the settlements they had founded there (*op cit*, 112). Despite their Old English names, there is no firm evidence that any of the surrounding smaller settlements (such as Osbaldeston, Balderstone and Samlesbury) have early medieval origins, although both Blackburn and Preston seem to have been the focus of activity prior to the Norman Conquest. Blackburn is named in the fourteenth century as the site of one of three early churches in east Lancashire, and was traditionally thought to have been founded in AD 598 (LCC 2005, 17), whilst the archbishop of York is reputed to have established a church at Preston as early as the tenth century (LCC 2006, 18). The place-name Preston derives from the Old English *Preosta* and *-tun*, meaning 'the priest's homestead'. By Domesday, Preston was the principal land holding (*caput*) within the area now known as the Fylde, whilst Blackburn was the centre of a hundred, thought to derive from a major early territorial division (LCC 2005).
- 1.3.6 **Medieval period:** both Preston and Blackburn are mentioned in Domesday Book and were important urban centres during the medieval period, with Preston becoming a chartered town by the thirteenth century (White 1996, 129) and Blackburn, perhaps some time later, given that the earliest reference to its market dates to 1498 (LCC 2005, 18). Samlesbury Aerodrome falls partially within the parishes of Balderstone and Samlesbury (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 313-19), with the old route of Myerscough Smithy Road (since supplanted by the modern A59 as the principal route between Preston and Blackburn) forming the parish boundary.
- 1.3.7 Away from the urban centres 'there is little evidence for the nature and morphology of Lancashire's rural settlement before the thirteenth century' (R Newman 1996, 114-16). From this date, it would appear that settlement to the

north-west, within the lowlands of Amounderness, tended to be more nucleated, whilst upland settlement remained dispersed. Samlesbury Aerodrome lies at the interface of these zones and, although settlement since the medieval period has intensified, the distribution and character of the surrounding scattered hamlets, farmsteads and occasional village, is unlikely to have changed greatly. Remains of an enclosed area, demarcated by an arc of field boundaries, is clearly visible on mapping as early as 1757 (LRO DDX 336/23), through to the first edition OS 6": 1 mile map. This has been mooted as the location of a medieval deer park (SMR 6585) approximately centred on Park Farm (first shown on the 1822 map (CRO(B) DDHj 12/3/1). The northern part of the park lies under the airfield, as illustrated by an aerial photograph from 1946 (NMR 3G/TUD/UK/188 frame 5394).

1.3.8 The area surrounding the development site is characterised as an area of ancient enclosure, which denotes field systems datable to before AD 1600 (Ede and Darlington 2002, 97). Areas of former ridge and furrow are evident from aerial photographs (mario.lancashire.gov.uk), whilst aratral earthworks preserved by field boundaries can be seen on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1848. Such aratral field boundaries are usually thought to represent ploughing with a team of oxen, the traditional medieval method, as seen in the fourteenth-century Luttrell Psalter for instance, rather than typically post-medieval horse traction (Backhouse 2000, 16-18). Within the manor of Balderstone, enclosed areas of pasture were mentioned in the thirteenth century (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 313-19). Virtually nothing is known of the type of buildings used in this part of Lancashire during the medieval period. Higham suggests that, whilst timber construction was the norm, even for some higher-status buildings, the vernacular building tradition might well have relied on turf- or clay-walled structures, which would leave little or no archaeological trace (Higham 2004, 136-7).

1.3.9 If little evidence survives of the farmers and their steadings, more ample evidence of higher-status sites does exist. Samlesbury Old Hall, to the south of the development area, is, along with Rufford and Smithills, one of the finest of the Lancashire halls (Pevsner 2002, 18, 216). The origins of Samlesbury Hall, which forms the centre of the manor of Samlesbury, are believed to lie in the fourteenth century (*ibid*).

1.4 MAP REGRESSION

1.4.1 *Speed's map of 1610* (not depicted due to poor clarity and resolution); represents the earliest cartographic source and indicates topographical features, the main settlements, such as Osbaldeston (although not nearby Mellor or Balderstone), churches and, particularly, the numerous halls, presumably indicating their status within the landscape. The nearest features depicted to the Samlesbury investigation sites are Samlesbury Old Hall and Osbaldeston, although the cartographer appears to have confused their locations. The map does not show the Samlesbury investigation sites, which implies either that they did not exist at that date, or, that common isolated farms were not considered important enough to warrant inclusion on the map. A surviving photograph held by the LRO depicting Tanners/Old College

shows a building seemingly of seventeenth-century date (Plate 1). It is therefore likely to be contemporary with a number of surrounding farms, such as Intack Cottage, Lower Intack Farm, Goose Green and Sykes Holt, which have seventeenth-century buildings surviving in varying states of occupation and dereliction (RSK 2007).



Plate 1: Tanners/Old College viewed toward the south

- 1.4.2 ***Cottam's 1757 copy of George Grey's 'Survey of Thomas Braddyll's estates in Lancashire and Yorkshire', c 1720 (LRO DDX 336/23)*** (Plate 2); only depicts the Samlesbury Estate. The map depicts the location of Coblers/Collins Bridge and Tanners/Old College as distinct blocks of fields (Plot 2 and 1 respectively), with a generic house symbol used to denote Tanners/Old Cottage only. It is notable that no buildings are depicted on the site of Coblers/Collins Bridge, although a 'Messuage (an area of land taken up by a house and its associated buildings and land; Coredon with Williams 2004, 191) & Barn/Fold Garden & fields Adjoining' are mentioned in the accompanying Valuation. This anomaly may reflect the fact that the 1757 map actually represents a copy of an earlier edition, which may not have updated the presence of structural remains, but instead simply focused upon defining land boundaries. If this were the case, it would suggest that Coblers/Collins Bridge farmstead was probably established at some time after 1720, but before 1757. The presence of Yew Tree farmstead may also be depicted north of the road and fixed by its position relative to the distinctive layout of several fields adjacent to the property, south of the road and west of Tanners/Old Cottage. It may be suggested that the site of Yew Tree farmstead potentially featured on the original map, and was subsequently copied over to the later edition. Consequently, the farm may have been established at a slightly earlier date to Coblers/Collins Bridge, probably before 1720.



Plate 2: Cottam's 1757 copy of George Grey's 'Survey of Thomas Braddyll's estates in Lancashire and Yorkshire', c 1720 (LRO DDX 336/23)

- 1.4.3 **Yates' map of 1786** (Plate 3); adds a little more detail to the picture, depicting not only more nucleated settlements, such as Mellor and Balderstone, minor topographic elements, such as the Mellor Brook (although un-named), but also, more relevantly, it names many (but not all) of the dispersed settlements. Though not named, the map probably depicts Higher College/College Croft and College Farm/Haydock, west of the junction between Woods Brow and Myerscough Smithy Road, which are clearly depicted. The sinuous nature of these roads, and the fact that Myerscough Smithy Road forms the parish boundary, would indicate that these routes are likely to be ancient elements of the landscape. In addition, four un-named farmstead are depicted immediately to the east of the road junction. The farmstead located furthest to the east of the group probably relates to Tanners/Old College. The triangle of farmsteads depicted between it and the junction therefore probably relate to Coblers/Collins Bridge, south of the road, with Yew Tree to its east and north of the road. It is unclear from the map if the third farmstead depicted in the group, towards the north-east, represents Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill), Little Yew Tree, or, less likely, Worstead Row. The material evidence recovered from Trench 2, relating to either Little Yew Tree and Worstead Row,

may indicate that the depiction on Yates' map favours the establishment of one of the buildings by this time, probably Little Yew Tree.



Plate 3: Yates' map of Lancashire 1786.

1.4.4 **Greenwood's map of 1818** (Plate 4); by comparison, depicts the same communication routes, in common with most of the surrounding dispersed settlements, but features much less detail than the Yates map. With this said, up to four individual dots are featured north of Myerscough Smithy Road, and east of the junction with Woods Brow. Whilst the quality and scale of the map renders any conclusions subject to some doubt, and does not allow for a detailed appraisal of the composition of any specific site, the presence of these four dots may indicate that Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill), Little Yew Tree, Worstead Row, and Yew Tree farm are all represented by this time. While Yew Tree, and probably Coblers farmstead, are therefore established at some time during the first half of the eighteenth-century, Yew Tree perhaps even earlier, the farmsteads of Lane Side (Pepper Hill) and Little Yew Tree, as well as Worstead Row are established during the second half of the century or first quarter of the nineteenth-century.



Plate 4: Greenwood's map of Lancashire 1818

- 1.4.5 *1822 estate map of land in the township of Samlesbury, belonging to Thomas Richmond Gale Braddyll Esq., surveyed by William Johnson, Manchester, 1822 (CRO(B) DDHj 12/3/1) (CRO DDHJ 12/3/1) (Plate 5);* once again, like their 1757 predecessor, the map is designed for the use of the Samlesbury Estate, and depict the farmsteads and fields of Tanners/Old College and now Coblers/Collins Bridge in detail. The farmstead of College Croft (formerly High College) and College Farm (formerly Haydocks) are also detailed. In addition, four other buildings are depicted but not named, north of Myerscough Smithy Road and the boundary of the estate. Given their position, the un-named sites almost certainly relate to Lane Side (formerly Part of Pepper Hill), Little Yew Tree, Worsted Row and Yew Tree. This appears to confirm observations made from Greenwood's map and the establishment of all featured farmsteads by the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The estate map does not feature any great detail relating to the farmsteads beyond the estate boundary. Coblers Farm is featured as a single building, with possible extensions to the rear, whilst Tanners (Old College) appears to comprise a developed series of buildings. This features a main structure arranged upon two axis, a main east/west-orientated section and a block extending north from the centre of the first, as depicted in Plate 1, as well as several possible outbuildings, one to the north and front of the main complex and a second, larger building, to the south-west and rear.



Plate 5: 1822 estate map of land in the township of Samlesbury, belonging to Thomas Richmond Gale Braddyll Esq., surveyed by William Johnson, Manchester, 1822 (CRO(B) DDHj 12/3/1) (CRO DDHJ 12/3/1)

1.4.6 **OS map of 1848** (Plate 6); the settlement pattern depicted by Greenwood and the subsequent estate map is mirrored, albeit in more detail, on the first edition OS map of 1848. This shows a mixture of ancient enclosure, typified by irregular fields with sinuous boundaries (Rackham 1986, 1-5), and more regular eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Parliamentary enclosure. The countryside is shown to be populated by hamlets and dispersed settlements, of which the investigation sites are exemplars. The map shows and names all the buildings being investigated as part of the present works; Lane Side (formerly Part of Pepper Hill), Little Yew Tree, Worsted Row, Coblers/Collins Bridge, Yew Tree and Tanners/Old College. There appears to be little significant change in the layout of either Tanners or Coblers, although a smaller outbuilding to the south-east of Coblers appears to have been added by this point. At this time Lane Side (Pepper Hill) is featured as a single building arranged east/west with a slight dogleg section to the north-east. Little Yew Tree features as a single square building with a possible small addition to its northern façade, while Worsted Row features as a single block with little other detail distinguished. The site of Yew Tree appears slightly more complex, with a main north/south block of buildings, perhaps dog-legging slightly in plan, and a second range extending east from its centre, possibly with minor outbuildings attached to each façade.



Plate 6: OS map of 1848.

1.4.7 *Estate map 1883 for the sale of Samlesbury Hall (DDX 90/17)* (Plate 7 and 8); the general plan of the estate features Coblers Farm as plot 6 and Tanners (Old College) Farm as plot 7, but provides little detail for either location and none relating to any of the other featured sites. A more detailed plan of the buildings and fields, along with the particulars of the farm buildings *etc.*, exists for Tanners/Old College (Plate 7). The plan identifies both ranges of building, extending east/west and north/south, although the detail varies slightly from the 1848 mapping. For example, the western extension to the main block (beyond the north/south range) does not feature, while the north/south block appears to extend south beyond the main east/west range. The overall layout of the main buildings, therefore, appears more compact to that depicted in 1848. Nor are the outbuildings to the front or rear of the complex featured. This may suggest that the farm underwent some remodelling during the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

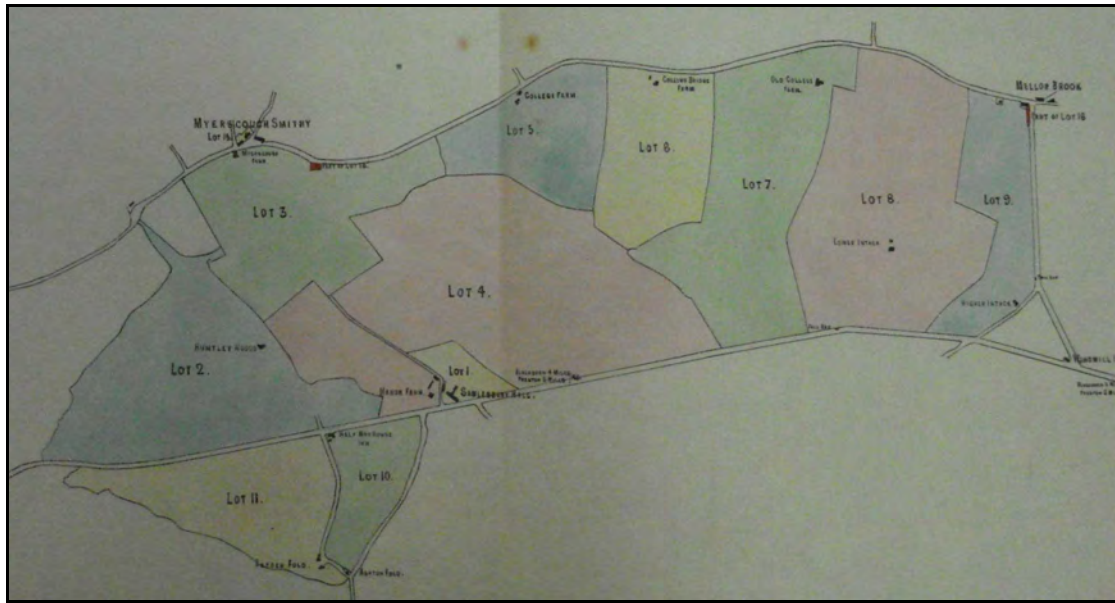


Plate 7: 1883 map of the individual plots featured in the sale of Samlesbury Hall

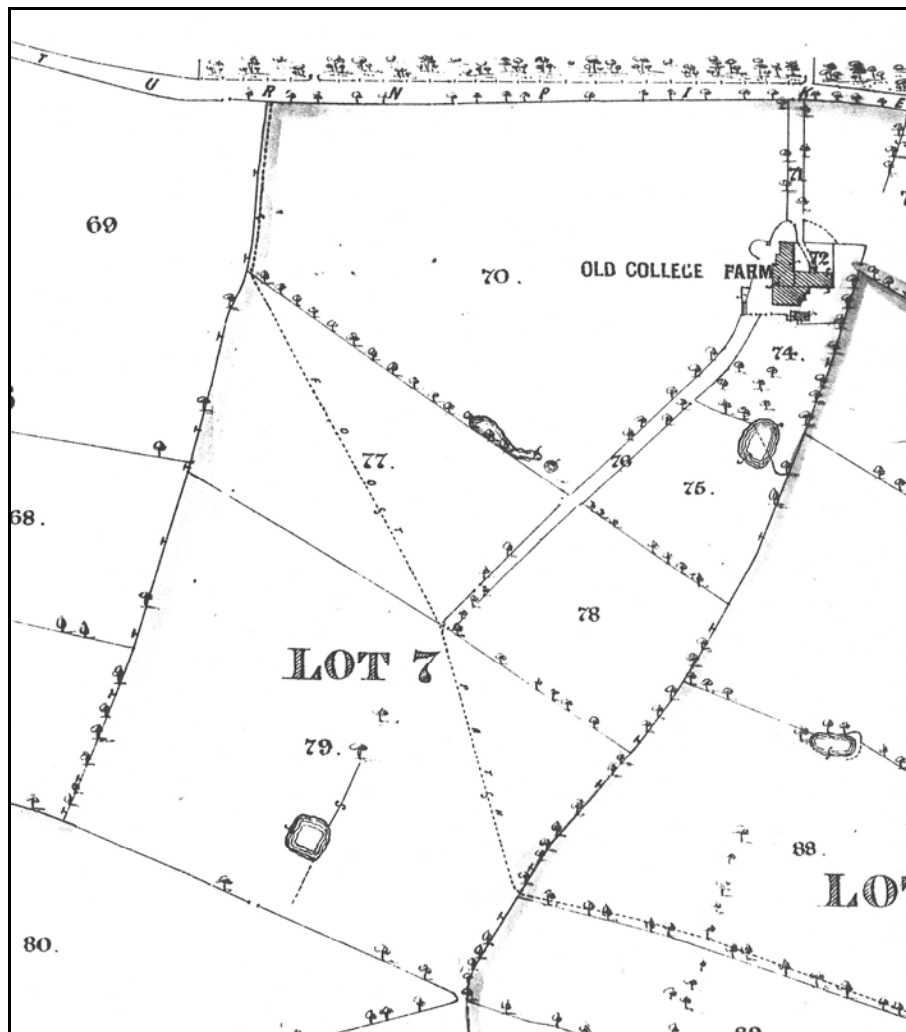


Plate 8: Detail of Tanners/Old College Farmstead featured in the 1883 sale of Samlesbury Hall estate

1.4.8 *OS map of 1893* (Plate 9); the map indicates that there has been some reorganisation of the landscape, notably the construction of Inglewood and its landscaped and planted gardens (just to the north-east of the study area, not illustrated), whilst there had also been some changes to the investigation sites. The farm formerly 'Part of Pepper Hill' is by this point renamed 'Lane Side', suggesting it has been separated from the main estate of Pepper Hill, just one of the many changes Pepper Hill had gone through at this time (OA North 2010). The building itself appears to be featured as two connected structures, but it is unclear if this relates to a real division of the property. Similarly, Little Yew Tree is depicted as two interconnected structures, although the census returns for the duration of the nineteenth century, indicate no such division in the household, and it is therefore difficult to interpret such minimal cartographic evidence. It is also depicted as more or less continuous with Worsted Row, although a clear field boundary appears to separate the two plots and probably indicates a break in the structures. Worsted Row is depicted as three adjoining properties within a single small field boundary. This tripartite division of the structures is born out in the census returns from the nineteenth century, which indicate three separate families, mainly occupied as weavers or labourers, resident in the properties (*Section 1.5.2*). The site of Coblers is now also identified as Collins Bridge and represented in slightly more detail than previous mapping. This comprises a substantial building to the south-east and two outbuildings to the north-west. This plan may reflect the addition of a substantial outbuilding to the south-east, while the original house is retained to the north-west but sections of adjoining buildings have subsequently been demolished and remodelled. Again, however, the certainty of this detail may not be relied upon. The site of Yew Tree and Tanners, by comparison, appear to indicate no change in plan.



Plate 9: Extract from the OS map of 1893.

1.4.9 **OS map of 1911** (Plate 10); the map depicts greater detail of the individual sites than before, although, by and large, there are few changes to their overall makeup. The site of Lane Side is again depicted as two closely adjoining structures. In addition, the surrounding plot of land is depicted as being divided with a smaller, presumably garden, area surrounding the eastern structure. This may support the notion that the buildings have been divided between two separate households by this time, although alternatively it may simply reflect a more detailed plan of the site encapsulating a functional division, perhaps between a garden or vegetable plots and the wider farm yard. The greater detail of this plan confirms the division of Little Yew Tree from that of Worsted Row, indicated by the wider plot boundaries highlighted on the 1893 OS map. It also indicates that a large L-shaped structure has been erected to the rear of the main farm building, possibly an agricultural outbuilding. The three separate properties of Worsted Row are clearly depicted, each with distinct associated garden plots. Similarly, Coblers/Collins Bridge is depicted in some detail, illustrating the main building in much the same form and location as the previous map. Yew Tree and Tanners appear to have changed little.



Plate 10: Extract from the OS map of 1911

1.4.10 **OS map of 1925** (not illustrated); The final map in the sequence was produced in about 1925 to show the course of the redirected Myerscough Smithy Road (the A59) that subsequently skirts the northern edge of the proposed aerodrome (Highways Ministry c 1925). Very little change was noted, other than the possible subdivision of College Farm into two dwellings.

1.4.11 After this point the farmsteads at Samlesbury were demolished to make way for the construction of Samlesbury Aerodrome. Although initially conceived in 1922 as a municipal airfield for Blackburn and Preston, building of the aerodrome did not commence until 1939, after the site had been requisitioned by the Air Ministry, for the manufacture of bomber planes. The site was expanded in 1940 with the addition of the existing runway and, by the end of hostilities, there were five hangars, approximately 20 other ancillary structures, and three runways (Plate 12). The site continued as a manufactory

into the jet age, with further structures added to the complex throughout its usage (RSK 2007).



Plate 12: Aerial Photograph from 1946, showing the airfield at Samlesbury with the remaining portion of the deer park featured to the south (NMR 3G/TUD/UK/188 frame 5394)

| Site | Map Edition | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------|----------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| | 1757 | 1786 | 1818 | 1822 | 1848 | 1883 | 1893 | 1911 |
| Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill) | Not depicted | Possibly depicted | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Not depicted (outside of estate) | Depicted with name change to Lane Side | Named depiction |
| Little Yew Tree | Not depicted | Possibly depicted (excavated material may suggest this is more likely than Lane Side) | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Not depicted (outside of estate) | Named depiction | Named depiction |
| Worsted Row | Not depicted | Probably not depicted | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Not depicted (outside of estate) | Named depiction | Named depiction |
| Coblers/ Collins Bridge | Not depicted but identified by other documentary sources | Depicted | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Named depiction but no detail of layout | Depicted with name change to Collins Bridge and potential modification to structures | Named depiction |
| Yew Tree | Already established (probably prior to 1720) | Depicted | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Not depicted (outside of estate) | Named depiction | Named depiction |
| Tanners/ Old College | Already established (probably prior to 1720) | Depicted | Depicted | Depicted | Named depiction | Depicted. Detail may show modification to plan by this point | Named depiction | Depicted with name change to Old College |

Table 1: Summary of map regression findings

1.5 CENSUS RETURNS

1.5.1 **Little Yew Tree (west of Worsted Row):** census returns show that Margaret Ross and her son, George, lived in Little Yew Tree in 1841, with two children and worked as cotton weavers. In 1871, James Harrison, a farmer of nine acres, along with his wife and daughter, occupied Little Yew Tree. In 1881 and 1891 Thomas Bolton, a farmer, and his wife occupied Little Yew Tree, but by 1901 they had been replaced by Thomas Barton, a farmer, plus his family.

1.5.2 **Worsted Row:** four families are listed at Worsted Row in 1841, the heads of each working as cotton weavers. By 1871 there were three households within Worsted Row, comprising Elizabeth Noblett, a hand-loom cotton weaver; Henry Fullelove, a labourer, and his niece, a hand-loom cotton weaver, and four members of the Sharples family, all hand-loom cotton weavers. These

three families still occupied Worsted Row in 1881. By 1901 the row was occupied by Richard Bolton and his wife, both cotton weavers; Thomas Howarth, a labourer on the highway, plus his wife and stepson, who worked as a cotton spinner; and Margaret Sharples a housekeeper, who had two boarders.

- 1.5.3 ***Yew Tree (east of Worsted Row)***: in 1841 Yew Tree was occupied by Alice Grundy, a farmer and her six children. In 1851 she is listed as farming 15 acres and had two children living with her. By 1861 Alice, now age 75, was listed as farming 10 acres and had two children and two step-daughters living with her. One of her children worked as a hand-loom cotton weaver. By 1881 the farm, now of 17 acres, was being run by Alice's son Richard Grundy, who is also listed as a cattle dealer. Living with Richard, were his brother-in-law, a labourer on the highway, his sister and his niece, Alice, a hand-loom cotton weaver. By 1891, the Grundys had been replaced by Edward Cooper, a farmer, plus his wife and three children, who still occupied the farm in 1901.

1.6 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAMLESBURY AREA AND INVESTIGATION SITES IN THE POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- 1.6.1 The rural nature of the locale, with its mixture of small nucleated hamlets and dispersed farms, is reflected in the historical cartographic sources and is likely to show some continuity from the medieval period. The full extent of the historical record pertaining to the investigation sites is, however, not known, although it is possible that more information, certainly for the later post-medieval period, could be gained from further detailed examination of historical sources, such as trade directories and tithe awards.
- 1.6.2 Details from the 1826 and 1832 land tax assessments, and census returns between 1841 and 1901 were collated for the farms within the study area in Balderstone Parish, to build up a picture of the community. Some of the properties, such as Yew Tree, were consistently in use as farms. Other properties were occupied by farmers, whose families supplemented this income, typically through weaving. Some properties contained several households; typically one family ran the farm and other families had employment elsewhere, or worked within the buildings as weavers. Also in this area were tenements, occupied by several families, again predominantly occupied as weavers. The census returns for Worsted Row demonstrate that they were used in this way. The examination of the census has also shown that, with some exceptions, such as the Grundys at Yew Tree, families did not tend to occupy the same property for any length of time.
- 1.6.3 On a more generalised level, a significant development during this period was the implementation of the Turnpike road system, which witnessed the conversion of a number of existing roads and the establishment of new infrastructure. The Bill and Act for the Blackburn to Preston Turnpike passed through Parliament in 1824, and construction began on 4 August 1824. It was opened in February 1826 (Blackburn Lib notes N14.4953, from *Blackburn Mail*, *Blackburn Standard*, and *Blackburn Times*). A plan was exhibited at a meeting of the Turnpike Trust on 22 August 1823, reported in the *Blackburn Mail* of 27 August, but this may not have been the 1823 strip map of the road

which survives with schedules relating to it (Turnpike Act 1824, p.18-19; LRO DDX 1119/13/7). The map is at a small scale, and only shows the line of the road and the fields immediately surrounding it

- 1.6.4 The line of a newly established turnpike road is featured on the 1822 map (CRO(B) DDHj 12/3/1), to the south of the study area and investigation sites. In this instance, the road appears superimposed over existing field boundaries, probably indicating its proposed route as it was only completed several years later. It ultimately connected Samlesbury to Burnley.
- 1.6.5 By comparison, Myerscough Smithy Road may have been converted into a turnpike road prior to this point, as the map of 1822 clearly depicts the position of a Toll Bar between Cobblers Farm and Yew Tree Farm to the east (Plate 5). The road is also clearly marked as a turnpike road under the management of the Balderstone and Burscough Bridge Trust on the OS map of 1848 (Plate 6), with the Toll Bar clearly identified as Balderstone Gate. This road appears to link Samlesbury to towns further to its north.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 The LCAS specification (*Appendix 1*) was adhered to as fully as possible, and the work was consistent with the relevant CIfA and English Heritage guidelines (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists CIfA 2014a; 2014b; 2014c; English Heritage 2006b). Any variations were agreed in consultation with Lancashire County Council (LCC) and LCAS.

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

2.2.1 The topsoil was removed by a 5-ton 360° machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket), under archaeological supervision, to the surface of the first significant archaeological structure. This structure was cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions. All structures of archaeological interest were investigated and recorded.

2.2.2 All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner. Trenches were located by use of a differential Global Positioning System (dGPS), and altitude information has been established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum. 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 digital photographs). Primary records were available for inspection at all times.

2.2.3 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro-forma* sheets, utilising a fully indexed photographic record. All artefacts were recorded using the same system, and were handled and stored according to standard practice (following current guidelines).

2.3 FINDS

2.3.1 The recovery of finds was carried out in accordance with best practice (following current guidelines), and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. All artefacts recovered from the evaluation trenches were retained.

2.4 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification (*Appendix 1*), and in accordance with current CIfA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2006b). The archive will be deposited in the Lancashire Record Office (LRO), Preston, and a copy of the report will be placed in the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER), Preston, on

completion of the project. The material archive is to be retained by BAE Systems.

3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 In total, six trenches were proposed, targeting farmsteads and tenements shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (Fig 2). All trenches were excavated with the exception of Trench 1, which targeted the site of Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill), but could not be excavated due to substantial areas of standing water. Trench 2 targeted Little Yew Tree and Worsted Row; Trenches 3 and 4 were situated over Coblers/Collins Bridge. Trench 5 was a T-shaped trench, excavated over the site of Yew Tree, and finally Trench 6 targeted Tanners/Old College. A summary of the results for each area is presented below, with a context list provided in *Appendix 2*.

3.2 RESULTS

3.2.1 **Trench 1:** although this trench was not excavated, a metal probe was inserted into the ground at various points, which encountered a hard layer, which may be the remains of a floor or walls associated with Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill).

3.2.2 **Trench 2:** the trench was excavated on an east/west alignment, and measured 44 x 2m. It was shortened at the eastern end, and its position moved south to avoid a modern service trench (Fig 3). The trench was, on average, 0.9m deep to the top of the natural geology **200**, with structures laying at approximately 0.6m below ground level (bgl) (Fig 4). To the west of the centre of the trench, wall **210** was visible protruding from the northern edge of the trench (Plate 12). The L-shaped wall of roughly hewn stone, measured approximately 2m east-south-east/west-north-west, and 0.8m north-north-west/south-south-east, and was probably a heavily disturbed foundation course. Two nearby drains were probably contemporary with wall **210**. To the west of wall **210**, ceramic drain **212** ran on a north/south alignment, and to the south, another, slate-lined drain, **211**, ran parallel to wall **210**.



Plate 12: Putative foundation course 210, in plan

- 3.2.3 Situated to the east of wall **210**, walls **207** and **208** formed the eastern and southern sides of a putative building. Made of roughly-hewn sandstone, north/south-aligned wall **208** measured >2m in length, and 0.4m wide. East/west-aligned wall **207** measured 1.4m in length and was >0.3m wide and, again, was made from sandstone. The eastern end of wall **207** terminated at cobbled surface **206** (Plate 13). The cobbled area (>2m x 1.2m) probably represents the remains of an interior floor surface associated with the building, and was sat upon a bed of mortar (**202**, 0.1m thick). To the east of the surface, a patch of stones (**203**) may have been the remnants of structural elements. They covered an area approximately 0.5m x 0.45m, and continued beyond the southern extent of the trench.



Plate 13: Cobbled surface 206, in plan

- 3.2.4 North/south-aligned drain **209** was situated between structures **210** and **208**. It had a ceramic pipe and had been capped with sandstone, and measured >2m x 0.6m. All the structures were sealed with layers of modern overburden, **213** (0.6m thick), and topsoil **201** (0.3m thick).
- 3.2.5 **Trench 3**: the trench was aligned north/south, and measured 14m x 2m, and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. A layer of weathered/tyre-rutted clay overlay the silty-clay natural geology **302**. This layer, **301**, was 0.15m thick and had occasional broken bricks throughout, and was sealed by topsoil **300** (0.15m thick). No archaeology was observed in this trench.
- 3.2.6 **Trench 4**: initially the trench measured 12m x 2m, however, a number of services ran across the trench, consequently reducing the ultimate area excavated to the archaeological horizon to 6.9m x 1.2m (Fig 5). The east-north-east/west-south-west-aligned trench was 0.8m deep to the natural geology **400**, and a single wall, **405**, was observed traversing the trench on a north-north-east/south-south-west alignment. The wall, which was made from roughly hewn sandstone, measured >1.2m x 0.5m, placed within foundation

cut **404**. Above wall **405**, a 0.45m-thick layer of redeposited clay, **403**, was used to level the land after the demolition of the building. Layer **402**, a 0.75m-thick layer of redeposited soil and demolition rubble was also used to level the land in the area surrounding the former building. This was sealed by topsoil **401**, which was 0.35m thick.

- 3.2.7 **Trench 5**: this trench was originally an upside-down T-shape, with a north/south-aligned portion that measured 12m x 2m. Its east/west axis measured 18m x 2m, and was extended by 3.5m x 8.5m to the north at the western end (Fig 6). The natural geology, **519**, was observed at a depth of 0.8m bgl.
- 3.2.8 At the eastern end of the trench, the south-eastern corner of a building, **514**, was observed. It had been destroyed to the west, leaving a 2.2m length of wall on an east/west-alignment, with a north/south-aligned return continuing beyond the northern extent of the trench. Wall **514** was made of sandstone and was 0.55m wide. To the south-west of wall **514**, the truncated northern end of north-west/south-east-aligned wall **515** was observed. The wall extended beyond the southern extent of the trench, and a total length of 0.65m was visible. It was made of unworked boulders and roughly hewn sandstone.
- 3.2.9 In the north south-aligned part of the trench, north-south-aligned wall **505** (8.85m long, 0.7m wide) was observed. The wall formed the western side of two rooms, divided by east/west aligned stone wall **506** (>0.7m long x 0.45m wide). The southernmost room was bounded to the south by east/west-aligned external wall **509** (>2m long, 0.7m wide). The floor had not survived, however, stone structures **507** and **508** (0.5m x 0.5m each) were remnants of a hearth, up against wall **505** (Plate 14). Very little was seen of the northernmost room, and it was not clear if the floor had survived here.



Plate 14: East-facing view of hearth remnants **507** and **508**

3.2.10 On the western side of wall **505**, at the northern end of the trench, another internal space was observed. Sandstone wall **501** was on an east/west alignment, measured 1.15m in length, 0.35m wide, and formed a southern external wall. To the north of wall **501**, and to the west of wall **505**, evidence for a stairwell, located at the south-eastern corner of a cellar, was observed. L-shaped brick wall **502** (1.2m north/south, 0.8m east/west and 0.4m wide) lined the inside of wall **501**, and formed the western edge of the stairwell. Stone foundations **503** (1.1m x 0.4m) supported steps **504** (Plate 15), the remains of which comprised brick interspersed with stone flagstones (1.5m north/south, 0.15m wide), which were set in wall **505**. A stone floor, **521**, was observed at a depth of 1.2m bgl. Only a fraction of the floor was visible, it continued to the north and west, beyond the extent of the trench.



Plate 15: remains of stairs 504, east-facing view

3.2.11 To the south-west of the remains described above, wall foundation **511** was observed at approximately 1m bgl (Plate 16). The foundation formed the south-eastern corner of a building, of which only 2m of the south wall was observed; the wall continued to the west, beyond the confines of the trench. To the north of the surviving portion of the wall, the natural geology sloped upwards. The wall footing had followed the slope to the north and, as a result, had been destroyed during demolition and levelling.



Plate 16: Wall foundation 511 at the bottom left of the frame, east-facing view

- 3.2.12 During demolition the cellar had been filled by demolition rubble 522, 1m thick. This comprised mainly mortar, with fragments of brick and stone. The demolished remains of the rest of the structure had been levelled up with silty clay deposits 517=513 and 512, which were 0.4m and 0.45m thick respectively. Two parallel drains (group 510) were observed on an east-north-east/west-south-west alignment, cutting through the remains of the building, and were sealed by 0.6m-thick topsoil 500.
- 3.2.13 **Trench 6:** the trench was excavated on a north/south-alignment, and its ultimate position was largely dictated by the presence of a large modern bank to the east of the trench (Fig 7). It measured 17m x 2m, and was excavated to an average depth of 0.75m to the level of the natural geology, 602. Two walls were observed in the trench. Towards the northern end of the trench, wall 604 extended on an east/west alignment. The wall was made of stone and measured >2m long and 0.5m wide. To the south of wall 604, wall 603 ran on a north/south alignment and measured >3.1m long and 0.6m wide. These were sealed by modern overburden deposit 601 (0.3m thick), and topsoil 600 (0.45m thick).

3.3 FINDS

3.3.1 **Quantification:** some 614 artefacts and ecofacts, weighing 10,863g, were recovered during the evaluation (Table 2), almost entirely from the location of Little Yew Tree and Worsted Row (Trench 2), with a much smaller assemblage from Tanners/Old College (Trench 6). The main component of the assemblage comprised pottery, with lesser amounts of clay tobacco pipe, marine molluscs, ceramic building material (CBM), two iron objects, and a piece of kiln furniture (*Appendix 2*).

| Trench | Pottery | Clay tobacco pipe | Iron objects | Marine molluscs | Other finds |
|--------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 2 | 586 | 15 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 2: Artefact distribution between Trenches 2 and 6

3.3.2 **Assessment:** the unstratified nature of the entire assemblage limits the usefulness of the data, other than suggesting a broad date-range for activity revealed by Trench 2. Moreover, it is unlikely to be a representative sample, especially when compared with the assemblage recovered from sites previously excavated in the vicinity (OA North 2010). The pottery assemblage was dominated by dark glazed red earthenware, an ubiquitous fabric on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century sites, and commonly associated with kitchen and dairy usage. Much of this material may have been manufactured at the Grimshaw Pottery, Blackburn, which was active before 1840 (OA North 2011). A waster fragment and a piece of kiln furniture from a pottery kiln, in fabrics resembling dark glazed red earthenware, might be derived from the nearby Samlesbury pottery production site which, although primarily medieval, was known to have been active in the post-medieval period (Wood, Bradley, and Miller 2009).

3.3.3 The recovery, in small quantities, of dark glazed white earthenware, slip-coated ware, white salt-glazed stoneware, mottled ware and agate ware, suggest activity spanning a period *c* 1720-1780. This date may support the suggestion that Worsted Row, or more likely Little Yew Tree, was established by this point, as potentially indicated by the cartographic evidence discussed in the map regression (see *Section 1.4.2.* and Table 1). Creamwares and pearl ware demonstrate further activity from the middle of the eighteenth century to *c* 1830. Whilst a complete bottle stamped 'James Hodkinson, Blackburn', dated 1864, and other fabrics, such as blue earthenware and white wares attest to nineteenth-century and later activity. These later date ranges relate to the continued use of the site and the probable addition of Worsted Row towards the end of the eighteenth or beginning of the nineteenth century.

3.3.4 The remaining artefacts add little to the dating of the site; the iron objects suggest only post-medieval activity, as does the. The marine molluscs are evidence of the importance of seafood in the post-medieval diet.

3.3.5 **Potential:** although the pottery assemblage from the evaluation can give a broad, but rather vague date for activity, there is little scope for further work without additional comparative material from stratified contexts. The artefacts possibly represent material disturbed during demolition of the buildings, with any potential earlier assemblage still *in situ*. It is recommended that a full catalogue of the material is made, but retained to be integrated into any potential future assemblage from the site.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The six targeted sites on the former Samlesbury Estate are well documented. Laneside (formerly part of Pepper Hill), Little Yew Tree, Worsted Row, Collins Bridge (formerly Coblers), Yew Tree, and Old College (formerly Tanners) all appear on records and maps, in some cases dating back to the mid-eighteenth century. Yew Tree and Tanners are depicted on Cottam's 1757 copy of George Grey's 'Survey of Thomas Braddyll's estates in Lancashire and Yorkshire'. This document represents a copy of an earlier map from 1720 and may indicate that the two farms were established possibly during the late seventeenth or early eighteenth-century. In this regard, the photographic evidence of Tanners depicts architectural details that support an origin in the seventeenth century. Documentary evidence indicates Coblers had been established by 1757, but it was not featured on George Grey's map. This omission may reflect the fact that Grey's map was copied from an earlier source dated to 1720, prior to the establishment of the site of Coblers. This would suggest that Coblers was established at some time in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Either Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill), or more likely Little Yew Tree (based upon findings of the evaluation), appear for the first time on Yates' map of 1786. Possibly by 1818, and certainly by 1822, the cartographic evidence indicates that all sites, including Worsted Row and Lane Side, have been established.
- 4.1.2 The purpose of the evaluation trenching was to document the preservation of the farmsteads, and to assess whether those remains could be dated back to earlier periods of occupation. Trench 1 was situated over Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill), but was under water at the time of the fieldwork taking place. A metal probe inserted into the ground detected several hard surfaces, although no form could be distinguished. It was likely that this farmstead experienced the same level of demolition as the others targeted by the evaluation trenches, and that the unyielding deposits encountered are walls, or perhaps floor surfaces, but there was no suggestion of age.
- 4.1.3 Trench 2 was placed in order to assess the remains of Little Yew Tree and Worsted Row (Figs 4 and 8), however, it had to be moved slightly to accommodate modern services. Taking into account inaccuracies in mapping, it would seem likely that wall **210** was the edge of heavily disturbed foundations of Little Yew Tree. The remains, which would represent the south-western corner of the structure, were the earliest foundations of a building that probably remained little changed from that shown on the 1818 and 1822 estate maps, to the 1911 OS map. Quantities of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century pottery recovered from the trench were unfortunately unstratified, but indicate a presence at the site during this period. This appears to support the notion that one of the structures, most likely Little Yew Tree, was established at some point towards the middle of the eighteenth century, and is consequently featured on Yates' map of 1786.

- 4.1.4 While the fragmentary state of the structural remains were difficult to interpret, it would seem that they relate to the domestic structures of both Little Yew Tree and Worsted Row. Walls **208** and **207** correspond to dividing walls of the western and central dwellings along Worsted Row, while wall **210** probably relates to the southern façade of Little Yew Tree. By extension, cobbled surface **206** probably represents vestiges of a floor surface within the central building of Worsted Row, while drains **209** and **211** ran around the edge of one of the gardens, providing drainage to the buildings.
- 4.1.5 Trenches 3 and 4 were situated over the potential remains of Collins Bridge (formerly Coblers) (Fig 9). The trenches had been moved to accommodate known services in the area, but on excavation, further modern drains were discovered, severely reducing the proportion of the trenches excavated. The single wall observed in Trench 4 was not securely dated. However, it probably relates to the large outbuilding established to the south-east of the original farm buildings prior to 1893. Trench 3 primarily targeting the long north/south-aligned building associated with original Coblers farmstead, probably the farmhouse with agricultural outbuildings attached to the south and rear. However, excavation revealed no structural remains or deposits relating to the building. Either the remains were removed completely during construction of the later Collins Bridge buildings, or, more likely because no remains of the later farmstead were identified the land rose up at this point, and the building foundations were stepped. Levelling of the area for the development of the airfield would consequently have removed the remains completely. Modern services abound in this area and are also likely to have severely truncated any surviving remains.
- 4.1.6 The two adjoining main buildings at Yew Tree were first depicted on the map of 1757, and more securely identified on Yates' map of 1786, changing little over the years between their depiction on the 1848 and the 1911 OS maps (Fig 10). It would seem that the original footprint of the building was well-preserved, represented by external walls **505** and **509**, and wall **514**, and internal wall **506**. The presence of hearth remains **507-8** made the likely function of the building domestic, and wall **514** was probably the porch as shown on the OS map. Internal wall **506** suggested that the building was a double-pile house, although it was not clear if the northern space represented the 'back' room, or a corridor between the two rooms.
- 4.1.7 The remains of wall **511** in the western part of the trench are slightly harder to interpret. The boulder remains suggest an older building type, almost certainly modified at some point in time, but potentially retaining the original footprint. Wall **511** corresponds to the south-eastern corner of the building as shown on both the 1848 and 1911 OS maps. The remains of the cellar, identified at the northern end of the building, suggest some subsequent modification to the structure. Any other remains could have been removed during demolition. It is possible that this building was the original structure in question, with both domestic and agricultural functions. The function may have been converted to agricultural and storage use when the building to the east had been built.
- 4.1.8 Trench 6 could not be positioned over the domestic elements of Tanners/Old College, so a foreshortened trench was excavated over the extreme western

edge of the property and, consequently, the preservation of the main farmhouse was not assessed. Of the two walls exposed, wall **603** related to a probable out-building, while north-west-aligned **604** probably relates to a perimeter wall of the farm yard space.

4.1.9 The vast majority of remains observed as part of the evaluation trenching could be equated to elements of dwellings shown on later maps, although the domestic buildings were only investigated in the cases of Little Yew Tree, Worsted Row, and, in particular, Yew Tree. At the later site, structural remains were encountered in relatively good states of preservation and could clearly be related to one or more phases of building development at the site. However, preservation across the sites was variable, and construction of the aerodrome has probably removed much of the structural remains, particularly with regard to the site of Coblers. Where external elements of the farmsteads formed the main point of investigation, the preservation was again variable, and cannot be used to assess the survival of associated domestic structures. The principal findings of the map regression and evaluation are summarised in Table 3 below.

| Site | Estimated Inception date | Principle features identified |
|--|--|--|
| Lane Side (formerly part of Pepper Hill) | <i>Possibly before c 1786 but more likely c 1818</i> | Not investigated due to standing water. Structural remains tentatively identified by probe only |
| Little Yew Tree | <i>Possibly before c 1786</i> | Foundation course of southern façade identified Cultural material as below |
| Worsted Row | <i>c 1818</i> | Probable dividing walls of the western and central building Elements of the southern façade of both Probable remains of an internal floor surface relating to the central building Quantities of unstratified ceramic material, elements potentially indicating activity prior to the establishment of the buildings according to cartographic sources, and others in keeping with the proposed inception dates |
| Coblers/Collins Bridge | <i>c 1720-1757</i> | Original building may have largely been removed by subsequent landscaping Elements of the outbuildings added <i>c 1893</i> may still be present |
| Yew Tree | <i>c 1720 or earlier</i> | Relatively substantial remains of the various buildings Possible evidence of multiple phases of construction |
| Tanners/Old College | <i>c 1720 or earlier</i> | Main buildings not investigated Elements of potential outbuildings and boundary walls identified |

Table 3: Summary of the evaluation findings

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6. ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 FIGURES

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Figure 5: Plan of Trench 4

Figure 6: Plan of Trench 5

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Figure 9: Trenches 3 and 4 superimposed on the Ordnance Survey 6":1 mile map of 1848, and the 25":1 mile map of 1911-12

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APPENDIX 1: SPECIFICATION

Specification for a programme of Archaeological Work at Samlesbury Enterprise Zone, Samlesbury SD 62670 31181

1. Introduction

1.1 Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) advises LCC that the proposed works in the Enterprise Zone have the potential to encounter surviving buried archaeological remains associated with a former 17th century farmstead as well as impacting on upstanding WWII aerodrome structures.

1.2 LCAS has therefore recommended that an appropriate level of archaeological mitigation in the form of both building recording and archaeological excavation and recording be undertaken.

1.3 This specification has been prepared by Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS). All works undertaken in response to this document should comply with the standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists.

2. Archaeological Interest

2.1 The proposal site is part of BAE Systems, Samlesbury. An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment by RSK in 2007 identified a number of sites of archaeological interest across the site, including a number of 17th century farmsteads, demolished in the late 1930s as part of the construction of the aerodrome, as well as surviving WWII structures associated with the aerodrome.

2.2 The proposals have the potential to cause damage to:

The study of buildings and structures associated with both the Second World War, and the post-war Cold War period, has in recent years become a legitimate area of archaeological research with English Heritage having undertaken a number of thematic surveys.

3. General Considerations

3.1 Prior to the commencement of **any work**, the archaeological contractor should confirm in writing adherence to this specification, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of LCAS to any variations is required prior to work commencing. The archaeologist carrying out the work should be appropriately qualified and experienced. Any technical queries arising from the specification detailed below should be addressed to LCAS **without delay**.

4. Building recording

4.1 The WWII structures should be subject to an English Heritage Level 1 survey, which shall comprise:

4.1.1 A detailed written description

4.1.2 Photographic record:

- It should be noted that the buildings should be cleared of all stored items in order to ensure that a comprehensive record can be made.
- General photographs of the interior, exterior and setting of the building are required.
- Any external detail, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs.
- The building's relationship to its setting, to other buildings, or to a significant viewpoint.
- Internal detail which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs. Elements for which multiple examples exist (e.g. each type of roof truss, column or window frame) may be recorded by means of a single representative illustration. N.B. Detail photographs must be taken at medium-to-close range and be framed in such a way as to ensure that the element being photographed clearly constitutes the principal feature of the photograph.
- For the purposes of the report, high quality digital images are acceptable.
- Archive photographs can be taken with either:-
 - 35mm SLR camera (a Medium or Large Format camera can also be used). All record photographs to be black and white, using conventional silver-based film only, such as Ilford FP4 or HP5, or Delta 400 Pro (a recent replacement for HP5 in certain film sizes such as 220). Dye-based (chromogenic) films such as Ilford XP2 and Kodak T40CN are unacceptable due to poor archiving qualities. This basic photographic record is to be supplemented by colour slide photography, especially where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded. Record photographs should be printed at a minimum of 5" x 7". Bracketed shots of identical viewpoints need not be reproduced, but all viewpoints must be represented within the report.

Or

- Digital cameras with a resolution of 12 mega pixels; using RAW format files for image capture; saved as 8 bit TIFFs for archive purposes. The data is to be stored on two separate hard drives or servers, each on different sites and with appropriate back-up and disaster plans in place (The County Council server utilised by the Historic Environment Record could be one of these). In addition hard copies of the images must be created on paper of appropriate archival quality and deposited as part of the paper archive (below). It should be noted that when creating prints from digital files, greater clarity and longevity can be obtained through the use of photographic printing paper. When preparing files for printing, a resolution of 300dpi at the required output size is appropriate.
- All detailed photographs must contain a graduated photographic scale (measuring tapes and surveying staffs are not considered to be acceptable scales in this context). A 2-metre ranging-rod, discretely positioned, should be included in a

selection of general shots, sufficient to independently establish the scale of all elements of the building and its structure.

- A photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of each shot must be completed. Position and direction of each photograph is also to be noted on a copy of the building/site plan.

5. Fieldwork

5.1 A phased approach to the field work is to be followed. In the first phase any topsoil stripping or any landscaping in the area of each of the demolished farmsteads will be undertaken under close archaeological supervision, using an appropriate machine with a toothless ditching blade, with the intention of leaving an archaeologically clean and even surface for subsequent assessment. Any datable or other diagnostic material exposed by this phase of work is to be recovered and assessed. The surface so produced is to be recorded using appropriate archaeological techniques, which will include the production of a detailed plan of all archaeological features and the characterisation of the archaeological resource

5.2 If deemed necessary a scheme for further archaeological excavation and recording shall be designed and agreed with LCAS in order to establish in detail the extent, date, character and significance of the archaeological remains. This scheme is to be tailored to the remains encountered, and to be appropriate and proportional to the quantity, importance and complexity of the archaeology exposed.

5.3 The archaeologist on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. In this case, where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard should also be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose. This work may require the preparation of a Risk Assessment of the site, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations. **LCAS and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur to outside contractors engaged to undertake this survey while attempting to conform to this specification.**

6. Unexpectedly Significant Discoveries

6.1 The terms of the Treasure Act, 1996 must be followed with regard to any finds, which might fall within its purview. Any such finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

7. Monitoring

7.1 The recording exercise will be monitored as necessary and practicable by LCAS in its role as 'curator' of the county's archaeology. LCAS should receive **as much notice as possible in writing** (and certainly not less than one week) of the intention to start the watching brief. **A copy of the archaeological contractor's risk assessment of the site should accompany the notification.**

8. Post-Excavation/Post-Recording Work and Report Preparation

8.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples shall be processed and all finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and fully labelled photographs. Labelling should be in indelible ink on the *back* of the print and should include film and frame number; date recorded and photographer's name; name and address of site; national grid reference. Photographic prints should be mounted in appropriate archivally-stable sleeves. **A quantified index to the field archive should form an appendix to the report.** The original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds in a publicly accessible archive (see Section 9.1 below).

8.2 A report should be produced to provide background information, a summary of the works carried out, a description and separate interpretation of any features and finds identified. Details of the report's style and format are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but it should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive and as an appendix, a copy of this specification. The report illustrations should include, as a minimum, a location map at a reasonable scale (i.e. 1:10000) plus any drawings and photographs.

8.3 The report should be produced within twelve weeks of completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed with LCAS. Copies of the report should be supplied to the client and the Lancashire HER. The report will become publicly accessible once deposited with the Lancashire HER. The report for the HER should be supplied in digital format, preferably as a single PDF file, but with any accompanying gazetteers, images, plans, etc. in their original formats, to allow it to be easily incorporated into the digital HER.

8.4 Archaeological contractors must complete the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. Contractors are advised to contact Lancashire HER prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, Lancashire HER may place the information on a web-site. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer at Lancashire HER.

9. Deposition of Archive

9.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological contractor must contact the relevant District museum archaeological curator in writing (copied to LCAS) to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive. In this case the contact is Stephen Bull, Curator of Military History and Archaeology, Museum of Lancashire, Stanley Street, Preston, PR1 4YP; telephone 01772 534080.

9.2 It is the policy of the Museum of Lancashire to accept complete excavation archives, including primary site records and research archives and finds, from all excavations carried out in the County, which it serves.

9.3 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with the Museum of Lancashire.

9.4 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet the Museum of Lancashire's requirements with regard to the preparation of fieldwork archives for deposition.

9.5 The museums officer named in 9.1 above should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as the Lancashire Historic Environment Record.

10. Further Details

10.1 Any queries about the contents of the specification should be addressed to Lancashire County Archaeology Service, Lancashire County Council, Development Management, Transport & Environment, PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD, Tel 01772 531734.

11. Valid period of specification

11.1 This specification will remain valid for up to one year from the date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.

Lancashire County Archaeology Service

September 2013

Douglas Moir
Planning Officer (Archaeology)
E-mail: douglas.moir@lancashire.gov.uk

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

| Context | Trench | Context Type | Description |
|---------|--------|--------------|---|
| 200 | 2 | Deposit | Natural geology |
| 201 | 2 | Deposit | Topsoil |
| 202 | 2 | Deposit | Mortar spread associated with cobbled surface 206 |
| 203 | 2 | Structure | Foundation course of a putative wall |
| 204 | 2 | Not used | |
| 205 | 2 | Not used | |
| 206 | 2 | Structure | Cobbled surface |
| 207 | 2 | Structure | East/west-aligned stone wall |
| 208 | 2 | Structure | North/south-aligned stone wall |
| 209 | 2 | Structure | North/south-aligned drain |
| 210 | 2 | Structure | South-eastern corner of a putative building |
| 211 | 2 | Structure | Slate-lined, east/west-aligned drain |
| 212 | 2 | Structure | Slate-lined drain |
| 213 | 2 | Deposit | Modern overburden |
| 300 | 3 | Deposit | Topsoil |
| 301 | 3 | Deposit | Modern overburden |
| 302 | 3 | Deposit | Natural geology |
| 400 | 4 | Deposit | Natural geology |
| 401 | 4 | Deposit | Topsoil |
| 402 | 4 | Deposit | Demolition rubble |
| 403 | 4 | Deposit | Modern overburden |
| 404 | 4 | Cut | Foundation cut for wall 405 |
| 405 | 4 | Structure | North-north-east/south-south-west-aligned wall |
| 500 | 5 | Deposit | Topsoil |
| 501 | 5 | Structure | Southern external wall of cellar |
| 502 | 5 | Structure | Brick inner southern wall of cellar |
| 503 | 5 | Structure | Stone foundation of staircase into cellar |
| 504 | 5 | Structure | Brick remains of staircase into cellar |
| 505 | 5 | Structure | North-north-east/south-south-west-aligned stone wall |
| 506 | 5 | Structure | East-south-east/west-north-west-aligned wall on the east of wall 505 |
| 507 | 5 | Structure | Northern part of stone-built hearth |
| 508 | 5 | Structure | Southern part of stone-built hearth |
| 509 | 5 | Structure | East-south-east/west-north-west-aligned wall on the east of wall 505 , forming the southern external wall of the structure |
| 510 | 5 | Group | Group; east-north-east/west-south-west-aligned drains, observed to cut through buildings |
| 511 | 5 | Structure | Foundation course of the south-east corner of a building |
| 512 | 5 | Deposit | Clay make up layer |
| 513 | 5 | Deposit | Clay make up layer, same as 517 |
| 514 | 5 | Structure | Southern end of a building |
| 515 | 5 | Structure | Heavily truncated north-west/south-east-aligned putative wall |
| 516 | 5 | Not used | |
| 517 | 5 | Deposit | Clay make up layer, same as 513 |
| 518 | 5 | Deposit | Mortar fill of robber cut 523 |
| 519 | 5 | Deposit | Natural geology |
| 520 | 5 | Not used | |
| 521 | 5 | Structure | Stone floor within cellar |
| 522 | 5 | Deposit | Demolition rubble backfill in cellar |
| 523 | 5 | Cut | Robber cut for wall 511 |
| 600 | 6 | Deposit | Topsoil |
| 601 | 6 | Deposit | Modern overburden |

| | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 602 | 6 | Deposit | Natural geology |
| 603 | 6 | Structure | North/south-aligned stone wall |
| 604 | 6 | Structure | East/west-aligned stone wall |

APPENDIX 3: FINDS CATALOGUE

| Trench | Context | Material | Category | Fabric | Quantity | Description | Date range |
|----------|---------|----------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------|--|------------|
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Dark glazed red earthenware | 418 | Few diagnostic sherds, these include: cistern bung hole; handle attachment; cylindrical jar rims; handle, inc mug handles; everted bowl rims, pancheon rim, waster fragment | 1650-1840 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Kiln furniture | | 1 | Pottery kiln furniture | 1650-1850 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Mottled ware | 9 | Includes 2x sooted cook pot fragments | 1690-1770 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Notts/Derby Stoneware | 2 | | 1700-1800 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Tin glazed earthenware | 5 | | 1710-1760 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Dark glazed white earthenware | 5 | Handle fragment | 1720-1770 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Slip coated ware | 1 | | 1720-1770 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | White salt glazed stoneware | 1 | Hollow ware base | 1720-1770 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Agate ware | 1 | Body sherd | 1730-1800 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Cream ware | 13 | Undecorated; 1x colour glazed | 1750-1820 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | GREB slip | 2 | Rim sherd | 1750-1850 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Industrial slip ware | 13 | Includes mocha design with milling | 1770- |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Pearl ware | 101 | Includes 2x refitting painted (jeffpat polychrome c 1798-1815); 1x chinese painted scenes; 2x spongeware, shell edge, flow blue, sprigged sheet pattern 1826-48; blue and brown transfer printed | 1775-1830 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Whiteware | 4 | Brown and pink transfer printed; undecorated; | 1820+ |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | sewer pipe | salt glazed | 1 | Salt-glazed sewer pipe | 1830+ |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Blue earthenware | 1 | | 1830-1900 |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Late grey stoneware | 8 | Jam pot; bottle fragments; 1x complete ginger beer bottle, James Hodkinson Blackburn 1864 | 1850+ |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----|---|--------------------|
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | CBM | 1 | Engineering brick | 1850+ |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | tobacco pipe | | 15 | 13x stems; 2x bowl fragments with moulded leaf decoration (common 19th C motif) | Nineteenth century |
| Trench 2 | US | Ceramic | tile | tile | 1 | Machine made wall tile | modern |
| Trench 2 | US | Marine mollusc | shell | | 5 | Oyster shell and cockle shell | NCD |
| Trench 2 | US | Iron | trowel | | 1 | Pointing trowel | Pmed |
| Trench 2 | US | Iron | wall hook | | 1 | Wall hook | Pmed |
| Trench 6 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Dark glazed red earthenware | 1 | Cylindrical jar rim | 1650-1850 |
| Trench 6 | US | Ceramic | Vessel | Dark glazed white earthenware | 1 | Base | 1720-1770 |

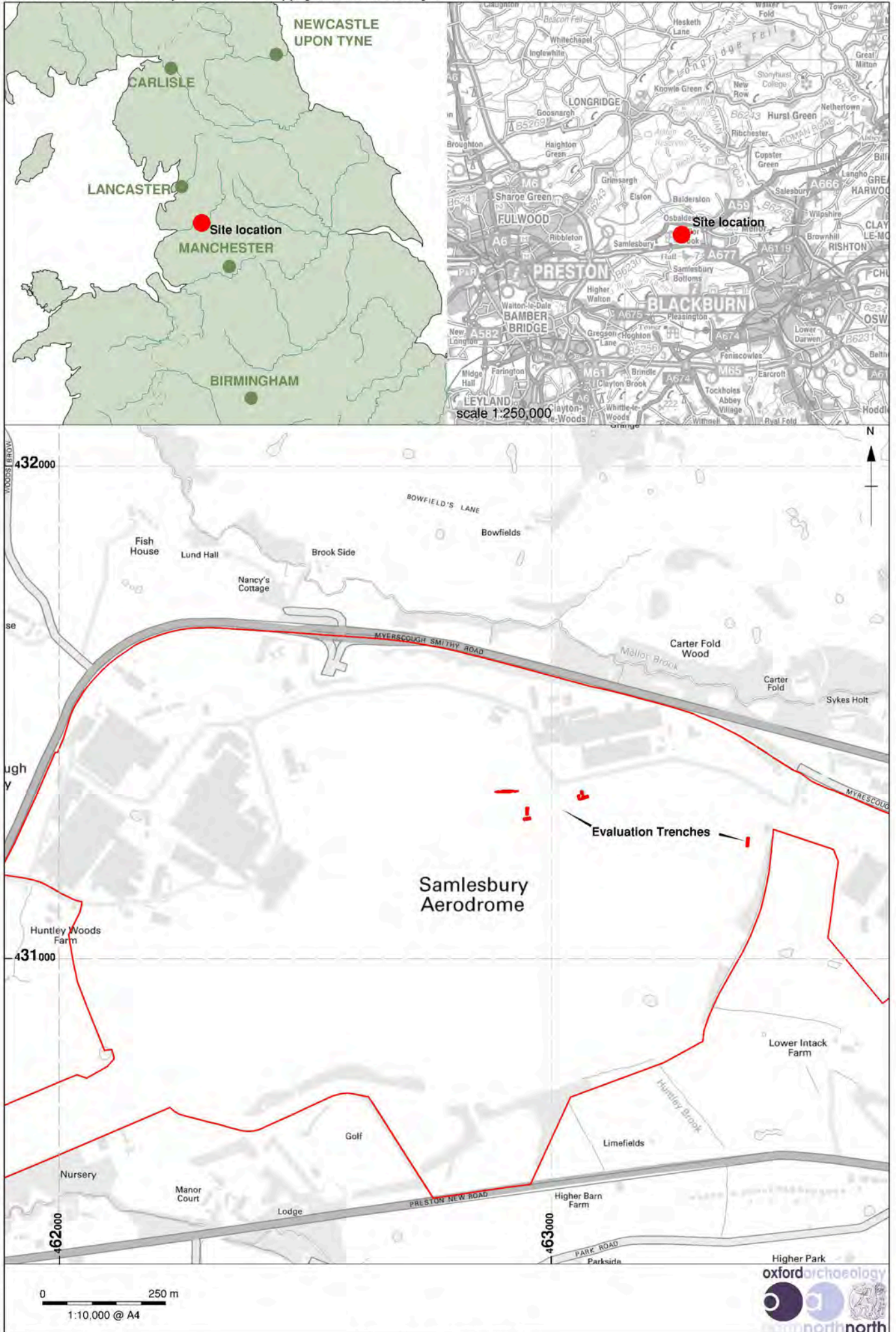


Figure 1: Site location

SR/L10808/MAT/Dec 2014

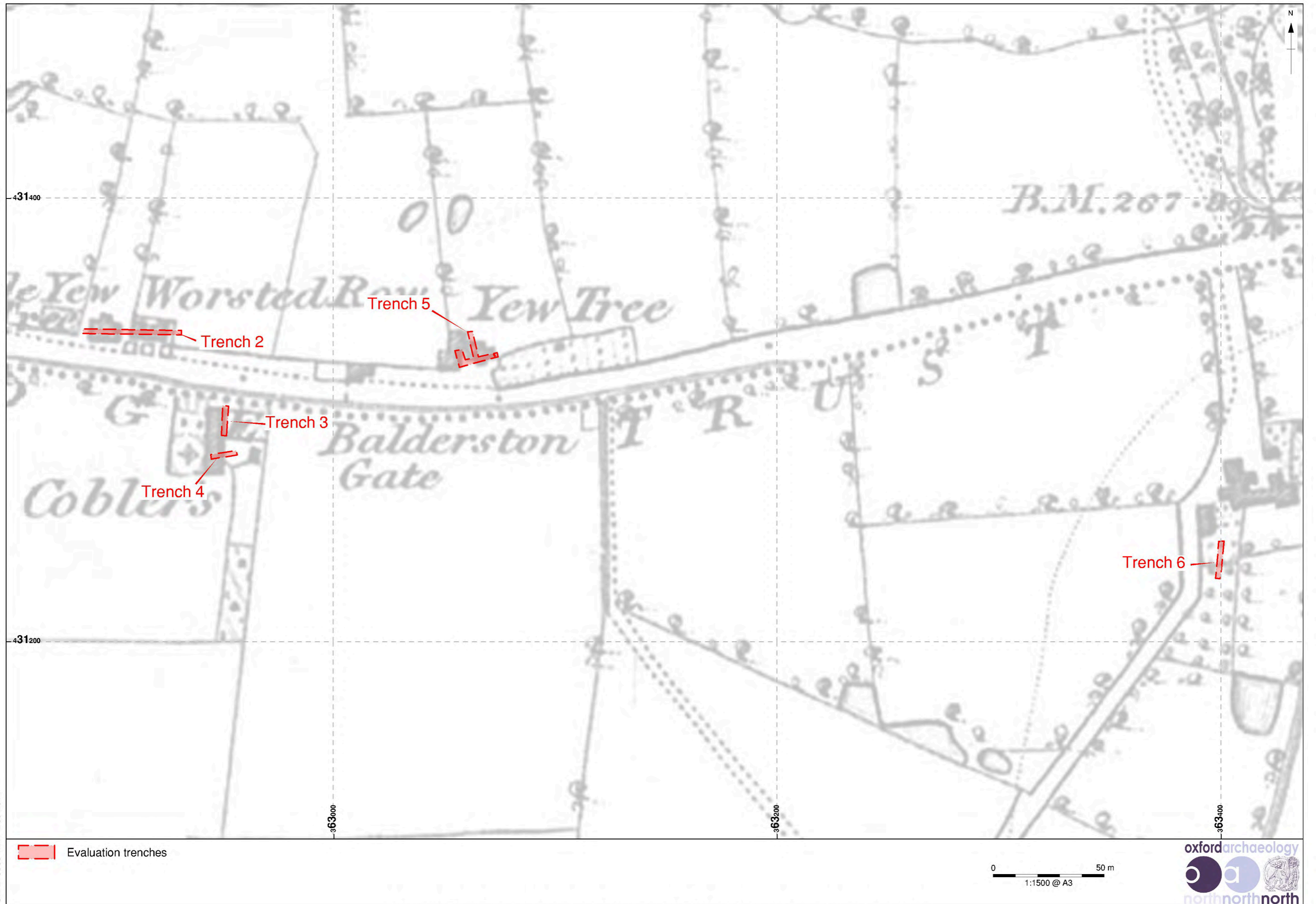


Figure 2: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey 6":1 mile map of 1948

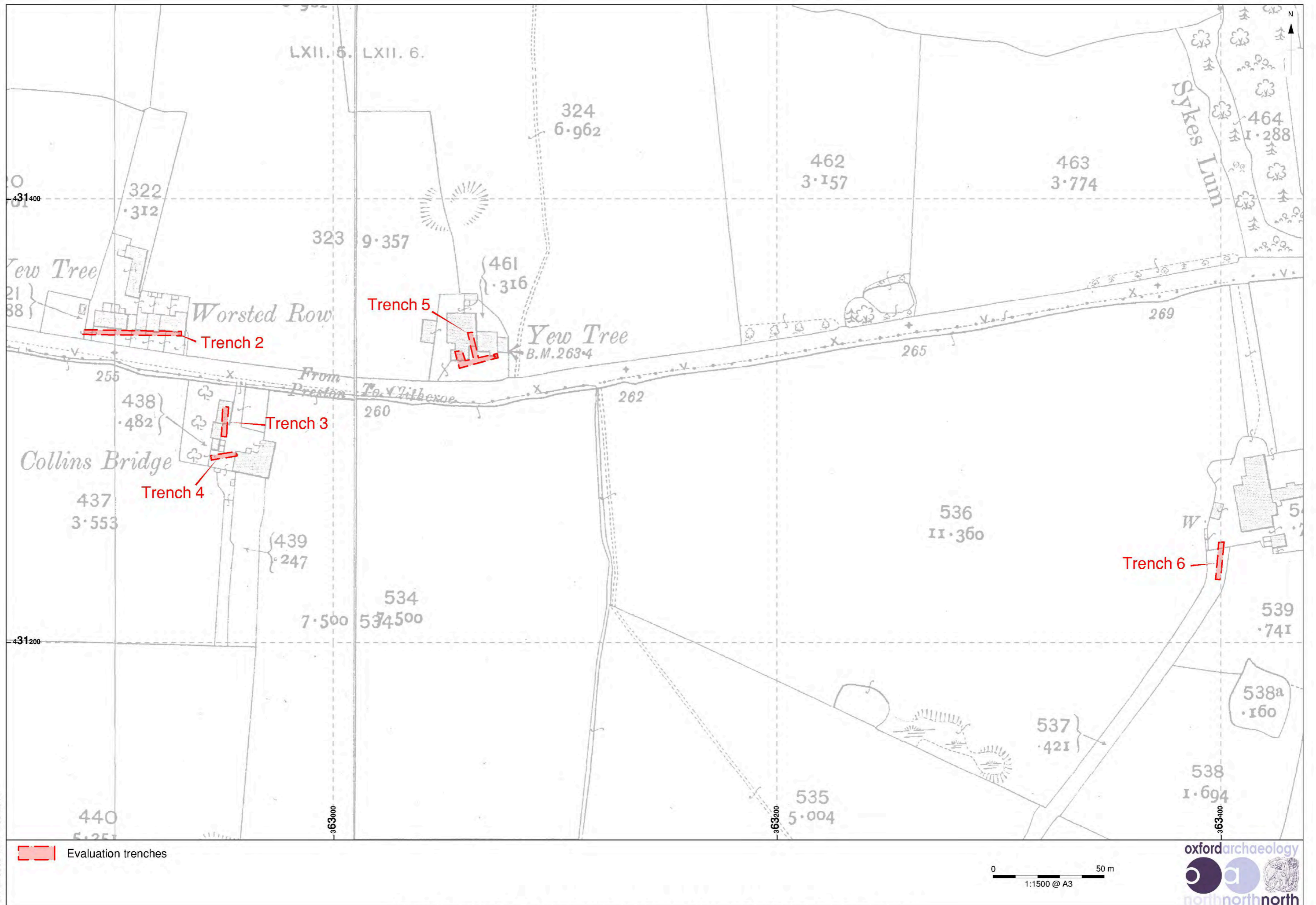
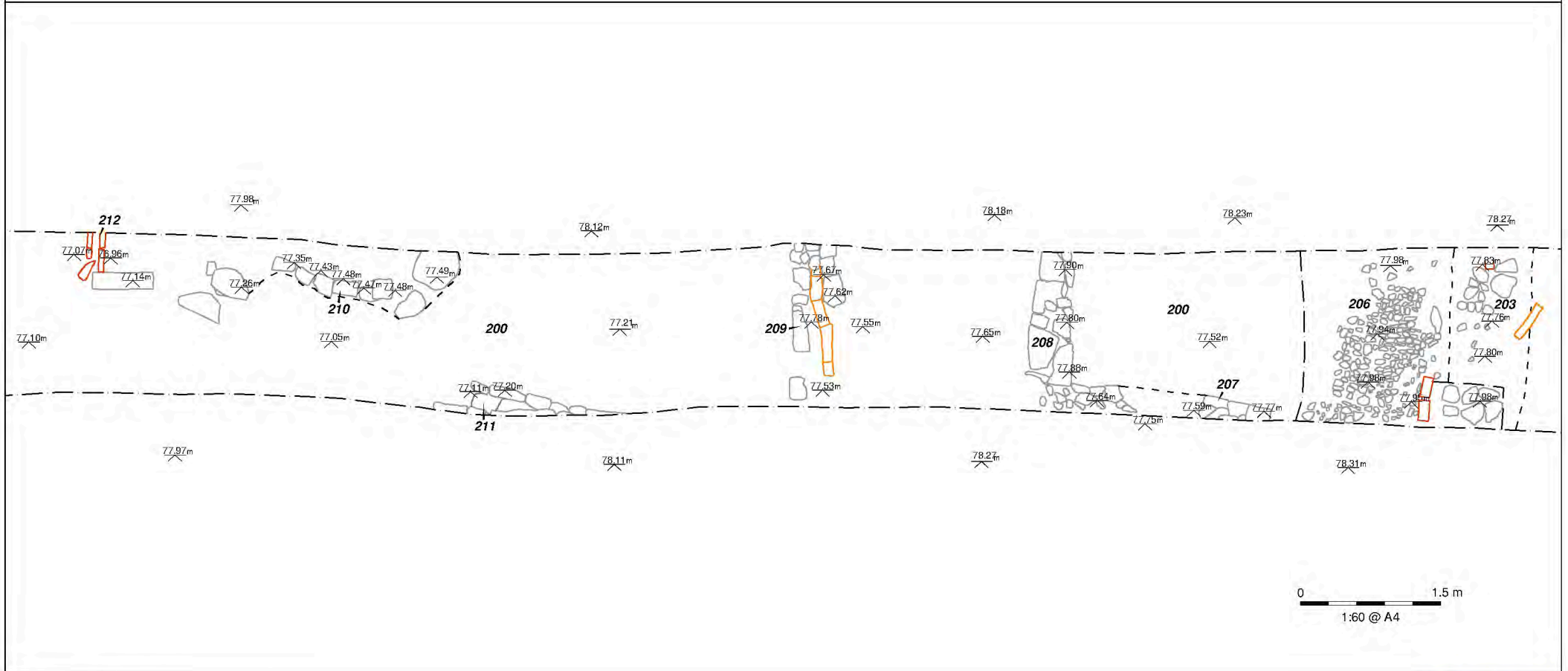
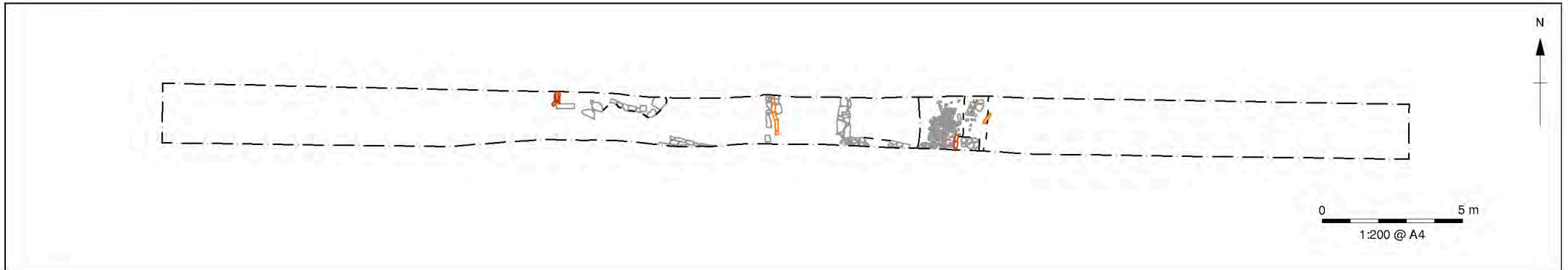


Figure 3: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey 25":1 mile map of 1911



- Limit of Excavation
- Brick
- Drain

Figure 4: Plan of Trench 2

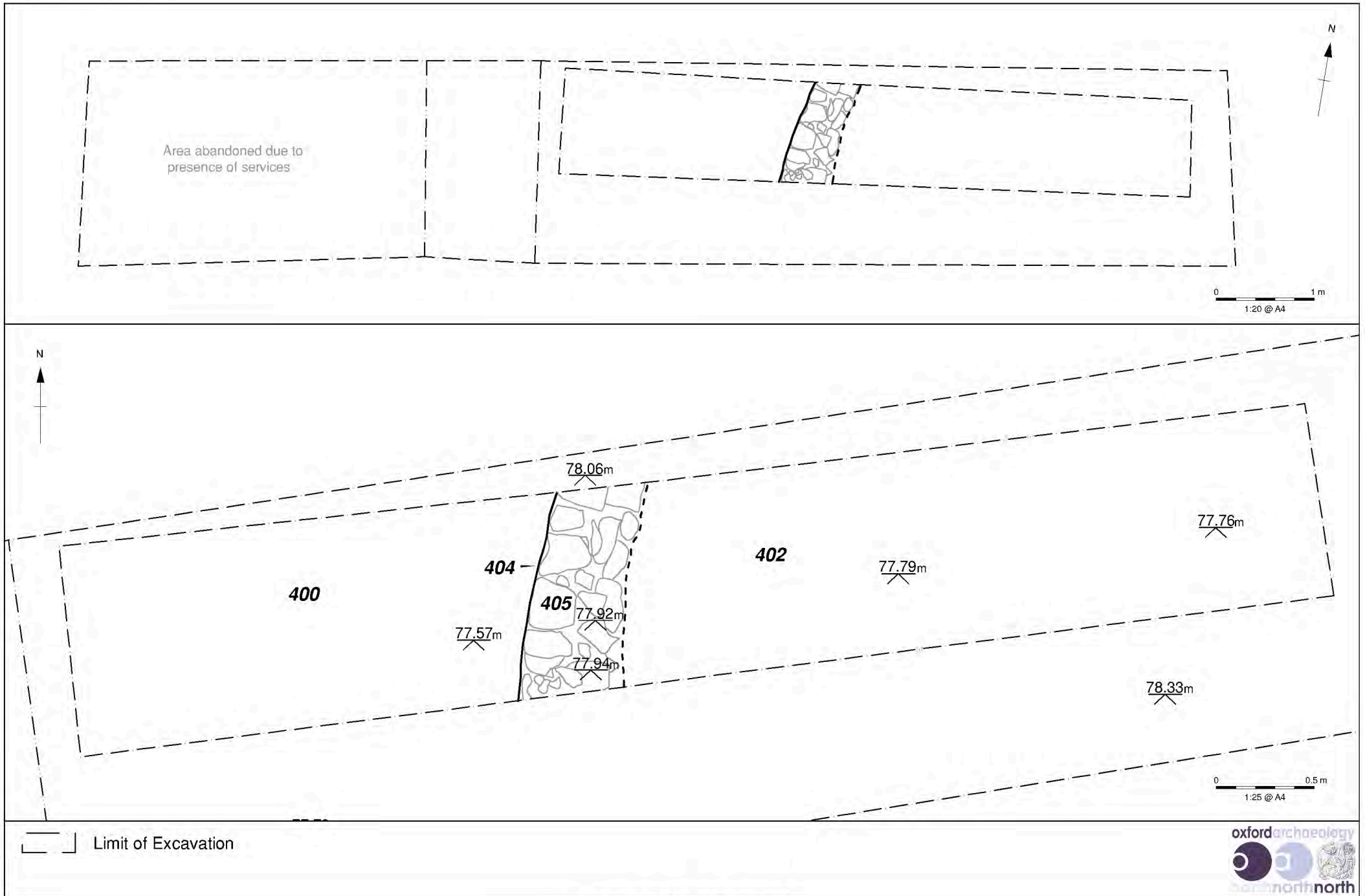


Figure 5: Plan of Trench 4



-  Evaluation Trench
-  Brick
-  Drain

0 1.5 m
1:60 @ A3



SR/L/10808/MAT/Jan 2015

Figure 6: Plan of Trench 5

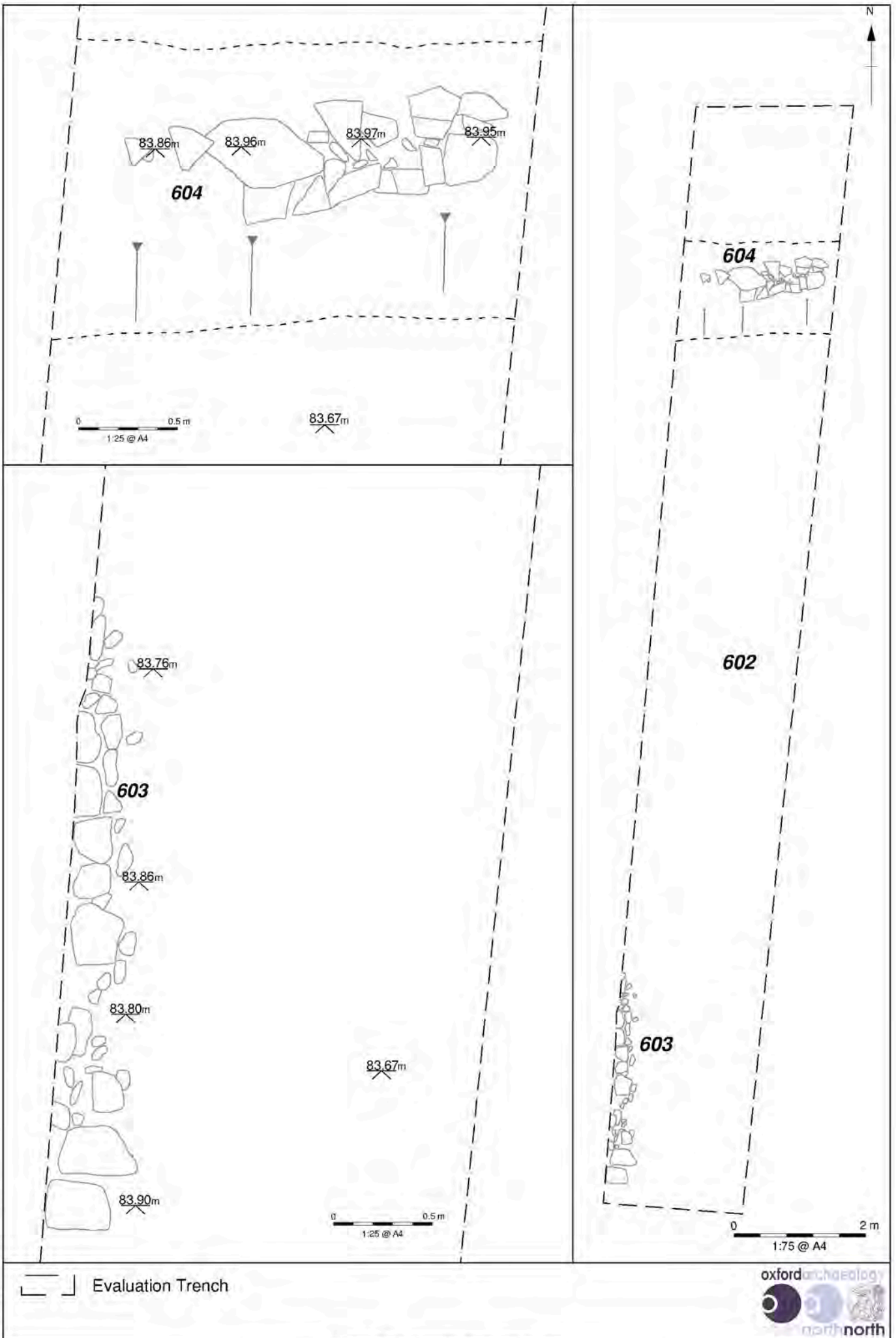


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 6

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Figure 8: Trench 2 superimposed on historic Ordnance Survey mapping

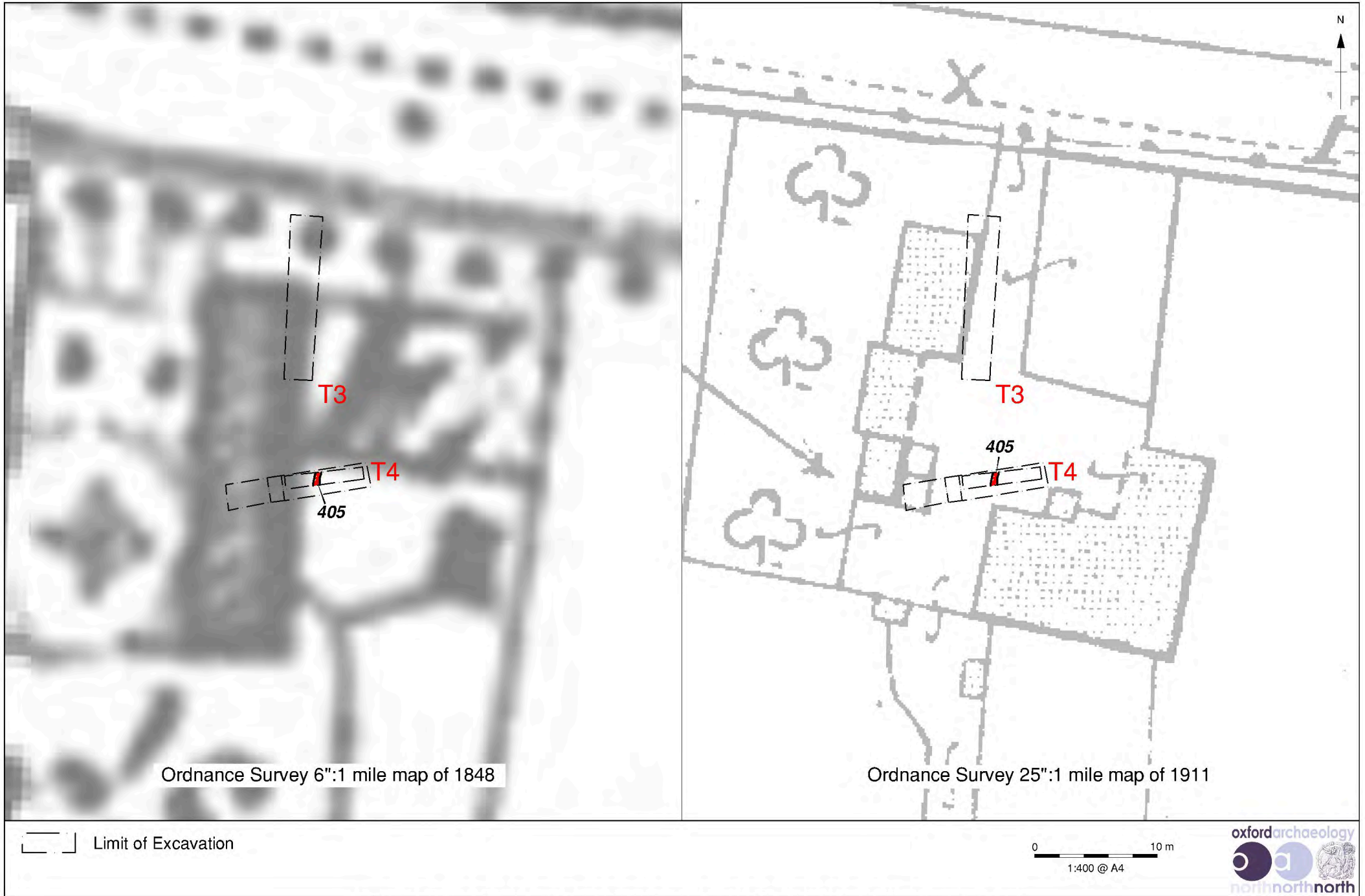


Figure 9: Trenches 3 and 4 superimposed on historic Ordnance Survey mapping

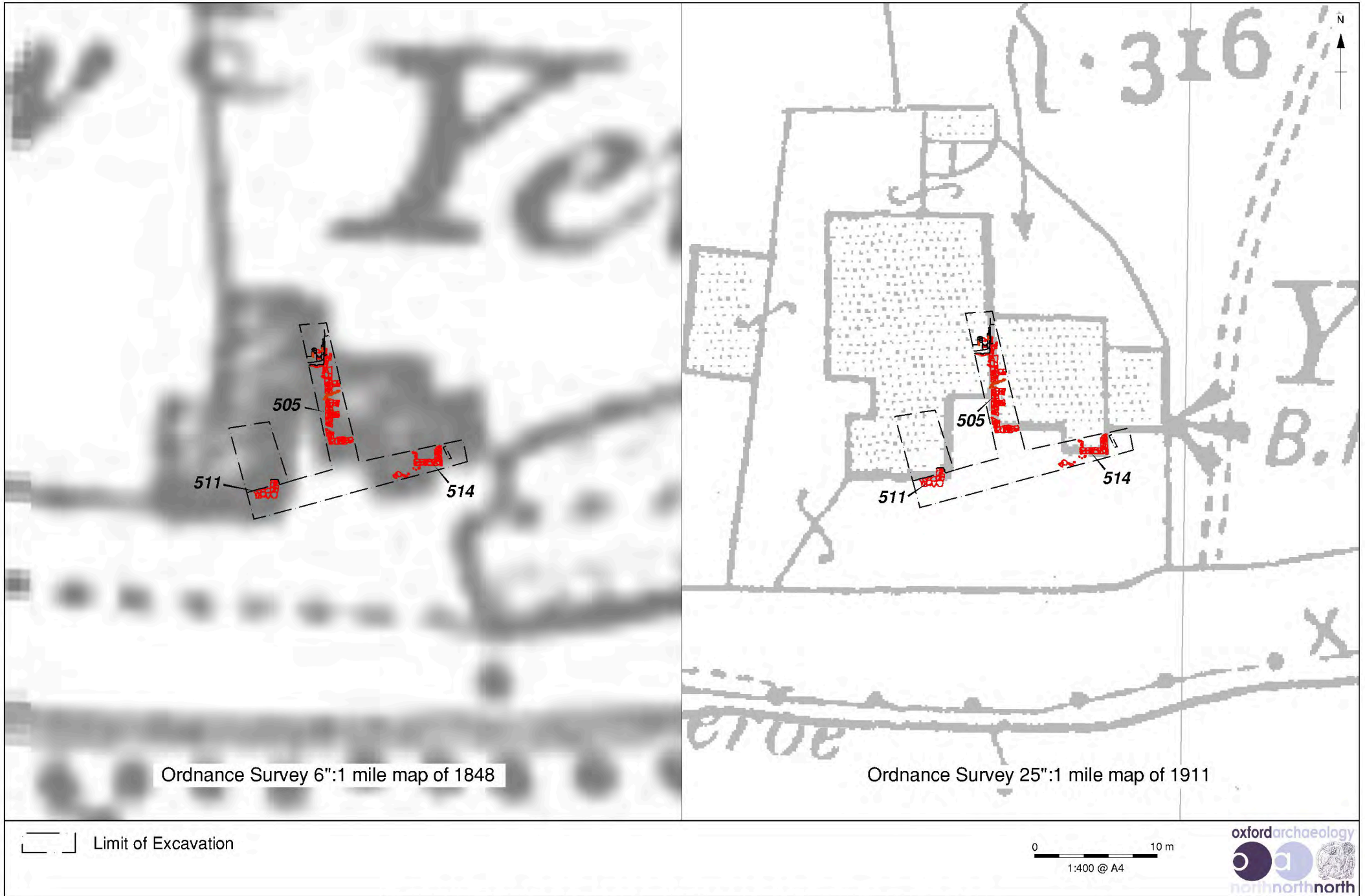


Figure 10: Trench 5 superimposed on historic Ordnance Survey mapping