

QUAY MEADOW

LANCASTER



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

LANCASTER AND DISTRICT HERITAGE GROUP

AUGUST 2017

NGR SD 47259 62236



DUCHY of LANCASTER
BENEVOLENT FUND
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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Circumstances of Project	4
1.2 Location, Topography and Geography	4
1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background	4
1.4 Previous Archaeological Work.....	6
2. METHODOLOGY.....	7
2.1 Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).....	7
2.2 Evaluation Trenching	7
2.3 Finds	7
2.4 Archive	8
3. FIELDWORK RESULTS	9
3.1 Introduction.....	9
3.2 Results	9
3.3 Finds	10
4. CONCLUSION	13
4.1 Discussion	13
4.2 Conclusion	14
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY	15
6. ILLUSTRATIONS	16
6.1 Figures	16
6.2 Plates	16
APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION	
APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST	
APPENDIX 3: FINDS LIST	

SUMMARY

The Lancaster and District Heritage Group (LDHG) planned and undertook an investigative archaeological evaluation on Quay Meadow, Lancaster (NGR SD 47259 62236), in September 2015, thereby becoming the first people to carry out any archaeological fieldwork on this site, according to known record. The project was in response to the results of a geophysical survey undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North in 2014. The site revealed itself to be of potentially great significance to our understanding of Roman Lancaster and its place in Roman Britain. The discovery of two buildings and a section of a road, whilst in themselves are of great importance locally, might just be the tip of the iceberg with the largest area of the site yet to be investigated.

As part of our community outreach, several local schools visited the site during the excavation. We also received visits from several hundred Lancaster residents.

Members of LDHG learnt new skills including; the setting out of trenches, finds handling and processing, site recording and some members learnt basic surveying. The post-excavation phase included the acquisition of additional skills including; rudimentary finds analysis, the use of computer aided drawing (CAD) and post-excavation report writing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lancaster and District Heritage Group (LDHG) would like to thank The Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund for financing the project, and the land custodians, Lancaster City Council, for granting permission to undertake archaeological investigation. Thanks are also due to: Dig Ventures, John Wareing Plant Hire, Oxford Archaeology North, Beyond the Castle, JWHCS and Michael Brandwood of The George & Dragon.

The support from local schools, and the community at large, was overwhelming. Many thanks must be given for their continued support.

The evaluation was undertaken by LDHG, with expertise provided by Dig Ventures and Jason Wood Heritage Consultancy Services. Thanks also go to all LDHG members who helped with the post excavation finds processing. The report was authored by Andrew Brown, Maddy Howard, David Ingham, Andrew Reilly and Anne Stewardson, on behalf of LDHG. Drawings were produced by Maddy Howard and Anne Stewardson. The project was managed by Jason Wood (JWHCS) and the report was edited by John Zant.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 LDHG are a local community group who were formed in 2015. The decision to investigate Quay Meadow (Fig.1) derived directly from the results of a geophysical survey undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) commissioned by Beyond the Castle (BTC) in 2014 (OA North 2014). Techniques used in this survey included resistivity and magnetometry, with the latter producing results that indicated potential archaeological remains. A grant was applied for, and awarded to LDHG, from the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund, funding the excavation of three evaluation trenches to investigate these geophysical anomalies (Fig. 2).
- 1.1.2 The area of Quay Meadow (Fig.1) equates to approximately 2.25 hectares, centred on NGR SD 47259 62236 bordered by the West Coast Mainline (to the west), St George's Quay (to the north), and the former branch line connecting Castle Station to the former Green Ayre Station (to the east). It is an area of public amenity land located close to the River Lune and borders the north-western boundary of the Lancaster Roman Fort Scheduled Monument (Ref 1020668; centred at NGR SD 47357 62013). St George's Quay itself is an historic area within the Lancaster City Conservation Area, and dates from the 1750s, containing many Grade II listed buildings, and the Grade I listed Custom House. Three trenches were positioned over anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). These were excavated by machine to remove the topsoil, then hand excavated below this horizon.
- 1.1.3 This report sets out the results of the trenching in the form of a short document, outlining the findings and assessing the potential for further investigation.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 Quay Meadow (NGR SD 47259 62236) is an open area of grassland, which has partly been landscaped for public sporting activities, and therefore does not represent its original topography in the whole. The site lies approximately 70m south and south-west of an intertidal stretch of the current course of the River Lune. The present quayside is known to be constructed on made-ground deposits and dredged mixed alluvial deposits laid down as land reclamation during its construction in the 1750s. However, the site itself is in a position presumed to be untouched during this construction, and the underlying geology therefore, is expected to be undisturbed in this area. The geology comprises by the British Geological Survey indicated alluvial river deposits overlaying siltstone, mudstone and sandstone (Roeburndale Member). The pre-quay course of the Lune is known to have run further south than its present course (LDHG 2016).

1.3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the general area. This is presented by historical period, and has been compiled in order to provide a wider archaeological context to the site. In 2010 Lancaster City Council commissioned the Lancaster Urban

Archaeological Database (UAD, OA North 2010) which consolidated archaeology in Lancaster to date.

1.3.1 ***Prehistory (to c. AD 70):***

The City of Lancaster has an extensive history spanning at least two millennia. To date little is known of any prehistoric activity, limited mainly to spot finds dating from the Bronze Age (HER/UAD 2010). The UAD states that ‘there has been no deliberate excavation of known prehistoric sites within the city, all excavated material having been encountered by chance during the course of other projects, [although] Palaeolithic and Neolithic material has been found in the Castle Hill area, although none of these finds were recovered from well-stratified or well-recorded contexts’ (OA North 2010 p.6).

1.3.2 ***Roman (c. AD 70-410):***

“That Lancaster was a Roman Station of great importance is universally admitted, few places abound with reminiscences and remains more interesting to the lovers of history and antiquarian research.” (Mannex 1851 p.468)

The Romans built a fort in about 80 AD, subsequently a small town grew along the fort providing amenities for soldiers stationed there. This was the first of three known forts built over the course of the next three hundred years and believed to be of wooden construction. This was replaced by a stone fort in the Trajanic period (98-117 AD). Lancaster’s civilian settlement, to date, is believed to be “the direct ancestor of the present town, which has been recognisably urban in character since at least 1793” (Shotter and White, 1995 p.8).

1.3.3 ***Early Medieval (c. 410-1066)***

Again ‘there has been as yet no targeted excavation of an early Medieval site within the limits of the city, very few finds have been encountered anywhere other than Castle Hill. Little is known of the latest Roman activity in the settlement, though most probably it would have related to a slow transition from Roman town to early Medieval township.’ (UAD 2010). A number of fragments of early Medieval crosses have been identified in the area of the Priory of St. Mary on Castle Hill, which are thought to date from AD.750-900. This tends to suggest an ecclesiastical establishment in this area. It could be postulated that Quay Meadow would have been associated with this.

1.3.4 ***Late Medieval (c.1066-1540)***

“The Normans found Lancaster in decay, the ancient city reduced to a village and the Roman castrum little better than a ruin” (Mannex 1851 p. 470).

The Norman castle was founded or enlarged around 1150 AD by Roger de Poitou, son of Roger Montgomery, who became the first Baron of Lancaster. The site of Quay Meadow would presumably have fallen within the castle domain at this time.

1.3.5 *Post Medieval (c. 1540-1750)*

The next period in history to have a potential impact on the site was the Civil War. It is known that a parliamentarian force captured the castle in 1643 and numerous sieges continued until around 1649. It has been generally believed that Quay Meadow has been the site of some of these skirmishes.

1.3.6 *Modern (c.1750-present)*

It is known that construction of the present St. George's Quay commenced in 1750 and was a direct consequence and influence of the economic boom of Lancaster in this period. Prior to the construction of the quay, Quay Meadow had been used as pasture for summer grazing for livestock and therefore had been untouched by development (Derbyshire, 2015).

After 1750 the area was used for recreational purposes, and has continued to be used as such to the present day. A map regression was produced for the Written Scheme of Investigation (*WSI Appendix 1*). During the 19th century the original extent of the quayside was bisected by the extension of the railway between Lancaster Castle Station on its route to Carlisle. The construction of the embankment, to form the easement on to Carlisle Railway Bridge, would presumably have had a detrimental effect on any existing archaeology. It is during this time (1890 onwards) that Quay Meadow has had a more sporting association, being a former rugby ground, later a whippet/greyhound circuit, and currently a recreational football ground. Allotment Gardens are marked on the Ordnance Survey map (1933), to the eastern edge of the site, and later (1954-1980s) this area was the site of Nicholson's Welding Works.

1.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

- 1.4.1 The area of the fort, Castle Hill and Vicarage Fields have been extensively written about by many local historians and antiquarians during the twentieth century. Further reference to this will be made in the discussion (Section 4.1 below). However, there has been little study of Quay Meadow to date, the assumption being that it was situated on the intertidal zone and marshland prior to more recent activity as a Georgian quayside (pre-1750).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI)

- 2.1.1 A WSI (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by LDHG as part fulfilment of the application to Lancaster City Council for permission to carry out investigative excavations. The WSI was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant CIfA and Historic England guidelines (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2008a; 2008b; 2010, Historic England 2015).

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

- 2.2.1 The topsoil was removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. This deposit was cleaned by hand, using shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. All features of archaeological interest were 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 was established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum, by OA North. Trenches were also surveyed aerially with the use of an Unmanned Ariel Vehicle (UAV), at the end of excavation (Figure 6), to enable more accurate geographical location of all archaeological features identified. This was also undertaken by OA North.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 2.2.4 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. A context list is provided in *Appendix 2*. The site archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:100, 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10).

2.3 FINDS

- 2.3.1 The recovery of finds and sampling programmes were carried out in accordance with best practice (following current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidelines, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2008a; 2008b; 2010, Historic England 2015) 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 accordance in current CIfA and Historic England guidelines (Historic England 2015). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record for Lancashire, and Archaeological Data Service (ADS) on completion of the project. The material archive is to be retained by Lancaster City Council and has been deposited with Lancaster Maritime Museum, in June 2017.

3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 Three trenches were excavated during the course of the investigations (Fig. 2), targeting some of the anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey (OA North 2014). A summary of the results for each area is presented below, with a context list provided in *Appendix 2* and a finds list in *Appendix 3*.

3.2 RESULTS

- 3.2.1 **Trench 1** (Fig. 3): (40m x 3m aligned north-south). The depth of overburden above archaeological features was between 0.25m and 0.48m. Only one definite feature was identified in a sondage 1, excavated approximately 17.5m from the northern end of the trench (contexts **1005** to **1010**), which consisted of two wall sections (**1006**, **1007**), and three postholes (**1005**, **1008**, and **1009**) Plate 1. There was little identifying archaeology in all other areas of the trench.

Both walls (**1006**, **1007**) were of cobble-stone construction and were aligned approximately east-west (Fig. 3). Wall **1006** was approximately 0.96m wide with faced stones on its north and south edges. Wall **1007** was approximately 1.21m wide and was not exactly parallel to **1006** although this may be more defined through further excavation. Posthole **1005** was situated to the west end of the exposed portion of wall **1006**, and was approximately 0.55m x 0.56m square, and consisted of boulder sized packing stones, with smaller cobble infill. Postholes **1008** and **1009** were to the north of the exposed portion of wall **1007**, posthole **1008** being slightly northwest of **1009**. Posthole **1008** was sub-circular (0.24 m diameter) and was surrounded by cobble stones. Posthole **1009** was also sub-circular (0.29 x 0.20m), again surrounded by packing cobbles.

To the northern end of the trench more modern activity was identified with the presence of large deposits of clinker and two concrete blocks containing iron post-shoes. These latter features are, most likely, associated with the recreational use of the site, while the clinker patches are assumed to be associated with the railway. This area was not excavated to natural deposits, so more archaeological remains may survive beneath this more recent level. The southern end of Trench 1 consists of **1002** a sub soil immediately overlaying the alluvial deposit **1004** (Sondage 2). Two linear depressions were identified within **1002**, and tentatively be attributed to ridge and furrow.

- 3.2.2 **Trench 2** (Fig. 4): (15m x 2m, aligned east-west). The depth of overburden above archaeological features was approximately 0.32m. Four walls (**2005**, **2009**, **2012**, **2015**) and seven postholes (**2021** – **2027**) were identified (Plate 2).

All the walls are in a south-west/north-east alignment and are made of a cobble and clay layer construction, with evidence of faced stone on their western and eastern edges. Walls **2005** and **2009** are both approximately 1.2m wide and have been interpreted as external walls 10m apart. Walls **2012** and **2015** are 0.75m and 0.64m wide respectively. The distance between external walls **2005** and **2009** and their respective internal walls (**2012** and **2015**) is 1.25m, and these have been interpreted as passage/aisles **2017** and **2019**. The internal distance between walls **2012** and **2015** is 3.5m and consists of a silty-sandy-clay with some small pieces of burnt wood and charcoal flecks. Only wall **2005** was

investigated further, with a slot excavated at its south-eastern edge (Plate 3). The base of the wall was not reached but six layers of cobble-over-clay construction were identified, to a depth of approximately 0.65m below ground surface. This could also be interpreted as a very substantial foundation.

An environmental sample (**003**) was taken from the internal face of **2005** (context **2017**), Fig 4. Layer **2018** was identified covering walls **2012** and **2015**, and layers **2017** and **2019** but was not recorded fully in plan.

Seven postholes were identified to the south-eastern end of the trench (Fig. 4), in two linear alignments, seemingly respecting the position of the external face of wall **2009**. Postholes **2021** to **2023** are in an east-west alignment approximately 1.5m apart and lie approximately 1.2m north of the alignment formed by postholes **2024** to **2027**. This latter alignment is approximately 0.79m between each posthole. All postholes are of a clay and cobble packing stone make up, all approximately 0.3m to 0.4m diameter.

- 3.2.3 **Trench 3** (Fig 5): (20m x 2m, east-west) The depth of overburden above identifying archaeological features was approximately 0.36m. One feature was identified (**3003**) as possibly being a portion of a road (Fig. 5, Plate 4) 5.8m from the western end of the trench.

The width of road **3003** is 3.22m. This feature was identified in a sondage located to the northern end of the trench (Fig 5).

- 3.2.4 **Trenches 1-3**: All topsoil and subsoil layers (**1001**, **2001**, **2002** and **3001**) contained typically Post-Medieval ceramic and metalwork. There was little to no evidence of Medieval activity. The ceramic finds associated with a Post-Medieval presence are limited to Georgian and Victorian domestic wares, most likely associated with the recreational nature of Quay Meadow (Plates 5, 18 and 19).

3.3 FINDS (APPENDIX 3)

- 3.3.1 **Trench 1**: As mentioned in 3.2.4, topsoil layer **1001** mainly consisted of Post-Medieval ceramics, with some metal work, and glass. A small amount of disturbed and highly abraded Roman pottery was also present. Subsoil layer **1002** consisted of mainly similar finds, with the inclusion of clay pipe fragments, possibly dating from as early as the 17th century (Plate 5).

Small find **SF012** also came from **1002**, and is part of a green glass vessel with the initials “WA” embossed on a protruding stamp (Plate 6).

- 3.3.2 **Trench 2**: Topsoil layer **2001** appears to have been highly disturbed, since it contained of a mix of artefacts ranging in dates from the Roman to Post-medieval periods. These consisted of Roman pottery and building materials, and Post-Medieval domestic pottery, and clay pipes (Appendix 3). A hard-fired clay ball (**SF16**), approximately 35mm diameter, was uncovered immediately below the turf line, at the extreme eastern end of the trench (Plate 7). Although the

origin is unknown, it could relate to a stick-and-ball game called ‘Spell and Knurr’, once popular in the North West of England.

- 3.3.3. To the western edge of the trench, a possible stylus (**SF01**) was recovered in layer **2001**, immediately above wall **2005** on its internal face with **2017** (Plate 8). Made of stone, this has been broken in antiquity, and shows reworking at the basal end, to ensure re-use of the implement.
- 3.3.4 Subsoil **2002**, was also a highly mixed layer, though the proportion of finds was significantly higher, and included building material (CBM, roof slate, sandstone floor-tile fragments etc.). Plate 9 illustrates the style of roof slates recovered, although this example is from **2001**, and further comment on these is included in the discussion below.
- 3.3.5 A second stylus shaped stone object (**SF 02**) was found from **2002**, immediately above the external face of **2005**, at the west end of the trench. No exact correlation with **SF01** can be made at this time.
- 3.3.6 Two further objects, of a personal nature, were recovered from layer **2002**. **SF15** was recovered during the finds processing stage subsequent to excavation and is a small glass pendant-bead with a broken loop (Plate 11). A thin fragment of burnt wood (**SF17** not photographed), highly polished on its external face and showing working marks on its internal face, was uncovered from **2002** and is possibly from a box, being approximately 2mm thick.
- 3.3.7 Layer **2004** consists the clay make-up of wall **2005**. This layer produced a small fragment of whetstone (**SF03** not photographed), and a small fragment of yellow sandstone tile, **SF04** (Plate12), both of which were found within the centre of the wall.
- 3.3.8 Wall **2009** yielded the only precisely dateable evidence from Trench 2. This being a highly abraded sherd of samian ware (**SF13** Plate 13), and it depicts part of a human figure (possibly gladiator leg) typical to designs portrayed on Dragendorff 27 vessels dating 80-110 AD. This sherd was found in the cleaning layer prior to photography and its precise location was not known but it was from the internal face of the wall. Undecorated samian sherds of the Dragendorff 27 form were also recovered from **2001** indicating a date between 80AD and 150AD.
- 3.3.9 Layer **2018** has been interpreted as being an internal room, and a number of finds were associated with this layer. A small fragment of very fine, clear, glass with a subtle red stripe (**SF10**) was uncovered, but again this has not been photographed due to its small size. To the north-east of layer **2018**, three metal objects (Fe alloy) were uncovered (**SF07** & **SF08**) Plate 14. It was only at post-excavation that a possible relationship between these artefacts has been identified and further investigation will be required to determine their nature.

Also from **2018**, **SF14** is a small piece of burnt wood showing a small portion of a circular carved design (Plate 15), again from a personal item, possibly a box.

3.1.10 Layer **2020**, in the eastern edge of the trench, has been interpreted as an external area with a possible associated wooden structure adjoining the eastern face of wall **2008**. This layer was sparse of surface finds. However, a small Fe-alloy item was identified, again from a cleaning layer at post excavation stage

(**SF11**). Again, like **SF07** and **SF08**, further analysis of this object will be required.

3.3.11 Trench 3: Topsoil **3001** appears to be a highly disturbed layer consisting of ceramic and building material, intermixed with Post-Medieval and modern artefacts. (Plate 17, 18 and 19). There were no precisely dateable artefacts associated with any of the archaeological features within trench 3.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 It is clear that Quay Meadow contains at least two stone/post structures (Trench 1 & 2, Figs 3&4) and a section of road running in a north-south alignment (Trench 3). The section of road appears to be of typical Roman construction. The associated camber (*agger*) was present although the ditch components, normally connected with classical Roman road construction, have yet to be identified. The results from the geophysical survey (OA North 2014) suggest that these features may become apparent, slightly further to the north of Trench 3. Codrington states

“Little is known of Roman roads to the north of Lancaster. A paving of cobbles, grouted with lime, four to four and a half yards wide, was dug up in 1882 for a length of 130-140 yards, which pointed to Scaleford, on the River Lune, and on the north of the river a supposed Roman road was uncovered in 1892 on the road from Lancaster to Kirkby Lonsdale, at about four and a half miles from Lancaster.” (Codrington 1903 p.120).

The former stretch of road he describes can be presumed to be between the western edge of the known fort and Carlisle Bridge and, therefore, in the geographical area of Quay Meadow and Luneside East, to the northeast of Longmarsh Lane. Although its precise location is undetermined, this may relate to the portion of road identified in Trench 3 and the geophysical survey.

The structure in Trench 1 consisted of two stone walls and three associated postholes (Fig 3). Wall **1006** appears to have postholes integrated within its matrix, suggesting a stone footing with a wooden structure on top. Wall **1007** is most likely to be of a different phase in construction from **1006**, as they do not run parallel to each other (Fig 3). No finds were associated with these structures to provide further dateable evidence.

The buildings in Trench 2 were consistent with the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (OAN 2014), being ten metres wide and an undetermined length, as the geophysics did not incorporate the northern end of the structure. The postholes (**2021-2027**), to the eastern, edge indicate a wooden structure associated to its exterior wall. Internally, two parallel passageways/aisles (**2017-2019**) appear to surround a central room (**2018**, Fig 4). The Samian sherds (**SF13**) found in **2019**, against the edge of wall **2009**, indicates a *terminus post quem* of 80AD, which is consistent of the Trajanic phase of the fort. The clay and stone construction of the walls could indicate an early to mid-second century date, although this was a foundation construction technique that continued well into the 4th century. Further investigation of this structure will be necessary to interpret its date and nature. Construction debris identified in later deposits indicates it was at least a partially sandstone-flagged floor. A slate roof is indicated by the recovery of typically Roman diamond shaped fragments of slate (Plate 9), (Mc Whirr 1988). The source of this slate can be presumed to be from either North Wales or the Lake District, both which possess slate mines of Roman origin.

- 4.1.2 There was a noticeable absence of Medieval finds across all three trenches. A research project undertaken in 2015 (Derbyshire 2015) indicates that the Medieval (and later) name for Quay Meadow was Hay Field, suggesting an arable use, which would normally have abraded Medieval pottery associated with manuring processes. Likewise, ridge and furrow was identified on the Vicarage Fields from the geophysical survey (OAN 2014). However, this does not extend onto Quay Meadow. There is a high probability that Quay Meadow was extensively landscaped during the 1750's, to form the recreational/ sports facilities we see today, which would account for this void in the archaeological record.
- 4.1.3 Little to no archaeological features were identified during the Post-Medieval period. However, the vast number of finds related to this period indicates a transitory recreational use for the last 400 years.

4.2 CONCLUSION

On a site that has previously been overlooked for its archaeological potential, Quay Meadow has proven itself to be of significant archaeological importance. It would be advised that further archaeological investigation be undertaken to determine the extent and nature of the site, and to consolidate the known existing knowledge of the archaeology of Lancaster.

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6. ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Trench location overlaying the geophysical survey (OAN 2014).

Figure 3: Trench 1 plan

Figure 4: Trench 2

Figure 5: Trench 3 plan

Figure 6: Photogrammetric Survey of Quay Meadow

6.2 PLATES

Plate 1: Walls **1006** and **1007**, and postholes **1005**, **1008** and **1009**

Plate 2: Trench 2 looking west, with postholes 2021-2027 in the foreground, and walls 2005, 2009, 2001 and 2015 in the background

Plate 3: Section through wall **2005**

Plate 4: Road **3003**

Plate 5: A selection of clay pipes from Trench 1 (**2005**)

Plate 6: (**SF12**) a green glass vessel, with the initials “WA” on an embossed Stamp

Plate 7: Clay ball (**SF16**) from topsoil **2001**

Plate 8: Stylus-like object (**SF01**) from topsoil **2001**

Plate 9: Roman roof slate from **2001**

Plate 10: Stylus-like object from **2002**

Plate 11: Glass pendant bead from **2002**

Plate 12: Sandstone tile fragment **SF04** from **2004**

Plate 13: Dragendorff 27 pottery sherd **SF13** from **2009**

Plate 14: Metal object **SF07** (top) **SF08** (bottom) from **2018**

Plate 15: Burnt wood **SF14** from **2018**

Plate 16: Iron object (**SF11**) from **2020**

Plate 17: A selection of Roman material from Trench 3 (**3001**)

Plate 18: A selection of Post-Medieval pottery (Georgian) from Trench 3 (**3001**)

Plate 19: A selection of metalwork from Trench 3 (**3001**)

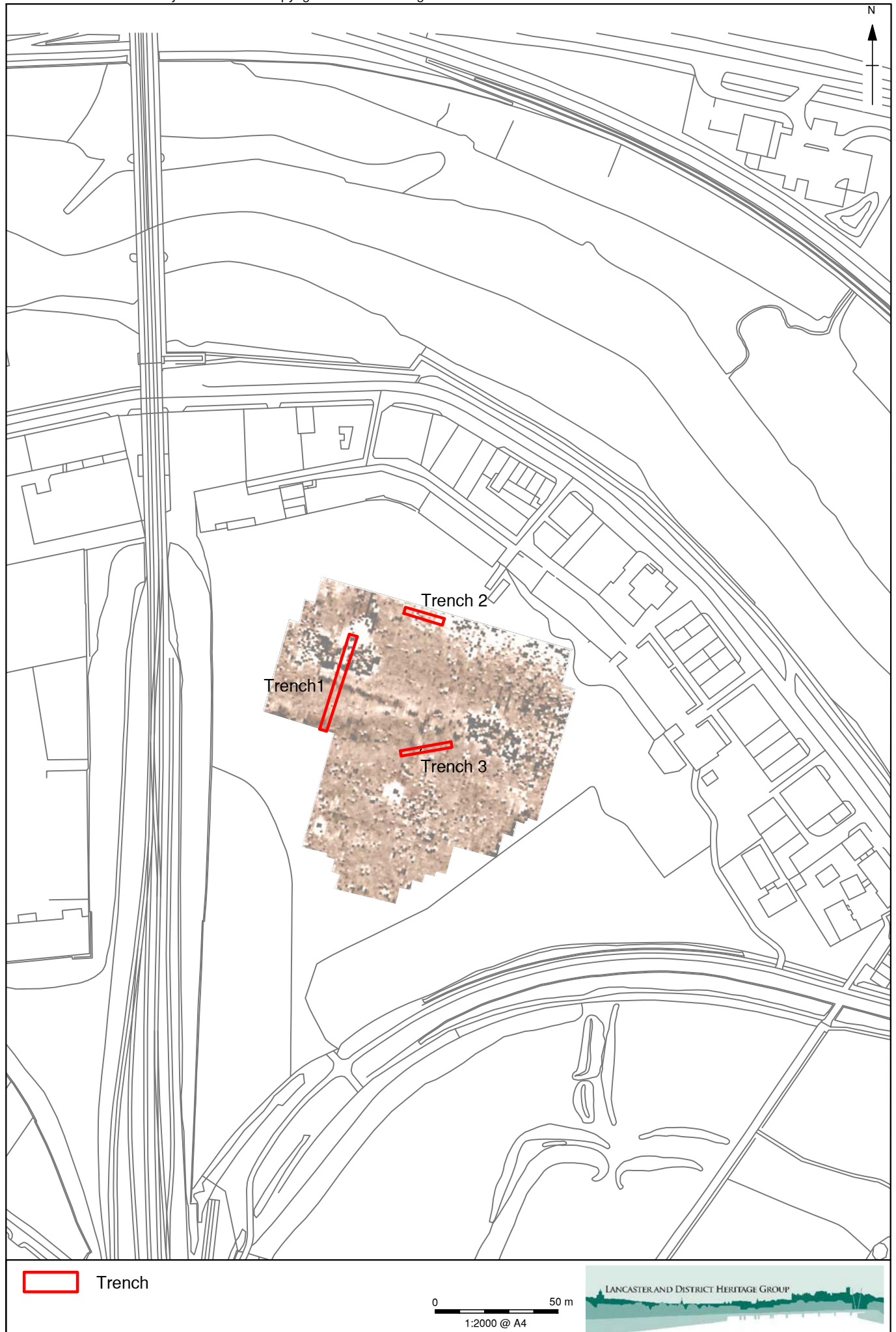
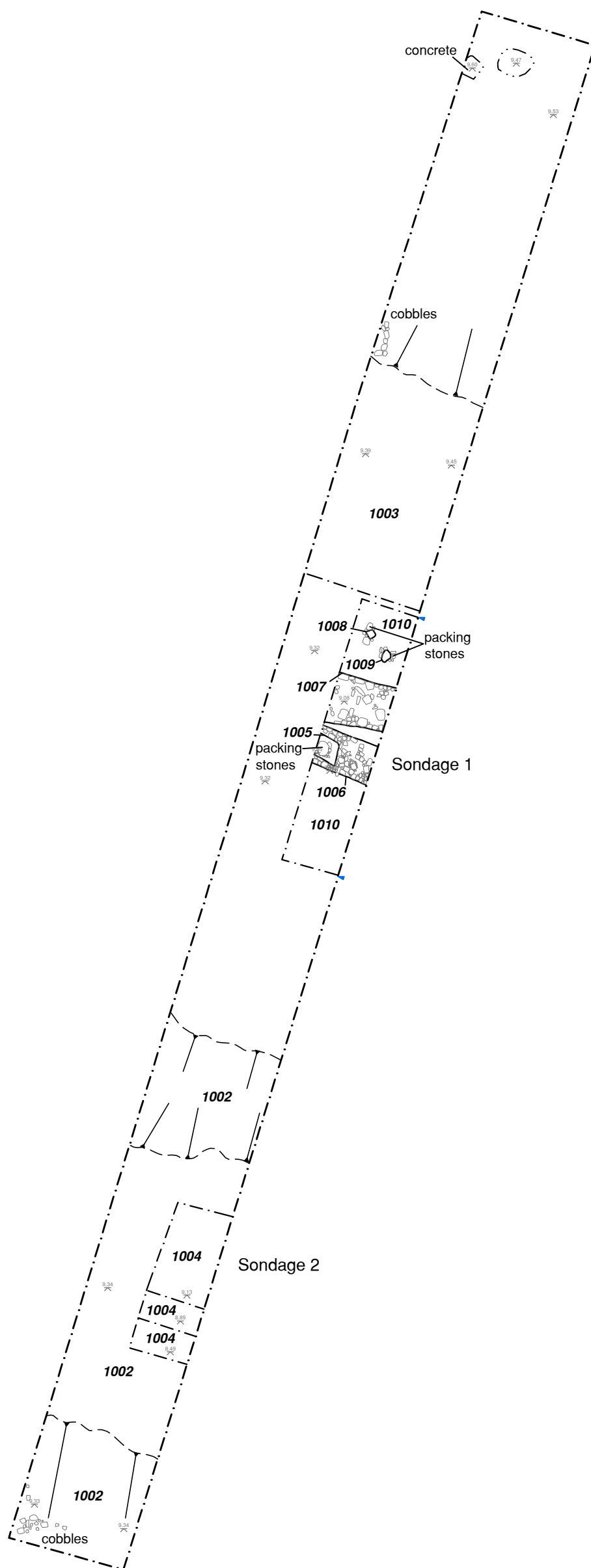






Figure 2: Trench Location overlaying the geophysical survey (OAN 2014)



- | | |
|---|---|
|  Edge of excavation |  Modern truncation |
|  Archaeological feature | |
|  Stone | |

0 2.5 m
1:125 @ A3



Figure 3: Trench 1 plan

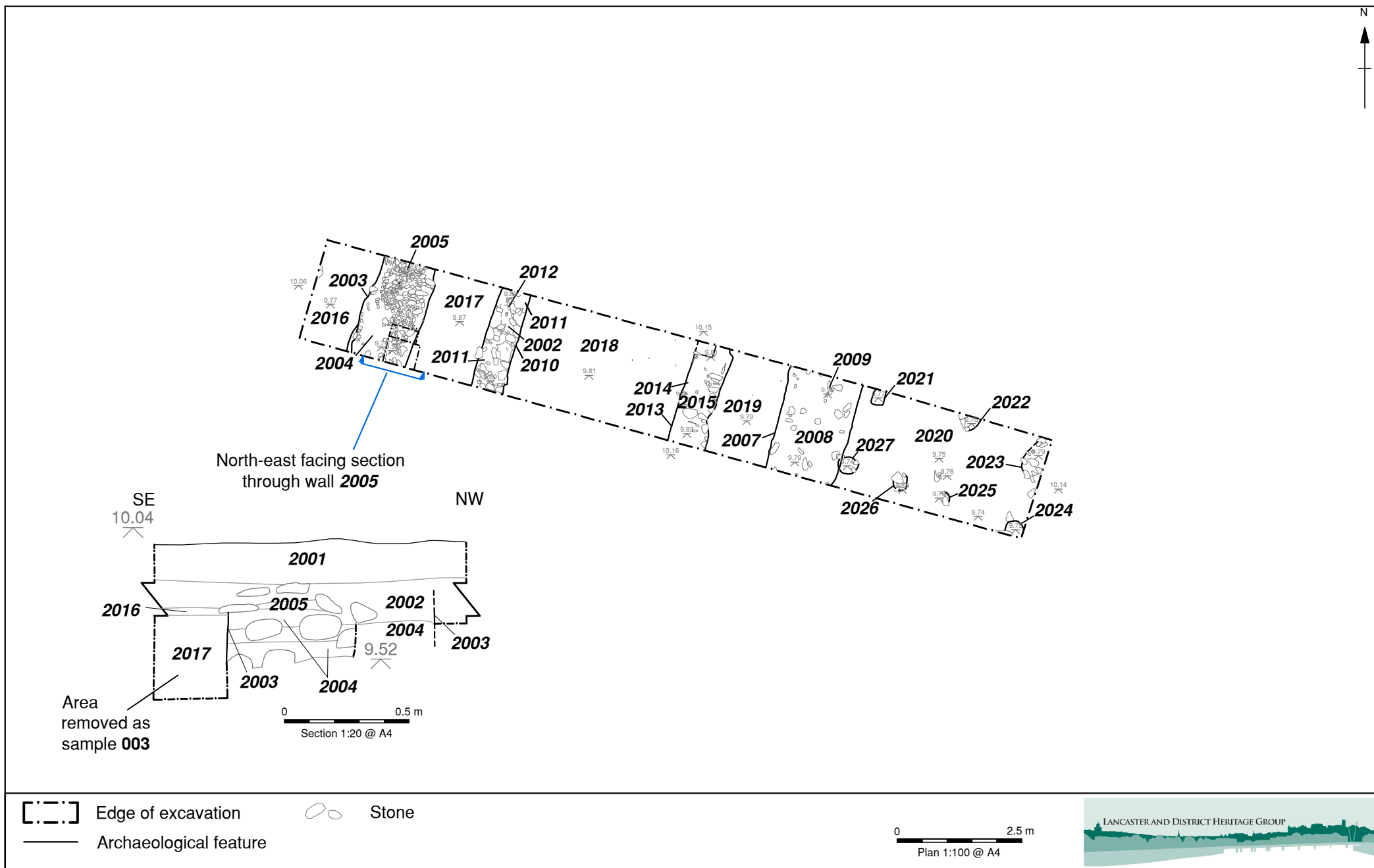


Figure 4: Trench 2 plan and section

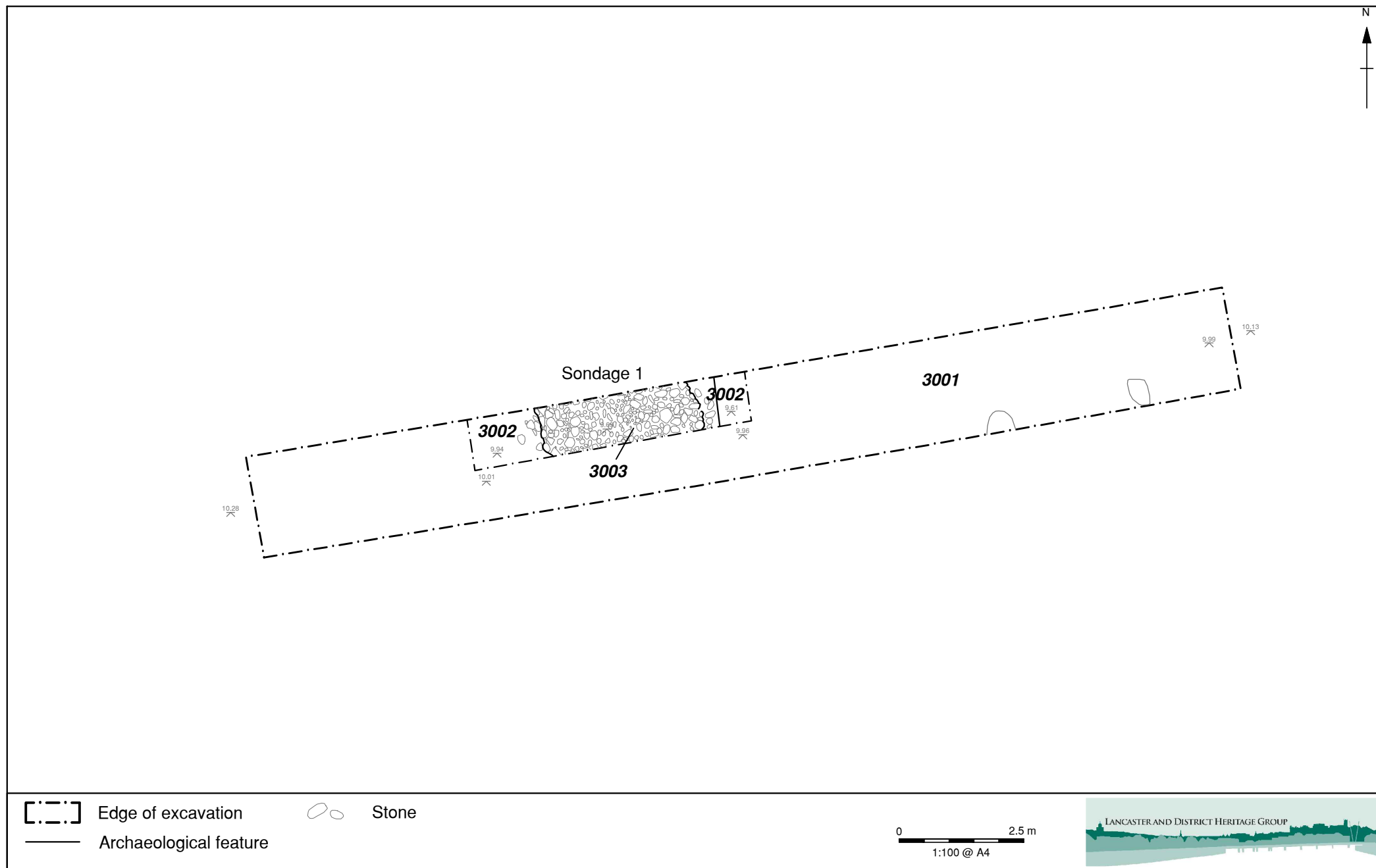


Figure 5: Trench 3 plan



Figure 6: Photogrammetric survey of Quay Meadow Evaluation, 2015



Plate 1: Walls 1006 and 1007, and postholes 1005, 1008 and 1009



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking west, with postholes 2021 to 2027 in the foreground, and walls 2005, 2009, 2012 and 2015 in the background



Plate 3: Section through wall 2005



Plate 4: Road 3003



Plate 5: A selection of clay pipe from Trench 1 (1002) (5cm scale bar)



Plate 6: SF12, a green glass vessel, with the initials "WA" on an embossed stamp (5cm scale bar)



Plate 7: Clay ball (SF16) from 2001 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 8: Stylus-like object (SF01) from topsoil 2001 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 9: Roman roof slate from 2001 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 10: Stylus-like object SF02 from 2002 (5cm scale bar)



*Plate 11: Glass Pendant-bead **SF15** from **2002** (5cm scale bar)*



*Plate 12: Sandstone Tile Fragment **SF04** from **2004** (5cm scale bar)*



Plate 13: Dragendorff 27 pottery sherd SF13 from 2009 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 14; Metal objects SF07 (top) SF08 (bottom) from 2018 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 15: Burnt wood SF14 from 2018 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 16: Iron object (SF11) from 2020 (5cm scale bar)



Plate 17: A selection of Roman material from Trench 3 (3001) (5cm scale bar)



Plate 18: A selection of Post-Medieval pottery (Georgian) from Trench 3 (3001) (5cm scale bar)



Plate 19: A selection of metal work from Trench 3 (3001) (5cm scale bar)

APPENDIX 1: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

Project Background

Lancaster and District Heritage Group (LDHG) have received seed funding from the Duchy of Lancaster to undertake a community-based archaeological evaluation at Quay Meadow, Lancaster (hereafter "the site"). The work aims to 'ground truth' the results of a remote sensing survey undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) on behalf of Beyond The Castle a partnership project between Lancashire County Council (LCC*) and Lancaster City Council (LCC). Remote sensing (including photogrammetry, GPR, Resistivity and Magnetometry) has revealed a complex pattern of buried remains the area between Lancaster Castle and St Georges Quay (Figure 1), potentially dating to the Roman and medieval periods.

The work will be undertaken under the guidance of Peter Isles, Specialist Advisor (Archaeology) with Lancashire County Council who has advised on the requirement for an archaeological evaluation in accordance with a WSI. The project will be managed by Jason Wood, MCIfA, with on-site archaeological supervision provided by DigVentures, a specialist community-based organisation and registered organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (RO 102).

Scope of Document

This WSI sets out the strategy and methodology by which the community group will implement the archaeological evaluation. In format and content it conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1999), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavations* (2008) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, East Anglia Archaeology Occasional Papers 14* (2003). This WSI will be submitted to LCC* for advice and approval prior to the commencement of the archaeological programme.

Site Location and Geology

A centered grid reference for Quay Meadow is 347231/ 462265. The site's topography is fairly flat, comprising an area of urban grassland surrounded on three sides by trees and lying between Lancaster Castle and St Georges' Quay close to the River Lune (Figure 1). Quay Meadow is a green space within an area of mixed residential, commercial and tourism/ leisure related properties. Including Vicarage Field, the meadow forms part of the Castle Hill/ St Georges' Quay area of the City of Lancaster, and is owned by Lancaster City Council. The meadow lies alongside a Scheduled Monument, an area occupied by the remains of at least three Roman Forts and a Roman Bath House.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Previous work

Having checked the Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) there is no record of any archaeological investigations having been carried out on Quay Meadow.

This does not preclude the possibility of unofficial finds being made and not reported.

AIMS

Archaeological Evaluation

The principal aim of the archaeological evaluation is to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the area defined by the remote sensing survey. This will include:

To verify the archaeological potential of the site.

To identify the potential for remains not anticipated by previous research or record.

METHODOLOGY

Monitoring of Development

It is proposed that the programme for the archaeological evaluation will consist of three targeted trenches designed to assess specific geophysical anomalies. (Figure 2 & 3)

Trench 1 (T1 on Fig 3). This will be the longest of the trenches measuring no more than 40m x 3m x 1.2m It will examine and possibly expose 3 distinct targets (M1, M2 and M4 on Fig 3).

M1 – A possible pit or ditch filled with rubble.

M2 – A possible linear bank or boundary.

M4 – A possible geomorphological feature.

Trench 2 (T2 on Fig 3). This trench will measure no more than 15m x 2m x 1.2m and will be dug to examine and expose a possible square structure.

Trench 3 (T3 on Fig 3). This trench will measure no more than 20m x 2m x 1.2m This trench will examine a possible linear structural feature and targets in the immediate vicinity.

A professional archaeological presence will be maintained during all community-based field work on the Site. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the WSI provided by LDHG and the requirements of the LCC. A metal detector will be used to scan all spoil to assist with finds collection.

All recording will be undertaken using a MOLA-equivalent *pro forma* recording system, supported by a photographic record. A sufficient sample of each feature type/deposit will be examined in order to establish the date, nature, extent and condition of the archaeological remains, encompassing the following percentage interventions:

50% of each intrusive feature (pits, postholes).

15% of each linear feature's exposed area + all terminals & intersections.

50% structural features (beamslots, ring ditches) - actual surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) just require exposure, cleaning & preservation for excavation in more appropriate circumstances.

50-100% domestic/industrial working features (hearths, ovens).

In the event that unexpectedly complex and widespread archaeological remains are revealed, LCC will be informed in order that the provisions of this WSI may be reviewed. Areas under archaeological observation will be surveyed using a Total Station or GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey. Variations to the WSI and Method Statement will be agreed in advance with LCC.

Finds and Environmental Samples

Finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (revised 1999), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

All artefacts will be retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances sufficient artefacts will only be retained to elucidate the

date and function of the feature or deposit.

All artefacts from the archaeological evaluation will, as a minimum, be washed, marked, counted, weighed and identified. Any stratified ironwork will be X-rayed and stored in a stable condition along with other fragile and delicate material. Suitable material, primarily the pottery and non-ferrous metalwork, will be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage. The results of this scan will be appended to the archaeological evaluation report.

Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate sealed and dateable archaeological contexts (each context will normally be sampled). Samples of between 40-60 litres will be taken or 100 % of smaller contexts. Samples will not be taken from the intersection of features. Bulk environmental soil samples will be processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive. A statement on the environmental potential of excavated deposits will be appended to the archaeological evaluation report.

Human Remains

In the event of discovery of any human remains, it is proposed that they will be left *in situ*, covered and protected, until the Client, Coroner and LCC* have been informed. Where development will unavoidably disturb them they will be fully recorded, excavated and removed from the site subject to compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, which will be obtained by LDHG.

Should human remains be excavated during the archaeological evaluation, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains*. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken by specialist professional staff. The final placing of human remains following analysis will be subject to the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Licence.

Treasure

In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by The Treasure Act 1996, their excavation and removal will be undertaken following notification of the Client, Coroner and LCC*.

POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORTING

Archaeological evaluation Report

Within twelve weeks of completion of all fieldwork, a report setting out the results will be produced and forwarded to LCC for approval. The evaluation report will be prepared in accordance with the guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Archaeological evaluation* (Revised 1999), except where superseded by statements below.

Emphasis will be given to placing the results into the context of the archaeology of the region, and their significance in the context of the regional research framework (Brennand et al, 2006). The report will comply with the requirements of LCC and in any case may include:

- A non-technical summary

- Plans and sections at an appropriate scale locating the site, the, known and projected archaeological deposits and the extent and nature of colluvial and/or alluvial deposits, including OD heights

- Tabulation of finds data by context and by material type

A summary by category of the material types recovered during the archaeological evaluation
A summary of the palaeo-environmental evidence
A consideration of the archaeological evidence from within the Site set in its broader landscape and historic setting

The preparation of the report may involve the following elements:

The conservation of appropriate material, including the X-raying of ironwork
The spot dating of all pottery from excavated contexts. Spot dating will be corroborated by scanning of other categories of material
The preparation of a preliminary phased site matrix with supporting lists of contexts by type (ditch fill, pit fill etc.), by spot-dated phase (Early Bronze Age, Middle Iron Age, Roman etc.), by structural grouping (e.g. contexts by pit, by building etc.), supported by preliminary phase plans.
A statement on each category of material, including reference to quantity, provenance, range and variety, condition and existence of other primary sources.
The selection and prioritisation of bulk soil samples taken for environmental and artefactual data in the light of preliminary phasing. Sieving, processing and scanning of selected soil samples will be undertaken and an assessment statement on charred food and plant remains, including references as for the categories of material
A statement of potential for each material category and for the data collection as a whole will be prepared, including specific questions that can be answered and the potential value of the data to local, regional and national investigation priorities.

Where appropriate and subject to further agreement, further analysis may be undertaken and the results published in a journal appropriate to the significance of finds. An OASIS online record will be initiated at the start of work, and a copy of the OASIS form included with the final report. Where positive results are drawn for a project, a summary report will also be submitted to an appropriate local or specialist journal.

ARCHIVE

Preparation and Deposition

The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with ClfA Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

Following consultation with LCC*, a unique archaeological 'event number' will be applied for and will be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work. The material archive from the project, including the finds and subject to the wishes of the landowner will be deposited with the Lancaster Museums Service.

Guidelines for preparation and deposition have been fully reviewed to ensure that the curator's requirements can be fully met. Deposition of the Digital Archive will follow guidelines outlined by The Archaeological Data Service (ADS) and RCAHMS (2012), and a digital version of the project archive will be prepared for uploading to LCC's servers.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING

STANDARDS

Personnel

The fieldwork will be directed by an experienced archaeologist (Jason Wood, MCIfA – Project Manager) and supervised by DigVentures core staff. The overall responsibility for the conduct and management of the project will be held by the Project Manager, who will attend site for the duration of fieldwork to monitor progress and to ensure that the scope of works is adhered to. The Project Manager and supervising archaeologists will be involved in all phases of the evaluation through to its completion.

STANDARDS

Personnel

Quality and Code of Practice

Jason Wood is a full corporate member within the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. LDHG have appointed DigVentures as their professional archaeological supervisors; DigVentures is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. All senior managers are MCIfA registered. The company endorses the Code of Practice and the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology of The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

All core staff employed by DigVentures are appropriately qualified ClfA members, and employed in line with The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Codes of Practice. DigVentures operates a *Project Management System*. All projects are undertaken under the direction of the Project Manager who is responsible to a Section Head, who ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation. The Managing Director has ultimate responsibility for all of the companies work.

INSURANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

Policy and Risk Assessment

Health and safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practises will override archaeological considerations at all times. LDHG shall undertake the works in accordance with the LCC's Health and Safety requirements and Health and Safety Plan. This document should take account of any design information pertaining to above ground hazards such as buildings and structures and below ground hazards such as services, utilities and infrastructure. Risk Assessments should also consider below ground contaminants such as unexploded ordnance.

LDHG will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1996). Trench excavation and design shall conform to Health and Safety legislation, incorporating current best engineering practice where possible.

LDHG and DigVentures hold public and employer liability (£10,000,000) and professional indemnity insurance (£5,000,000).

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APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Site Code: Qm15 TRENCH 1.

[illegible]

CONTEXT REGISTER.

Site Code:

[illegible]

APPENDIX 3: FINDS LIST

QM_15 Finds Register

Trench No	Context number	Small Find No	Material type	Number of items	Weight (g)	Rim no	Base no	Pipe bowls	Pipe stems	Description
Tr01	1001		clay pipe	8	11			1	7	
Tr01	1001		Fe (iron)	5	419					2 nails, 3 misc Fe work
Tr01	1001		Fe (iron)	1	21					Fe nail
Tr01	1001		flint	1	83					poss abraded core
Tr01	1001		Glass	26	287	1	3			3 bottle neck sherds
Tr01	1001		Glass	7	15	1				1x blue with appliqué white dots
Tr01	1001		Metal work	9	78					Random modern
Tr01	1001		mixed metal	3	23					
Tr01	1001		Post med pot	133	1276	28	29			9 handles
Tr01	1001		Post med pot	65	448	5	4			2x handle
Tr01	1001		Roman pot	3	15					
Tr01	1002		CBM	3	32					Possible Roman tile/brick. 1 lump of lime (?)
Tr01	1002		clay pipe	32	101			6	26	1 stamp (poss 2)
Tr01	1002		clay pipe	23	75			1	22	
Tr01	1002		Glass	10	76					Random misc sherds
Tr01	1002	SF012	Glass	1	29					Seal with WA stamp
Tr01	1002		IA/RB	2	47	1				high shoulder sherd. Larger sherd shows finger marks
Tr01	1002		Med pot	1	6					Body sherd
Tr01	1002		Med pot	1	6					
Tr01	1002		Post med pot	24	360	4	4			1 handle
Tr01	1002		Post med pot	33	255	3	1			
Tr01	1002		post med pot	14	241	2				Random body sherds
Tr01	1002		pot	4	14					unidentified
Tr01	1002		RB pot	1	18	1				Possible IA/RB pot rim
Tr01	1002		Roman pot	1	5					Samian type body sherd
Tr01	1002		roman pot	2	21		1			1 base. 1 strap handle
Tr01	1002		Roman pot	1	1	1				Samian type rim
Tr01	1002		Roman pot	1	1					abraded samian
Tr01	1003		Slate	1	432					Odd shaped, worked slate
Tr01	1004		Fe (iron)	2	2					abraded nails?
Tr01	1004		Roman pot?	14	51	1	2			abraded roman pot?
Tr02	2001		burnt wood?	24	31					random pieces of burnt wood
Tr02	2001		CBM	4	101					
Tr02	2001	SF016	Clay ball	1	42					possible sling shot
Tr02	2001		clay pipe	26	69			1	25	
Tr02	2001		Fe (iron)	16	1101					
Tr02	2001		fe (iron)	8	60					
Tr02	2001		Glass	20	119					misc glass including glass elephant head
Tr02	2001		post med pot	116	780	26	17			23x handles including slumped strap handle
Tr02	2001		quartz	1	7					not local
Tr02	2001		roman pot	4	17					
Tr02	2001		Roman pot	7	26	1				
Tr02	2001		roman pot	5	103	1	1			inc samian
Tr02	2001		Slate (roof)		745					worked slate roof tiles of 'leaf' shape
Tr02	2001		stone and brick	35	541					

[illegible]

[illegible]

Small Finds No	Context	Trench No	Other Info
001	418 2001	Tr 2	Poss stylus stub in Topsoil.
002	418 2002	Tr 2	Poss stylus point in Subsoil.
003	2004	Tr 2	WHETSTONE FROM EDGE OF WALL CUT
004	2004 2005	Tr 2	SANDSTONE TILE FROM COBBLE WALL.
005	2019	Tr 2	PIPE CLAY (?) ASSOCIATED WITH EAST INTERNAL WALL.
006	2019	Tr 2	SAMIAN (?) ASSOCIATED WITH EAST INTERNAL WALL.
007	2018	Tr 2	LARGE IRON OBJECT
008	2018	Tr 2	SMALL IRON OBJECT
009	2018	Tr 2	BLUE GLASS
010	2018	Tr 2	WHA CLEAR GLASS WITH RED LINE
011	2020	Tr 2	Fe(?) Hook like with 2 shds.
012	1002	Tr 1	glass bowl(?) with 'WA' stamp.
013	2009	Tr 2	Samian with human leg decor.
014	2018	Tr 2	Burnt wood with carving.
015	2002	Tr 2	glass bead.
016	2001	TR 2	Hard fired clay ball, possible sling shot.
017	2002	TR 2	Burnt wood 'slice' possible box lid(?)
018	2018	TR 2	FE LUMP.
019	2018	TR 2	POSSIBLE VOLCANIC ROCK.



LANCASTER AND DISTRICT HERITAGE GROUP

