



# **ST. JAMES' CHURCH, STOCKS IN BOWLAND**

**LANCASHIRE**

## **Interim Historical Study**



**Oxford Archaeology North**

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**United Utilities and the Forest of  
Bowland AONB**

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## SUMMARY

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were invited to provide archaeological supervision for a community survey and excavation of St James Church, Stocks in Bowland (NGR: SD 733 565), which has been financed by United Utilities and co-ordinated by the Forest of Bowland AONB. The supervision was required to facilitate a survey of the environs of St James' Church and a programme of excavation of the foundations of the church. The project was intended to provide a programme of outreach for local people associated with a study of the lost community of Stocks in Bowland which was partly drowned by the construction of Stocks Reservoir. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a project design prepared by OA North (*Appendix 1*). The excavation and survey provided training in archaeological recording techniques for members of the local community, and also provided new information on the wealth of archaeological remains in the Stocks in Bowland region, as well as the Church site. The present report is an interim statement on the results of documentary research that has been collated by Helen Wallbank and is intended to provide a context for the results of the archaeological excavation of St James' Church.

Stocks in Bowland was a small hamlet to the north of Slaidburn. The settlement of Stocks, possibly consisting of then no more than a couple of farms, was recorded as early as 1246. The settlement grew and from the seventeenth century, included an inn, and latterly a smithy, post-office and store were established to service the growing community of Dalehead, which was a series of dispersed farms on the line of the historic drove route across the Forest of Bowland.

The present study is focused on the northern village centre, which was located a short distance to the north of the original settlement of Stocks in Bowland. It comprised St James' Church, constructed in 1852; a school, built in 1873, and the vicarage, completed in 1875. The school and school house are located within a square plot, a short distance south of the church. They comprise two adjoining irregular shaped buildings, with small outbuildings to the north-east. North-west of the church, on the south-west side of Miry Lane, is the vicarage in the north-western of two squarish plots, with the south-eastern plot having been a croft.

In 1912 authority was given to the Fylde Water Board to build a reservoir at Stocks. Construction work did not begin till 1921 and was not completed until 1932. This led to the abandonment of a number of farms and the hamlet of Stocks in Bowland; St James' Church was dismantled and re-erected half a mile away, although the original foundations survive intact.

As part of the community project, the sites of the church, vicarage, school and Swinshaw farm were subject to outline survey investigation. All of these structures had been comprehensively demolished in advance of the flooding of the reservoir, and, on examination of the sites, there were very few extant remains identified. The church has been partially excavated and the results of these explorations will be presented as a separate report.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Sandra Silk of the Forest of Bowland AONB and David Oyston of United Utilities for commissioning the project and for their considerable support in the course of the project. Thanks are also due to Helen Wallbank at Slaidburn Archives for sharing her research of the area; plates 1-17 were provided by Slaidburn Archives.

The documentary study was undertaken by Alastair Vannan, with the drawings produced by Anne Stewardson. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine, who also edited the report.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were invited to provide archaeological supervision for a community survey and excavation of St James Church, Stocks in Bowland (NGR: SD 733 565) (Fig 1), which has been financed by United Utilities and co-ordinated by the Forest of Bowland AONB. The supervision was required to facilitate inform a survey of the environs of St James' Church and a programme of excavation of the foundations of the church. The project was intended to provide a programme of outreach for local people associated with a study of the lost community of Stocks in Bowland, which was partly drowned by the construction of Stocks Reservoir. The work has been undertaken in accordance with a project design prepared by OA North (*Appendix 1*). The excavation and survey provided training in archaeological recording techniques for members of the local community, and also provided new information on the wealth of archaeological remains in the Stocks in Bowland region, as well as the Church site.
- 1.1.2 The archaeological excavation is being undertaken in two stages, and the first was undertaken between 24th September and 7th November 2011; the second stage will be undertaken in April and May 2012. The results of the excavation will be reported on following the completion of the second phase. As defined in the project design (*Appendix 1*) the present report is an interim statement on the results of documentary research that has been collated by Helen Wallbank and is intended to provide a context for the results of the archaeological excavation of St James' Church.

### 1.2 LOCATION, AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 Stocks in Bowland was a small hamlet to the north of Slaidburn within the valley of the River Hodder, located in the north-eastern part of the Forest of Bowland (Fig 1); it provided service facilities for a number of dispersed farms throughout this area of the Upper Hodder. The hamlet included the lower historic part of the settlement, comprising a pub and a number of farms, and also a newer part comprising church, vicarage and school on higher ground above the valley floor on the line of a road (School Lane) extending north, which was itself the formalisation of a medieval droveway (LUAU 1997). In 1932 the historic centre of the hamlet was drowned as a result of the construction of Stocks Reservoir, but left the newer part on dry ground just beyond the north-eastern limit of the reservoir. The present excavation and survey programme entails the recording of those elements of the hamlet that survived the flooding but which were demolished to facilitate water catchment into the reservoir (NGR: SD 733 565).

### 1.3 METHODS

- 1.3.1 The present report reflects the synthesis of documentary data captured by Helen Wallbank, of Slaidburn Archives, over an extended period. It draws upon secondary accounts, as well as primary cartographic and photographic representations of the village. It is intended to provide a background to the excavation results that will be disseminated within a separate report.

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## 2. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

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### 2.1 FOREST OF BOWLAND BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 **Early Medieval:** although the earliest documented references to settlements in the Forest of Bowland are from the medieval period, the place names of these settlements indicates an earlier origin, and there is the potential that the pattern of settlement was fairly well established by the time of the Conquest. The majority of place-names in the Bowland area are of Anglo-Saxon origin, and it is likely that, amongst others, the villas of Chipping, Aighton, Easington, Grindleton, and Waddington, would all have been established by the time of the Norse incursions in the ninth century (LUAU 1997). One Bowland township appears to have a Norse place-name ending, Battersby, and there are two Hiberno-Norse derived -*erg* names within Bowland that relate to dependant settlements, Batterax (alias Beatrix) and Gamellsarghs (Higham 1978b). This small number of Norse place names accords with the palaeobotanic evidence (MacKay and Tallis 1994, 579) which shows that there was an increase of woodland species from Fairsnape Fell from the fifth to the eighth century, but a decline in woodland pollen and a corresponding rise in herbaceous pollen from the eight to twelfth centuries, indicating an increase of settlement activity
- 2.1.2 **Bowland Chase:** in the twelfth century Bowland was first referred to as a chase from 1102, when it was granted by Henry I to Robert de Lacy (Wightman 1966, 37). Then in the late twelfth / early thirteenth century parts of Bowland were granted to Kirkstall Abbey; one of the holdings that were passed over was the settlement of Rishton, now under Stocks reservoir. This area became known as Dalehead, and was subsequently serviced by Stocks Village (*op cit*, 109). In 1322 all the possessions of the de Lacys were surrendered to Edward I (Shaw 1956), and were then granted to Thomas of Lancaster, and after a number of exchanges they became an integral part of the earldom of Lancaster from 1348, and then the Duchy and, being in royal hands, became a part of the Royal Forest of Lancaster (*op cit*, 226).
- 2.1.3 **Later Medieval Vaccaries:** the first reference to cattle farming is from 1242 (Farrer 1903, 156), and is reflected in a scatter of dispersed vaccary farms, the name deriving from the Latin word *vacca* for cow. However, some of these vaccaries, such as Batterax and Gamelsarghs, have early place names and may therefore indicate that the system had earlier, possibly Celtic, origins (Higham 1978a).
- 2.1.4 The vaccary sites, established by at least the thirteenth century, are for the most part still occupied by post-medieval farms and were situated in valleys where they were sheltered and had a plentiful water supply, but were also within close proximity to the fell for grazing; this includes Catlow in Dalehead (LUAU 1997). Croasdale, Higoake and Randolph Booth appear to be the only vaccaries for which the farm sites are not known, as they seem not to have survived long into the post-medieval period. Higoake is significant for the present study, as it is in the area of the present day Stocks reservoir, although precisely where is uncertain, and its relationship to the settlement of Stocks is similarly uncertain (*ibid*).

- 2.1.5 By the post-medieval period some of these vaccaries had developed into multiple farms and had formed hamlets. At Batterax (*ibid*), for example, settlement earthworks can be seen lying to the north and east of the present Beatrix farm on aerial photographs and would appear to be the remains of the earlier vaccary.
- 2.1.6 **Monastic Presence:** the key monastic holding of Kirkstall Abbey in their Dalehead holding was Rishton Grange; a grange being a monastic farm, wholly owned and run by the monastery, which, in the course of the monastic tenure of the lands, would have been the main controlling caput for the wider estate. By the mid fifteenth century Rishton had developed into an important settlement (Greenwood and Bolton 1955); Kirkstall abbey at this time was leasing its lands at Rishton and the development of dispersed farmsteads within the Kirkstall estate may date to then (Porter 1973, 38). It is unclear whether or not there was a nucleated settlement at Rishton, though aerial photographs contained in the SMR appear to show settlement earthworks outside the study area between Rain Gill and Black House, to the south of Rushton Hill. Certainly, the grange was considered to be distinct from the vill of Rishton in the thirteenth century (Greenwood and Bolton 1955, 32), so it is likely that another settlement existed there besides the grange. However, if there was a medieval nucleated settlement at Rishton it had been abandoned by the sixteenth century, perhaps much earlier, and by 1537 the monastic lands were farmed by ten dispersed tenant farms (Porter 1973, 38); amongst these farms were Halsteads, Hollins and Phynis (Smith 1961). Just south-west of Stocks village is the significantly named Grange Hall, which was probably the surviving remains of the Rishton Grange. It had seventeenth century architectural characteristics, but may have had earlier fabric preserved within it; however, it was demolished and flooded as a result of the reservoir construction and it is no longer possible to establish physical evidence for its early origins.

## 2.2 STOCKS IN BOWLAND

- 2.2.1 Stocks in Bowland was a small hamlet to the north of Slaidburn. The settlement of Stocks, possibly consisting of then no more than a couple of farms, was recorded as early as 1246 (Smith 1961, 203). The settlement grew and from the seventeenth century, included an inn, and latterly a smithy, post-office and store were established to service the growing community of Dalehead, which was a series of dispersed farms on the line of the historic drove route across the Forest of Bowland. A second centre to the village was established in the mid-nineteenth century, comprising a church, a rectory and a school, set some 240m to the north of the original settlement along the line of the road towards the dispersed farms that Stocks was servicing. If the village had been allowed to develop, then these separate centres may have merged but the construction of the reservoir curtailed this potential development.
- 2.2.2 Being the service provider for the wider Dalehead hamlet, Stocks had few farms and houses, but did have a number of service buildings essential for the community. The principal one of these was the inn, The Travellers Rest (originally called the New Inn (Mitchell 1992)), and it is interesting that there was a public house long before there was a church. Photographs of the inn show that it was a building of some antiquity; it had the classic long stone-mullioned windows that characterises seventeenth century vernacular architecture (Brunskill 1974).



- 2.2.3 **Northern Village Centre:** the present study is focused on the northern village centre, which was located a short distance to the north of the original settlement of Stocks in Bowland, and which was above the line of flooding of the reservoir. It comprised St James' Church, constructed in 1852; the school, built in 1873 and the vicarage, completed in 1875. The OS map of 1909 (Fig 2) shows St James' Church to the north of the junction between the south-west/north-east aligned School Lane, and Miry Lane, which is aligned north-west/south-east, and turns southwards south of the junction to continue to the old centre of Stocks in Bowland. A north/south aligned path leads from the junction to the church, which is located within a roughly square plot; the graveyard is marked on the south side of the church.
- 2.2.4 The school and school house are located within a square plot, a short distance south of the church, on the south-east side of the road junction. The school and school house, set back from the road, comprised two adjoining irregular-shaped buildings, with small outbuildings to the north-east. A larger square outbuilding to the south-west, alongside Miry Lane, was used to store the local hearse (Plate 9) ([http://www.dalehead.org/dalehead\\_school.htm](http://www.dalehead.org/dalehead_school.htm)).
- 2.2.5 North-west of the church, on the south-west side of Miry Lane, is the vicarage in the north-western of two squarish plots, with the south-east having been a croft (*Section 2.4.2*). The vicarage comprised a rectangular building set back from the lane, and to the north-west is another group of buildings in a rectangular arrangement, which were the coach house and stables (*Section 2.4.2*); a cobbled yard was located between these and the vicarage.
- 2.2.6 **The Reservoir:** in 1912 authority was given to the Fylde Water Board to build a reservoir at Stocks (Porter 1973, 205). Construction work did not begin until 1921 and was not completed until 1932 (Rothwell 1990, 38). This led to the abandonment of a number of farms and the hamlet of Stocks; St James' Church was dismantled and re-erected half a mile away (Porter 1973, 205), although the original foundations survive intact. The construction of the reservoir and the required the building of narrow gauge railways, the remains of which can be seen throughout the Dalehead area, often associated with small quarries. The construction of Stocks reservoir also required the building of a complete, temporary 'navvies' village at Hollins (NGR SD 716 548), elements of which are still present (Botwell 1988, 39-40).

### 2.3 ST JAMES' CHURCH

- 2.3.1 St James' Church (Plates 1-8) was built in 1852 and consecrated on October 27th of that year by the Bishop of Ripon. The land for the church and vicarage, at the bottom of School Lane, was given by William Wilkinson of Hellifield, along with an endowment of £50 per year (Slaidburn Archive notes).
- 2.3.2 The church was important to the community, not only for religious worship, but also socially as people came from outlying farms, where otherwise they may not have seen their neighbours on a regular basis (*ibid*). In 1871, Dalehead became a parish in its own right, which meant that St James' was then authorised to perform marriages, baptisms and burials (*ibid*).
- 2.3.3 There were a number of vicars during the 84 year life span of the church, with some of the posts held for very short periods, perhaps indicating that the remote

location of the church was not suited to everyone (*ibid*). William Woodward was vicar between 1886 and 1897 and in 1888 planted the avenue of trees (Plate 6) in the churchyard, which is still extant today (PRO PR3034 7/4).

- 2.3.4 Although the church and cemetery at St James' are above the water level of the Stocks reservoir, it was thought that there was a risk in having the graveyard within the water catchment area. A decision was therefore made to dismantle the church and move those buried in the churchyard to a new burial ground which was consecrated in November 1926 by the first Bishop of Bradford. This caused much upset within the community, but was carried out under assurances that it would be done with dignity and respect. Bodies were moved between the hours of 10pm and 5am over several nights in the autumn of 1927 (Slaidburn Archive notes). A letter dated 7/10/1927 from H Cottam, the Resident Engineer for Stocks Reservoir, to James Kaye, the County Medical Officer, to say that the work was finished, notes that the burial register for St James' named 152 people, but the final count was of 165 burials removed (*ibid*).
- 2.3.5 As many of the farms within the catchment area of St James' had been demolished, together with the loss of the village houses in the flooded valley, the congregation of St James' had become very small. An order of the council in 1934 therefore split the Dalehead parish between Slaidburn and Tosside, with the new burial ground located in Tosside (*ibid*).
- 2.3.6 The final service at St James' was carried out on May 24th 1936 by the Rev Cyril Slater. The usual congregation of, by then, around nine people swelled to around 200 for the occasion, with people coming from miles around (un-named newspaper clippings - Slaidburn Archive notes). St James' was finally dismantled in 1937. Original plans were only for a mortuary chapel at the new site, but the community wanted a church to replace St James', and so a new church was constructed, using stone from St James', and was consecrated on June 30th 1938. Some of the fixtures and fittings from St James' Church, including the stained glass windows, also went to the new church (Slaidburn Archive notes). The building was consecrated in 1938 by Bishop Mounsey, the Assistant Bishop of Bradford. Slaidburn Archives holds copies of a plan drawn up in 1936 showing elements of St James' to be re-used (marked with a red cross) (Plate 8); the site of the original church is now occupied by a car park (*ibid*).

## **2.4 THE SCHOOL AND SCHOOL HOUSE**

- 2.4.1 In 1732 a school was established up the hill, above the site of St James' Church, and it was this earlier school that gave its name to School Lane that extended north from the church. This went out of use in 1868, because there was then a lack of a school master, and because the buildings has fallen into a bad state of disrepair. The pupils, when it closed, were recorded as comprising 14 boys and 13 girls, and these then went to Tosside School. In 1873 a new school and school house were built (Plates 10-13), and the local children left Tosside School to attend it. In 1894 the average attendance at the school was 35 children. These buildings were also within the catchment area for the Stocks reservoir, however, and so were demolished at the same time as St James' Church. Local children then attended either Tosside or Slaidburn schools (*ibid*).

## 2.5 THE VICARAGE

- 2.5.1 The foundation stone for the vicarage was laid in April 1874 and it was completed in September 1875 (Plates 14-17), with the first vicar resident there being the Rev James Norris (1873-78) (*ibid*).
- 2.5.2 A terrier and description of the vicarage from 1931 includes a room description, which lists '*3 entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, larder, and entrance hall. 6 bedrooms, bathroom and WC. 2 cellars*'. The outbuildings were listed as '*coach house, 2 stalled stable, wash house, coal shed, and 2 closets, with loft over coach house and stables*' (*ibid*). A recent visit to Slaidburn Archive by the Rev John Morris, son of the Rev Edgar Lionel Morris, who was vicar of St James' from 1925-30, provided some further detail of the house, including a rough layout of the rooms. The vicarage had a kitchen garden at the back of the house (Plate 17); a cobbled yard between the house and the coach house / stables; and to the south-east of the vicarage was a croft with a small stream running through it (*ibid*).
- 2.5.3 The vicarage was demolished in the 1930s, with its stone being re-used for the current Board House of Stocks Reservoir (*ibid*). The site of the vicarage is now a picnic area, with some rhododendron bushes and fruit trees marking the remains of the vicarage garden (*ibid*).

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### 3. SITE ASSESSMENT

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#### 3.1 SITE EXAMINATION

- 3.1.1 As part of the community project the sites of the church, vicarage, school and Swinshaw Farm were investigated and an outline record of the Vicarage and Swinshaw Farm was undertaken. All of these structures had been fully demolished in advance of the flooding of the reservoir, and on examination of the sites there were very few extant remains identified. The church has been partially excavated (Figs 3 and 4) and the results of these explorations will be presented as a separate report.
- 3.1.2 **The School:** the site of the school was examined, but no detailed survey was implemented. The site is overgrown with woodland, which restricted visibility of the area. A number of subtle earthworks were evident, but these did not correspond to the documented plan of the school, and it would appear that these reflect mounds of rubble from its demolition rather than any individual structures. Very little of the school survives on the surface, and it was decided, therefore, that the site did not warrant ground survey.
- 3.1.3 **The Vicarage:** the area of the vicarage is now a picnic area with short grass cover, and clear visibility of the ground surface. Despite this there were relatively few indications of any earlier structures indicating not only that the vicarage was comprehensively demolished, but that most of the building rubble and masonry was removed from site (Fig 5). There were, however, a limited number of stones visible just beneath the turf, which were exposed and recorded using a total station. While they did form at least one significant alignment, indicative of a wall, they did not otherwise form a cohesive pattern at the time of the survey, so the data were superimposed onto OS 1:2,500 Second edition mapping to show which elements of the earlier structure were surviving on the surface. This indicated that the stones revealed were part of the north-east façade wall and also a garden wall. One earthen bank was revealed which corresponds with approximately the south-eastern wall of the building. A small area of cobbling was revealed, which corresponds with a small courtyard to the north of the house.
- 3.1.4 Excavation of the area would undoubtedly reveal further elements of the former vicarage, but the fact that the courtyard surface was revealed just beneath the turf would indicate that there very little soil matrix on top of the remains and the likelihood is that there is very little of the building left following its demolition.
- 3.1.5 **Swinshaw:** Swinshaw Farm was located off School Lane and is now within an area of plantation. The farm, like the other buildings, had been comprehensively demolished and much of the rubble had been removed. There were, however, a number of earthworks that evidently related to the farmhouse complex, but there were few clearly definable features evident that could be correlated with the second edition mapping. It was therefore decided to undertake an outline survey, using a total station, in order to provide a correlation between the earthworks and the mapping. The only features that could be correlated with any degree of confidence was the roadside wall and the farm entrance off the road.
- 3.1.6 At the north side of the site is a pronounced break of slope, with a flat top, which has a fall of about 1.7m, and appears to be a modified natural feature. On the

second edition 1:10560 map this feature extends along the northern part of the depicted outbuildings and it would appear, therefore, that this was the bank of a bank barn. A bank barn would have been constructed against the steep slope, such that access to the first floor was from the upper surface of the bank.

- 3.1.7 To the south of the bank was an irregular platform with a clearly defined straight edge along its northern-eastern line. This platform clearly correlates with the Swinshaw farmhouse, although little indication of the superstructure survives. Extending along the western side of the platform was the line of a steep-sided culverted beck, and there was a revetted wall on the western side. This revetted wall approximately corresponds with one on the second edition map, but interestingly, the map did not show a beck in this position.
- 3.1.8 The survey process has demonstrated that there are earthwork remains that survive from the farm complex, but it is evident that there was a wholesale clearance of building debris following the demolition, as there are only limited surface indications of what once was a sizeable post-medieval farm.

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### **Websites**

[http://www.dalehead.org/dalehead\\_school.htm](http://www.dalehead.org/dalehead_school.htm)

### **Slaidburn Archive Notes**

Folders of information on the church, vicarage and school along with photographs of these buildings

### **Preston Record office (PRO) (Copy viewed at Slaidburn Archives):**

PR3034 7/4 - List of vicars at Dalehead Church

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## PROJECT DESIGN

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### 1.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) have been invited to provide archaeological advice and support for a proposed community survey and excavation of St. James Church, Stocks in Bowland, which is being financed by United Utilities and co-ordinated by the Forest of Bowland AONB. The advice and guidance is required to inform a survey of the environs of St James Church and also a programme of excavation the extant foundations of the church. OA North will provide a programme of outreach for local people associated with a study of the lost community of Stocks in Bowland which was partly drowned by the construction of Stocks Reservoir.
- 1.1.2 A principle aim of the project is to involve the local community as widely as possible, and to provide new information on the wealth of archaeological remains in the Stocks in Bowland region as well as the Church site. This will entail providing slide shows and guided talks to the local group to make them aware of the rich heritage in the region and will also entail getting them directly involved in the survey and excavation at the site of St James Church. Ultimately the results will be disseminated in reports for the Lancashire Historic Environment Record, as interpretation panels for visitors and also a small illustrated booklet for dissemination to the volunteers.

### 1.2 ST JAMES CHURCH, STOCKS IN BOWLAND, BACKGROUND

- 1.2.1 Stocks in Bowland was a small hamlet to the north of Slaidburn. The settlement of Stocks, possibly consisting of then no more than a couple of farms, was recorded as early as 1246 (Smith 1961, 203). The settlement developed as a small hamlet including an inn from the seventeenth century, apparently to service the growing community of Dalehead. The church of St James was built in 1852.
- 1.2.2 In 1912 authority was given to the Fylde Water Board to build a reservoir at Stocks (Porter 1973, 205). Construction work did not begin till 1921 and was not completed until 1932 (Rothwell 1990, 38). This led to the abandonment of a number of farms and the hamlet of Stocks; the chapel of St James was dismantled and re-erected half a mile away (Porter 1973, 205), although the foundations survive intact. The construction of the reservoir and the works of the Preston Corporation in the 1930s required the building of narrow gauge railways, the remains of which can be seen throughout the North West Water estate, often associated with small quarries. The construction of Stocks reservoir also required the building of a complete temporary 'navvies' village at Hollins (NGR SD 716 548), elements of which are still present (Botwell 1988, 39-40).

### 1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

- 1.3.1 With four main offices, Oxford Archaeology (OA) is now the largest archaeological contractor in Britain employing over 340 staff, and provides a comprehensive professional archaeological service to anyone requiring assistance and advice in the study of the past and heritage resource management in both Britain and overseas. Oxford Archaeology is a registered organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists (RAO No 17). However, it still retains the personal touch as the individual offices have each developed over a considerable period and their staff have acquired a considerable experience of the archaeology, and landscapes of their respective regions.
- 1.3.2 *History of OA North:* in November 2001 OA merged with one of the largest and most highly respected archaeological businesses in the North of England, Lancaster University Archaeological Unit. This had been formed in 1979 as the Cumbria and Lancashire Archaeological Unit, to provide an archaeological service for these counties. In 1988 it changed its name to the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, to reflect the widening scope of many of its activities, and became a regional leader in archaeological practice of all kinds, though with a growing specialism in buildings, industrial archaeology, and particularly landscape survey, to complement its traditional excavation skills. This northern office, based in Lancaster, now trades

as OA North, and has a staff of 62 personnel experienced in all aspects of archaeological and landscape studies.

- 1.3.4 **Knowledge of the Forest of Bowland:** OA North has been working in the region since it was formed as the Cumbria and Lancashire Archaeological Unit in 1979, and our knowledge and understanding of the archaeology of the project study area is extensive. We have undertaken a number of survey projects across the Forest of Bowland and have done numerous small and select investigations across both the Pendle and Forest of Bowland areas. The most notable study was a systematic landscape survey of the Forest of Bowland land holdings of United Utilities which entailed a documentary study and detailed surface inspection of 90sqkm of the Forest of Bowland in 1995. One of the more important aspects of this work was that it highlighted the extent to which the present settlement and enclosure pattern across the area originated from the establishment of a network of medieval vaccaries. Since then we have undertaken other surveys such as the Upland Peats study, which investigated the archaeological potential of upland peatlands and was intended to provide the base data for the development of management strategies for peatlands across the country. In particular it examined a linear area on the western side of the Forest of Bowland; it entailed palaeoenvironmental research into the vegetation history of the area and the recording of the archaeology, which included a significant cairnfield at Nicky Nook.
- 1.3.5 A survey of the archaeology and geology of the Ribble Valley has recently been completed, which included Pendle and the Forest of Bowland as parts of the catchment of the river. This was primarily a desk-based exercise, but also utilised LiDAR data which provides extremely detailed mapping of surface features across the area. The survey culminated with a general publication - *Flowing Through Time* - which presented the survey results to a wider audience.
- 1.3.6 **Training and Community Archaeology:** OA North has considerable experience of working with, and providing training to, local communities and amateur groups on archaeological projects. These projects can range from surveys, which incorporate training for the local groups, to major training excavation projects aimed at volunteer groups. The following are some examples of community-based projects undertaken by OA North:
- **Greenside Lime Kiln:** the successful excavation and restoration of Greenside Lime Kiln, Kendal combined the leading expertise of OA North with resources from the local community including Young Archaeology Clubs, school children aged 8-15 years and local masons and artists. The result of this project raised awareness of the presence of a listed Ancient Monument and united a community in an appreciation of their heritage;
  - **Ingleton:** OA North, in conjunction with the Ingleborough Archaeology Group, undertook excavation and survey of a Roman settlement at Ingleton, North Yorkshire. During this investigation OA North offered training and supervision for upward of a core of 10 people, and more general training for 30 people from the local area. This allowed for an intensive archaeological investigation, which culminated in a high-profile excavation of this complex Roman settlement;
  - **Skipwith Common:** OA North is presently working with the Friends of Skipwith Common, to undertake a survey of Skipwith Common, to the south of York. The work is funded by Natural England;
  - **Muncaster Fell:** OA North undertook a survey of Muncaster Fell, West Cumbria, and an integral part of this work included training members of the Eskdale Local History Society in techniques of archaeological survey. Following the field survey a publication was produced detailing the results of the work;
  - **Duddon Valley Cairn:** OA North, in conjunction with the Lake District National Park Authority, undertook a community-training project involving the excavation and survey of two ring cairns at Duddon Valley, Cumbria;
  - **Pendle Survey:** OA North undertook a community project, on behalf of the Forest of Bowland AONB entitled 'Landscapes Stories', which undertook survey work in the Pendle area and undertook outreach presentations in the Forest of Bowland area, concentrating on the historic lime industry.
  - **Lathom House:** OA North undertook an archaeological and historical at Lathom Park, Lancashire, in conjunction with the Lathom Trust. This project involved training



members of the community to undertake documentary research and building survey. OA North is presently undertaking a follow-on project evaluating and excavating the site of the former Lathom House fortified palace;

- **Holcombe Moor:** OA North undertook a community project surveying Holcombe Moor, South Lancashire, which was funded by the Ministry of Defence. The project was extremely successful and, in consequence, it won an MOD award;
- **Dunham Massey:** in July 2010, OA North provided archaeological training and supervision for The National Trust and The South Manchester Archaeological Research Team (SMART) in support of a series of community archaeological training events at Dunham Massey in Trafford, Greater Manchester. This project met with considerable success.

1.3.7 **Working with children:** as an educational charity, training and education are central to OA North, and the organisation has significant experience of working with children in a variety of situations. Of particular relevance to this project is the design and preparation of teacher's packs on Medieval Carlisle, undertaken for Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, and the Liverpool Docks for the Liverpool One development's museum.

## 2.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

2.1.1 The primary aims of the project are as follows:

- **Academic Aims:** the intention of the project is to investigate the area of Stocks in Bowland and Dalehead, and to establish the survival within the sub-centre of the village centred on the church. The techniques will include desk and ground based surveys that will provide an assessment of the history of the area, and will provide an assessment of the landscape development and survival.
- **Community Aims:** the project aims to seek a wide community involvement in the research and investigation of the Stocks in Bowland area within the Forest of Bowland AONB, and to foster a wider community awareness of the rich cultural heritage in the local landscapes. It is intended to provide training in survey and excavation techniques and to provide an introduction to the processes of archaeological investigation. Great emphasis will be placed on the virtue of survey and excavation techniques and to encourage a legacy of skills within the community. The project will therefore provide a capacity for further archaeological and historical research in the area.

2.1.2 **Forest of Bowland Outreach and Survey:** the aim of the programme is to introduce local people to the archaeology of the Forest of Bowland, with a particular emphasis on the archaeology of the Stocks in Bowland settlement and Dalehead. This would entail an introductory slide show at a local venue, and surveys of the settlements around the church, such as the vicarage and school. OA North would providing the professional supervision, guidance and training for the survey work and would ensure that modern professional standards are met at all stages. The survey would be followed by a programme of post-survey work culminating with an academic reports. The work would involve training in the use of modern techniques. The stages of work necessary to achieve these aims are as follows. It would entail an element of documentary study as well as field survey.

2.1.3 **Excavation of St James Church:** the aim would be to undertake an excavation of St James Church, to provide training for the local community in archaeological techniques and to provide a public involvement in the heritage of the area and Stocks in Bowland in particular. The output would be local participation, an archaeological skill base within the local community, and the consolidated remains of the church and interpretation panels. The latter will present the church as a representation of the hamlet which is partly underneath Stocks reservoir and serve as a focus for an understanding of former agricultural community.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 FOREST OF BOWLAND PRESENTATION

3.1.1 It is proposed that the survey incorporate a training element for members of the local community in the archaeology and history of the region and also in excavation and survey techniques. The first stage will be a launch event at a venue central to the Forest of Bowland (probably Slaidburn). This would introduce the project and would also provide a general talk on the archaeology and history of the Forest of Bowland. It would highlight the development of the Forest of Bowland from prehistory through to the present, but would provide greatest emphasis on the development of the vaccaries, Stocks in Bowland and the construction of Stocks Reservoir. It would outline the proposed survey and excavation and provide an indication of what the work will entail.

#### 3.2 STOCKS IN BOWLAND SURVEY

3.2.1 It is proposed to undertake a programme of survey training for members of the local group within the defined study area centred upon St Johns Church. This would entail undertaking a field survey which would create detailed records of select structures. The area of woodland around the church and the Stocks reservoir would be examined for as yet undiscovered features, but the emphasis of the survey would be on the school, and the vicarage. The documentary study would concentrate on the development of Stocks in Bowland, and Dalehead, but would also examine the development of the reservoir. In the course of the survey work the volunteers would work closely with professional archaeologists who would provide training and on-the-job experience. The volunteers would undertake survey work under close supervision from the OA North project supervisor, and learn how to identify documentary sources, how to use the survey instruments, and the character and significance of the archaeological landscape will be explained.

3.2.2 **Total Station / Plane Table Survey:** the survey will primarily be undertaken with a total station, incorporating digital recording onto a pen computer, but the survey will also demonstrate the use of a plane table as this is a very useful educational tool and has the advantage that it produces the drawing in the field and because of the use of stadia tacheometry on the alidade has an effective distance measurement capability of 150m.

3.2.3 Survey control will be established over the site by closed traverse and internally will be accurate to +/- 15mm; the control network will be located onto the Ordnance Survey National Grid by the use of Global Positioning Survey (GPS), which will locate to an accuracy of +/- 0.02m.

3.2.4 The surface features will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a data logger, the accuracy of detail generation being appropriate for a 1:200 output. The digital data will be transferred onto a portable computer for manipulation and later transfer to other digital or hard mediums; film plots will be output via a printer. The archaeological detail will be drawn up in the field as a dimensioned drawing on the plots with respect to survey markers. The topographic survey will record all structural and earthwork components, which will be drawn by hachure survey. Survey points will be marked on the ground using spray paint and the survey drawing will be manually drawn up with respect to them. On completion of the survey the field drawings will be digitised into a CAD system.

3.2.5 The survey will record all archaeological features, earthworks and elements. The survey will aim to identify, locate and record all designed elements of the landscape. The final stage is the production of a descriptive record of all features, which will incorporate a provisional interpretation of the function of the site / feature, where possible, and similarly will provide a provisional interpretation of the site's chronology where possible. Once the digital gazetteer has been collated and edited, it will be output as an Access Report and input directly into a Microsoft Word format. This data will then be formatted and topped and tailed within word to produce the gazetteer volume for the survey project.

3.2.6 **Photographic Record:** a photographic archive will be generated in the course of the field project, comprising landscape and detailed photography. Detailed photographs will be taken of the archaeological features using a scale bar. All photography will be recorded on photographic pro-

forma sheets which will show the subject, orientation and date. The photography will be undertaken using a digital SLR camera with 8 megapixel resolution.

### 3.3 EXCAVATION OF STOCKS CHURCH

- 3.3.1 The following section outlines a methodology for the undertaking of the excavations of Stocks Church. It is proposed that the church be excavated in a series of three day sessions, extending over a weekend, and would entail providing supervision. At the end of each session the site will be covered over with terram to minimise any degradation of the site before the next session.
- 3.3.2 **Preparation and Vegetation Clearance:** prior to the commencement of any work, a risk assessment will be compiled by the OA North Project Director. The initial element of the fieldwork will comprise the establishment of survey control, and an outline measured survey of the site. This data will then be overlain onto historic mapping to allow the key areas of archaeological interest on the site to be identified. In the light of this information, elements of the site will be cleared of scrub vegetation. It is anticipated that United Utilities staff will undertake the vegetation clearance.
- 3.3.3 **Cleaning and Survey:** exposed areas of the site will be cleaned manually using a range of hand tools, including mattocks, shovels, spades and trowels; at no stage during the course of the works will a mechanical excavator be employed. Where possible, all *in-situ* features or deposits, wherever possible, will be left intact to allow an measured to be completed.
- 3.3.4 The precise location of all archaeological structures encountered will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process will generate scaled plans within an AutoCAD system, which will then be subject to manual survey enhancement by local community volunteers. The drawings will be generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. Sections will be manually drafted as appropriate at a scale of 1:10. All information will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 3.3.5 **Excavation of the Church:** all excavation will be carried out using exclusively manual techniques. Spoil from the excavation will be stored at a location subject to discussions with United Utilities. Structural remains will be cleaned to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. It should be noted that no archaeological deposits will be entirely removed from the site. It is not anticipated that excavation in any of the trenching will proceed below a depth of 1.2m, although should this be considered necessary, then the trench will be widened sufficiently to allow the sides to be stepped in or battered back to a safe angle of repose.
- 3.3.6 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage. Results of the evaluation will be recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets, and will be accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 3.3.7 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts will be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation will be generated. Photography will be undertaken using 35mm cameras on archivable black and white print film as well as colour transparency, and all frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Extensive use of digital photography will also be undertaken throughout the course of the fieldwork for presentation purposes. Photographs records will be maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.
- 3.3.8 **Finds policy:** finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. OA has close contact with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the University of Durham and, in addition, employs in-house artefact and palaeoecology specialists, with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation, and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.
- 3.3.9 Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Emergency access to conservation facilities is maintained by OA North with

the Department of Archaeology, the University of Durham. Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate.

- 3.3.10 Human remains are not expected to be present, but if they are found they will, if possible, be left *in situ* covered and protected. If removal is necessary, then the relevant Home Office permission will be sought, and the removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity as required by the *Burials Act 1857*.
- 3.3.11 Any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996.

### 3.4 POST-EXCAVATION / SURVEY AND REPORT PRODUCTION

- 3.4.1 **Archive:** the results of the fieldwork will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.
- 3.4.2 The paper and finds archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site will be deposited with the nearest museum which meets Museums' and Galleries' Commission criteria for the long term storage of archaeological material (MGC 1992). This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files (as appropriate). The archive will be deposited within six months of the completion of the fieldwork.
- 3.4.3 Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to the receiving museum.
- 3.4.4 A synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and a copy of the publication report) will be deposited with the Lancashire Historic Environment Record, maintained by the Lancashire County Archaeological Service. A copy of the index to the archive will also be available for deposition in the National Archaeological Record in London. In addition, the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form will be completed, and a summary of the project will ultimately be published on their web site (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>).
- 3.4.5 **Report:** four copies of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Further copies will be sent to United Utilities and the Forest of Bowland AONB, and the Lancashire County Archaeologist, for inclusion in the Lancashire Historic Environment Record. The final report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will include an historical background to the study area, an outline methodology of the investigation, and present, summarise, assess, and interpret the results of the programme of archaeological works detailed above. It will also include an assessment of any finds recovered from the evaluation trenching. In addition, recommendations for any further mitigation works and details of the final deposition of the project archive will also be made.
- 3.4.6 **Survey reporting:** the report will include the results of the survey, and will be linked to the documentary data provided by Helen Wallbank. An historical background of the study area, examining its origins and development
- Results of the archaeological survey, presented in conjunction with survey mapping
  - An interpretative account of the results of the surveys.
  - Results of the detailed survey work

- 3.4.7 The report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which the data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work. An appendix gazetteer of sites and designed elements which will be based directly upon the project database and will be compatible with the Lancashire HER.
- 3.4.8 The report will incorporate appropriate illustrations, including copies of the site plans, landscape survey mapping and geophysical survey plots, all reduced to an appropriate scale. The site mapping will be based upon the GIS and CAD base. The report will be accompanied by photographs and historic illustrations illustrating the principal elements of the landscape.
- 3.4.9 **Editing and submission:** the report will be subject to the OA North's stringent editing procedure; then a draft will be submitted to the Lancashire County Archaeologist for consultation. Following acceptance of the report, three bound and one unbound copies of the report will be submitted. In addition to the paper copies of the report, digital copies and drawings will also be submitted.
- 3.4.10 **Confidentiality:** the final report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding. This does not preclude United Utilities, Slaidburn Archive and the Forest of Bowland AONB using information from within the report to publicise the project to the wider audience.

### 3.5 OTHER MATTERS

- 3.5.1 **Access:** access to the site will be agreed with United Utilities and ensuring that there will be provision for the deposition of the spoil, a portakabin and portable toilet. Terram or equivalent materials will be lain over vulnerable earthworks to provide additional protection. Where trenches are situated in areas of livestock grazing, suitable arrangements will be made with the appropriate farmer; excavation trenches will be secured with stockproof fencing.
- 3.5.2 **Health and Safety:** OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Safety Policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 1997).
- 3.5.3 At the commencement of the work, all project team members will undergo a site induction, whereby they will receive instructions on relevant issues, such as how to enter excavation trenches and a 'toolbox talk'. The induction will also include an introduction to site health and safety procedures, and all participants be asked to read the relevant OA North documentation covering the risk assessment for the site. All participants will be required to sign an induction form, acknowledging that they have read and understood the health and safety documentation.
- 3.5.4 A maximum of ten volunteers will be allowed on the site at any one time, and all attendance will be strictly by prior arrangement. It is anticipated that all participants will be over the age of 16; volunteers between the ages of 8 and 16 may participate, but must be supervised at all times by a parent or guardian. No visitors will be allowed onto the archaeological site without the permission of the senior OA North member of staff. All visitors will be required to adhere to site safety rules, will be escorted by an OA North team member at all times.
- 3.5.5 All OA North staff will wear PPE at all times while on site; volunteers will be required to wear clothing appropriate to the task undertaken, including sturdy shoes or boots. The project team will be provided with information on the clothing requirements in advance of the fieldwork. Any volunteers wearing inappropriate clothing may be excluded from participating in certain tasks on site. All work will be supervised by two OA North staff members. OA North will provide a first aider during the course of the fieldwork.
- 3.5.6 A signing in and out book will be maintained daily by OA North during the duration of the works.

- 3.5.7 Areas to be excavated will be scanned using a cable avoidance tool, as required. Service plans, if available, will be inspected prior to the start of any intrusive ground works.
- 3.5.8 **Reinstatement:** the exposed remains are intended for display and therefore they will not be backfilled on completion. However, the structural remains will need to be stabilised to prevent degradation by weathering and footfall. The costs for consolidation are not incorporated within this element of the project.
- 3.5.9 **Insurance:** insurance in respect of claims for personal injury to or the death of any person under a contract of service with the LPT and arising out of any accident in the course of such person's employment shall comply with the employers' liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 and any statutory orders made there under. For all other claims to cover the liability of OA North in respect of personal injury or damage to property by negligence of OA North, there applies insurance cover of £3m for any one occurrence or series of occurrences arising out of one event.

#### 4. WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 The fieldwork will be undertaken over an extended period, and in three day sessions. It is anticipated that the period of excavation will not be longer than three months.

#### 5. RESOURCES

##### 5.1 OA NORTH PROJECT TEAM

- 5.1.1 The survey will be undertaken by Andrew Bates (Project Officer), under the guidance of the project manager, Jamie Quartermaine. The reports will in part be written by members of the society, and part by staff of OA North. The OA North element of report production will be split between Andrew, Jamie and Kathryn.
- 5.1.2 *Project Management:* the project will be under the project management of Jamie Quartermaine, BA Surv Dip MIFA (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. Jamie is a very experienced landscape surveyor, who has undertaken or managed literally hundreds of surveys throughout Northern England since 1984, and has considerable experience of working on similar projects to that proposed. He has managed a major recording programme of Lyme Park, Cheshire, and very detailed surveys of the South West Fells including areas such as Barnscar and Burnmoor. He has also undertaken surveys of Lowther Park, Cumbria, Rufford Park, Lancashire and has also managed the recording programme of Lathom Hall and Park, Lancashire and the survey of the Forest of Bowland for United Utilities. He has been a project manager since 1995 and has managed over 250 very diverse projects since then, which are predominantly survey orientated, but of all periods from the Palaeolithic to the twentieth century.

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

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Figure 2: Survey areas superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey 6" map, 1909

Figure 3: Aerial view of the St James' Church Excavation

Figure 4: Plan of the church remains

Figure 5: Vicarage survey data superimposed on the 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map

### PLATES

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Plate 2: St James' Church, through church gates, looking north

Plate 3: St James' Church, looking north

Plate 4: The church interior, which shows a Laycock and Bannister piped organ to the front left

Plate 5: The church interior with decorated floor tiles evident in the choir

Plate 6: St James' Church, looking north-west

Plate 7: Plan of St James' church drawn in 1851

Plate 8: Plan of St James' Church, showing elements to be transferred to the new church (marked with red crosses)

Plate 9: School and school house, looking south-west. The building alongside the lane was used to store the local hearse

Plate 10: The school and school house, in the early 1900s, looking south-west

Plate 11: The school house, 1910, looking south-west. Mr Deadman (headmaster) stands in the doorway with his wife and children; on the left is Mrs Kirkham (infant teacher)

Plate 12: The school house, looking south

Plate 13: Interior of the school, 1913

Plate 14: Vicarage, looking south

Plate 15: The vicarage, looking north

Plate 16: The vicarage, looking north. In front of the house are the Rev Edgar Lionel Morris (vicar of St James' 1925-30), his wife Eva and his son, John

Plate 17: The vicarage, c 1925-30, looking north-east. Eva Morris stands in the kitchen garden at the back of the vicarage

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PLATES

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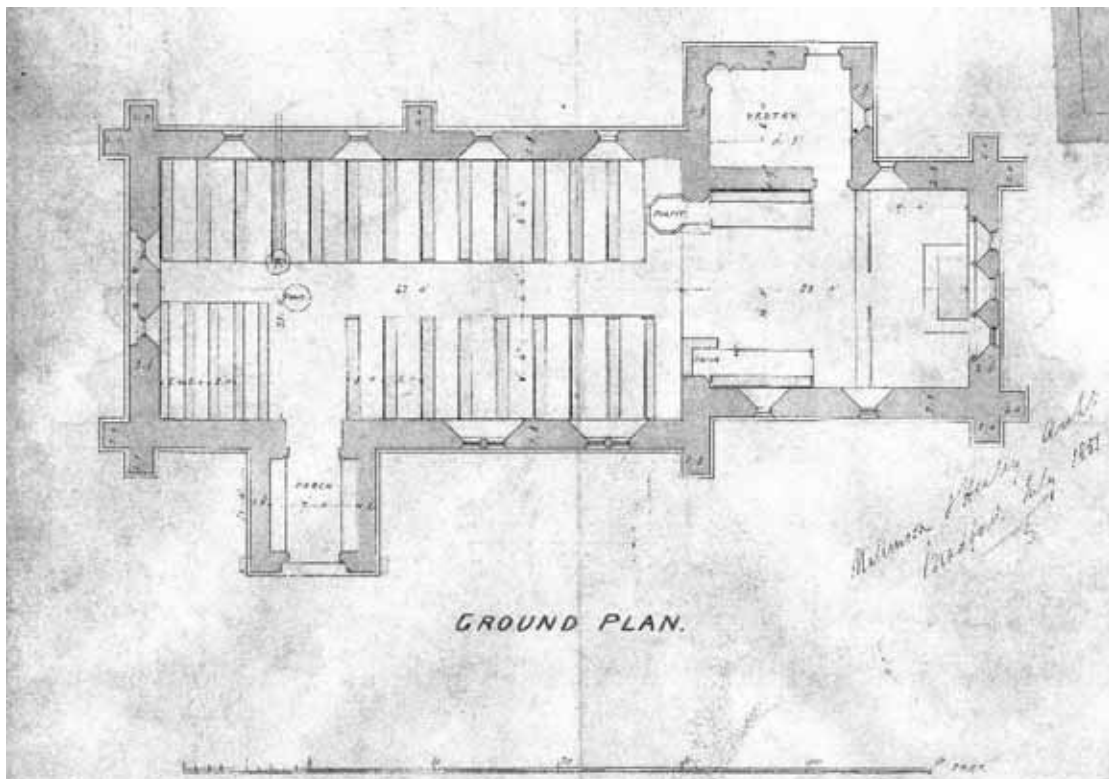


Plate 7: Plan of St James' church drawn in 1851

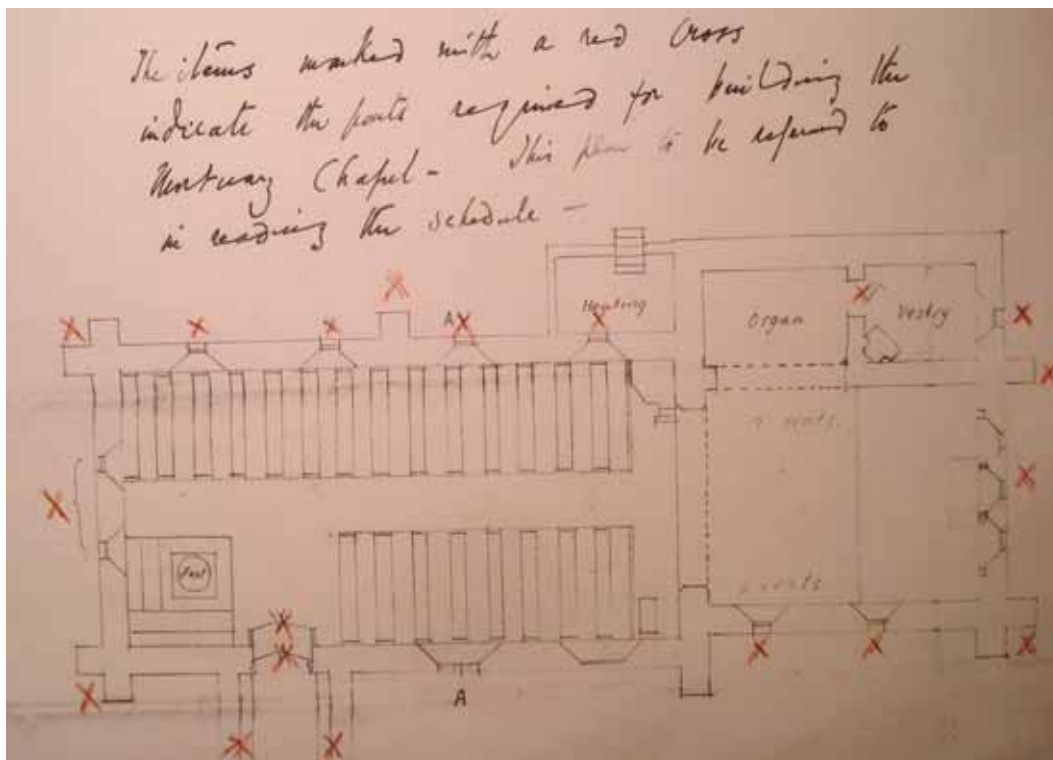


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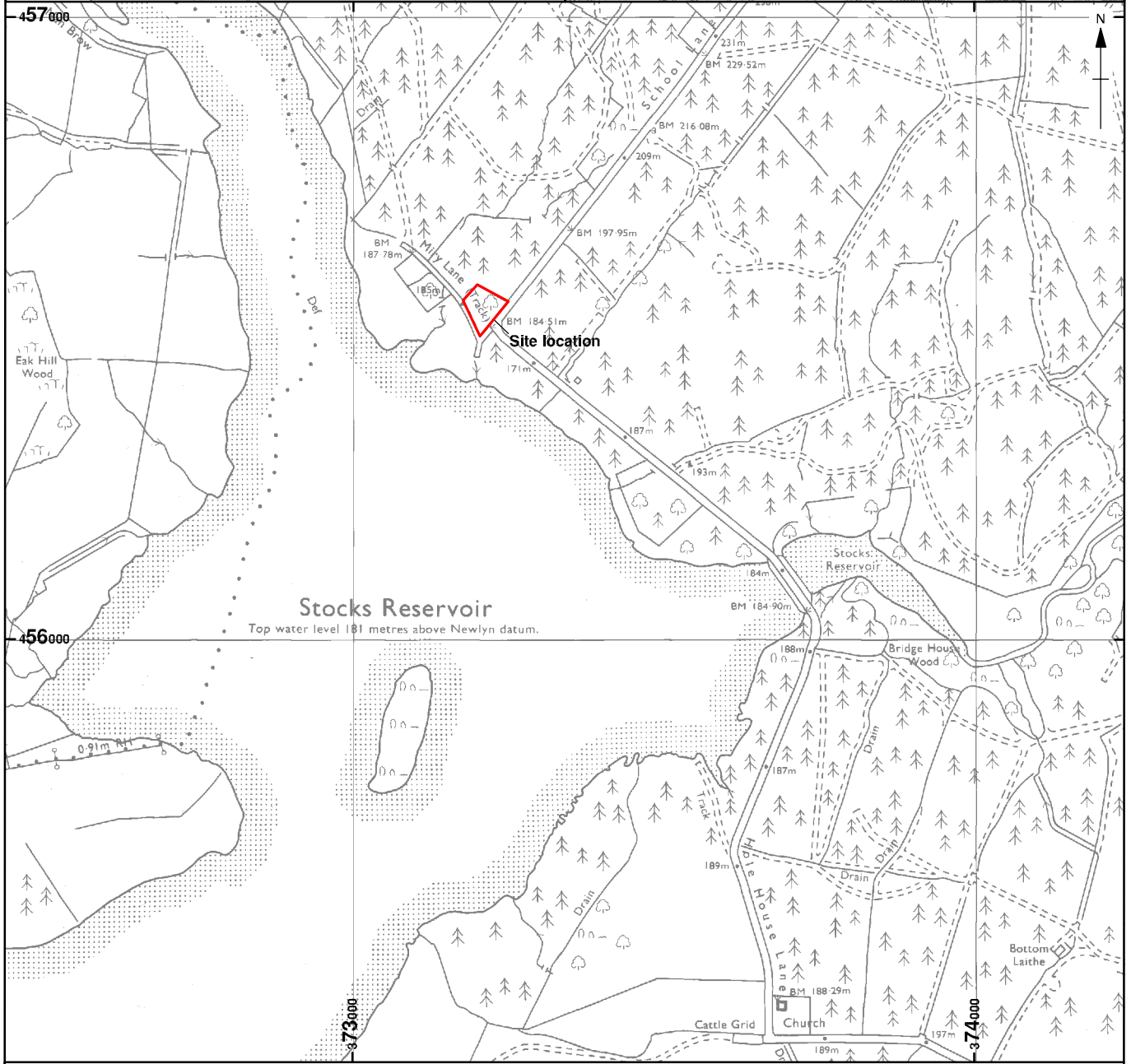
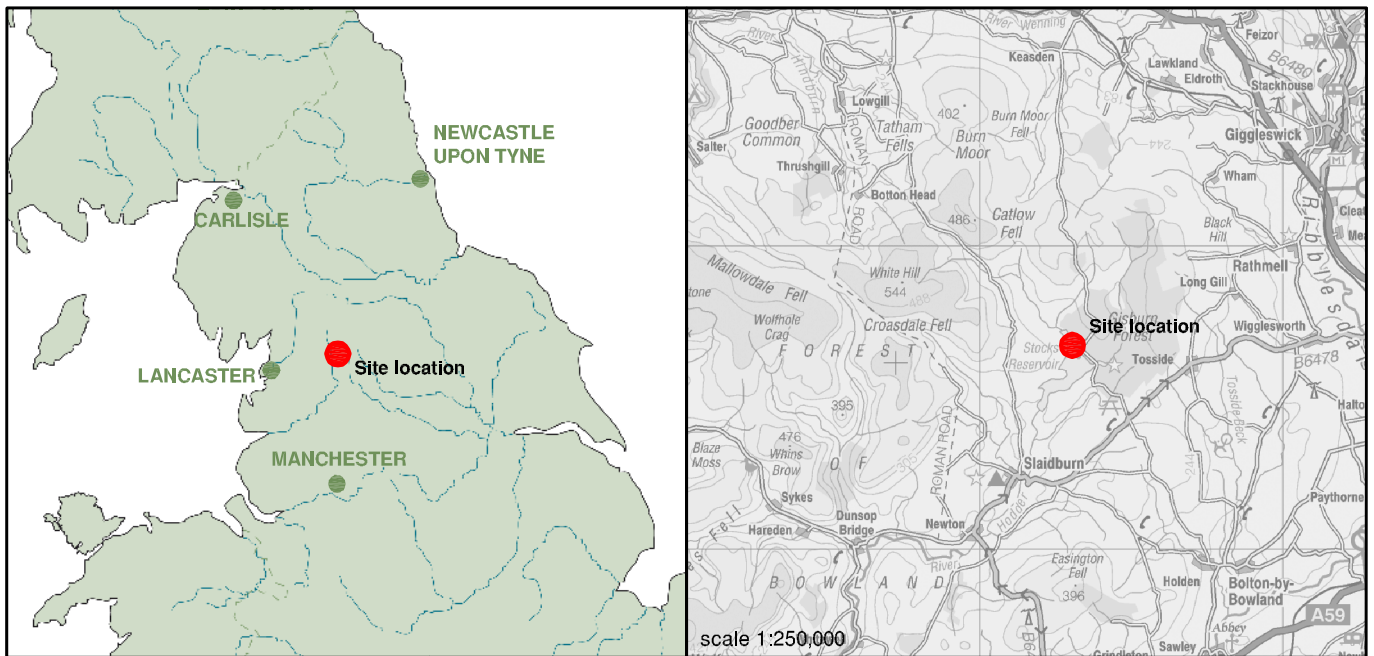


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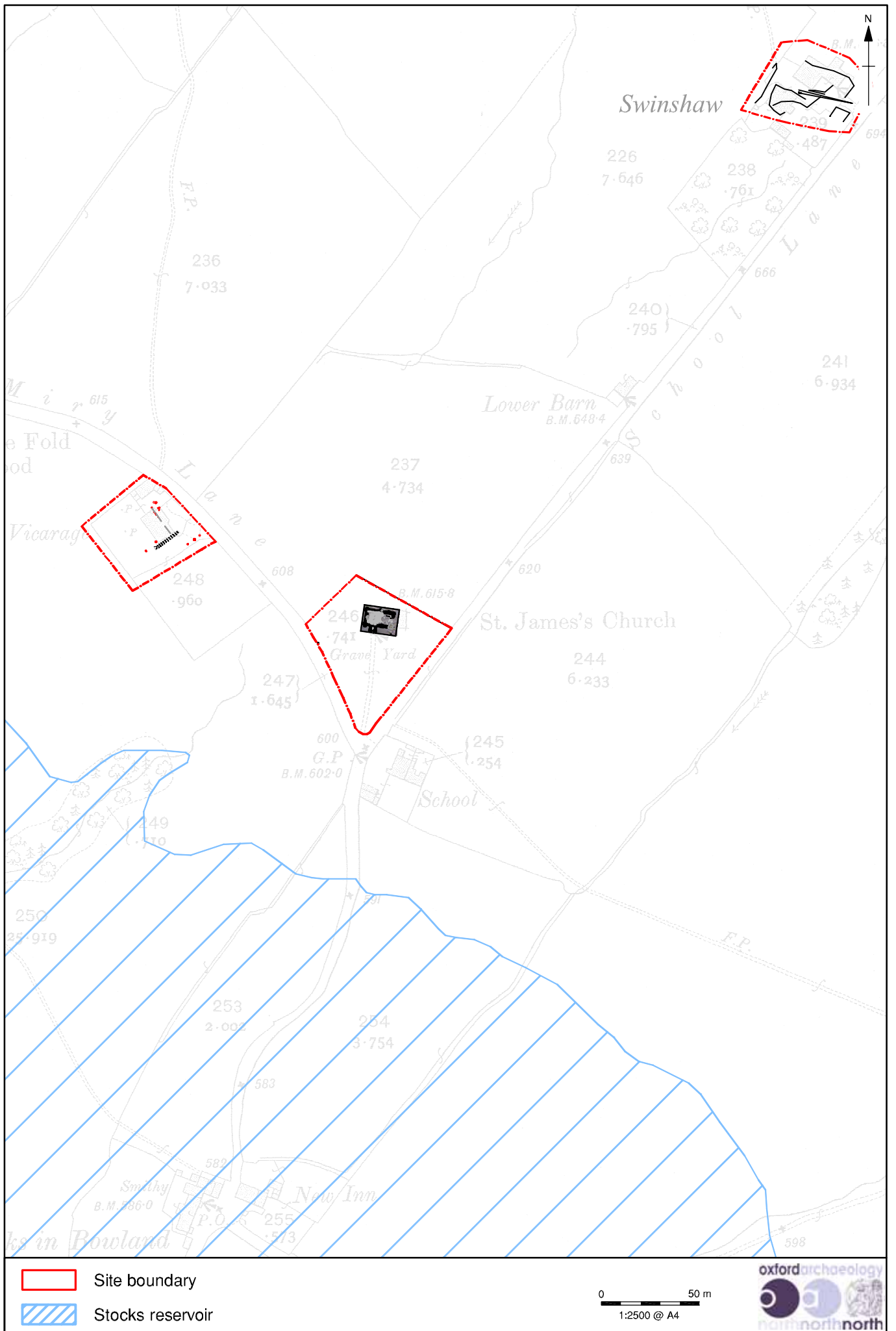
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


Figure 1: Site location



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Figure 2: Survey areas superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey 6" map, 1909



-  Limit of excavation
-  Structure
-  Stone
-  Brick
-  Root disturbance

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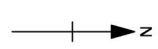


Figure 3: Aerial view of the St James' Church Excavation

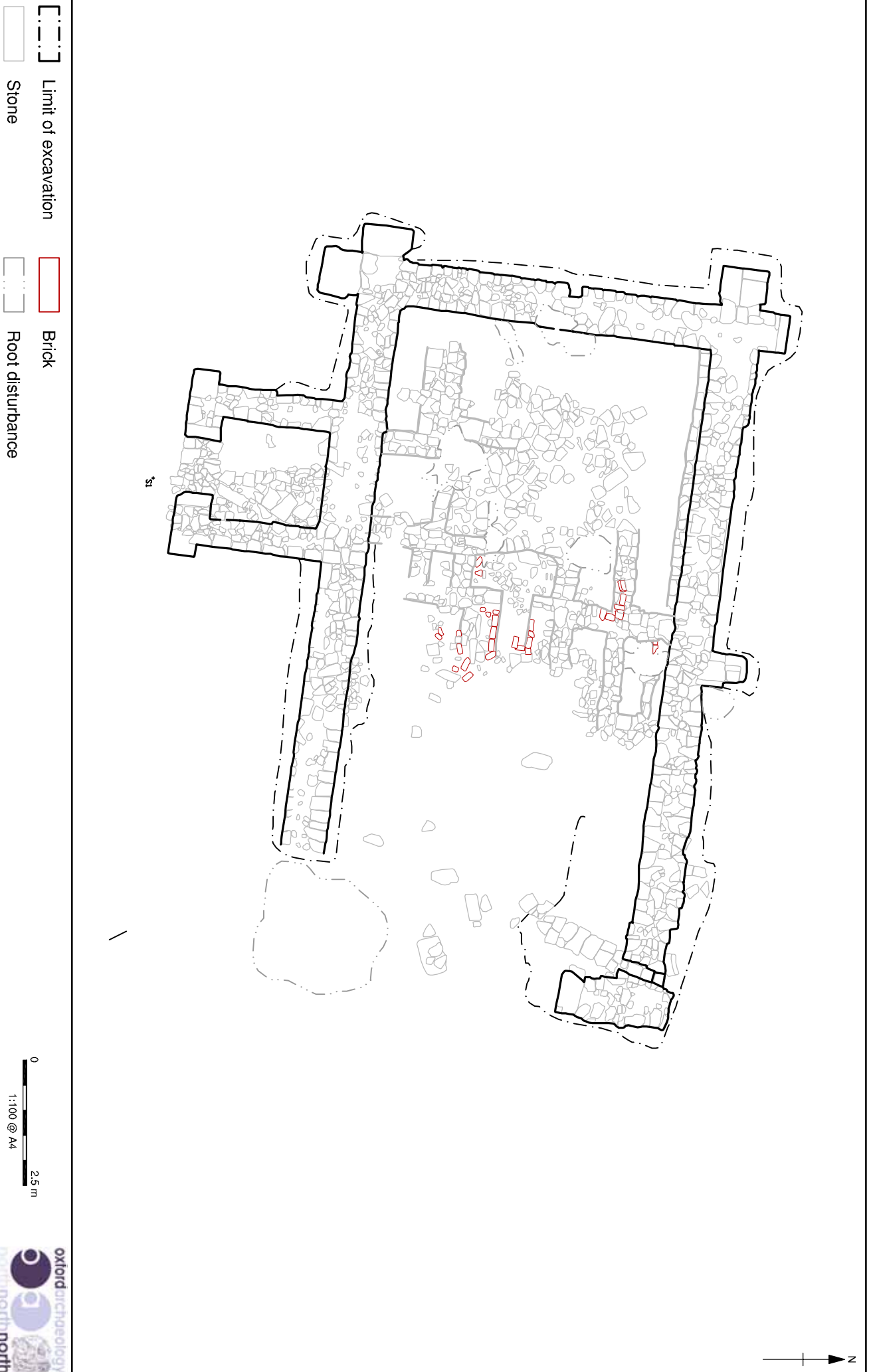


Figure 4: Plan of the Church Remains

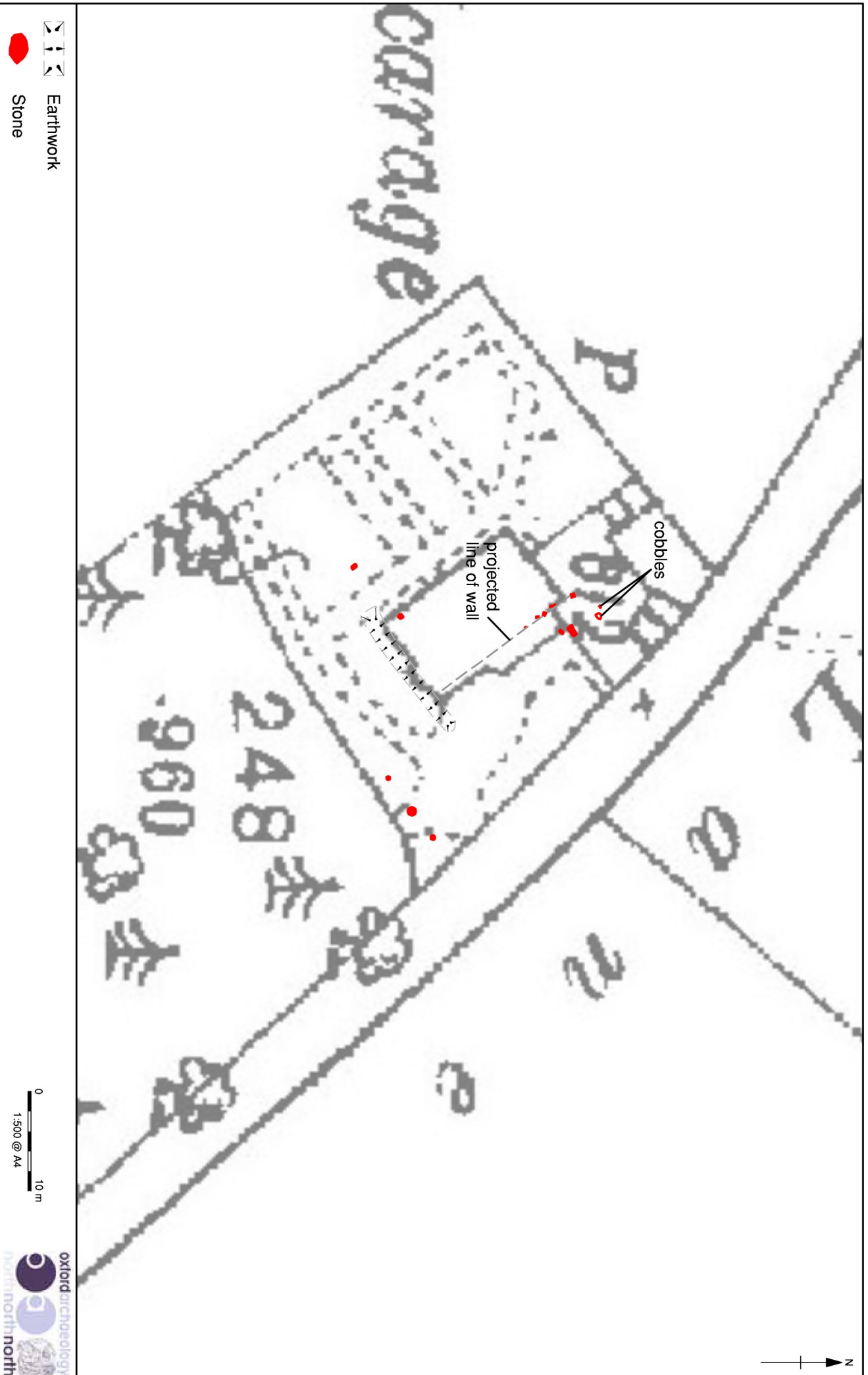


Figure 5: Vicarage survey data superimposed on the 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map