

FORMER DEPOT, HARMONY HILL, MILNTHORPE, Cumbria



Archaeological Evaluation



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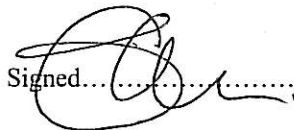
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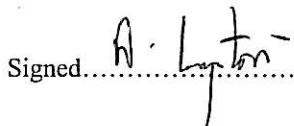
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SUMMARY

Following planning permission being granted to by Home North West to construct ten dwellings at Harmony Hill, Milnthorpe, Cumbria (centred on NGR SD 5005 8163), Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) issued a formal brief for a programme of archaeological work required as a condition. During a previous evaluation at Dallam School, immediately to the north of the proposed development site, in 2005 four human cremations were uncovered, three of which were of Late Bronze Age date and grouped together, the fourth was Late Neolithic and was located away from the other three (ASUD 2005a; ASUD 2005b). An undated pit and ditch were associated with the late Bronze Age cremations. Therefore, this area is considered to be of high archaeological potential and CCCHES advised that an archaeological evaluation comprising a rapid desk-based assessment, visual inspection and trial trenching of the site was necessary. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were commissioned to undertake the work in July 2008.

Fifteen sites of archaeological significance were identified within the study area (a 0.5km radius surrounding the proposed development site) following consultation of the Historic Environment Record (HER) in Kendal. The whole of the proposed development site was identified in the HER as the site of a former weaver's shop and paddock belonging to the Dallam Tower Estate (HER 42180), which dated to at least the early nineteenth century. However, by the second half of the nineteenth century it had been cleared, as shown on the Ordnance Survey first (1862) and second (1898) edition maps. The site was then later partially occupied by sheep pens by 1914 and became a Council Yard in the twentieth century (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd 2008, 8).

Outside of the development site, but adjoining its western side is the Historic Core of Milnthorpe, which is a Conservation Area. Also to the west of the proposed development site is the site of Warehouse Cottages (HER 42178) demolished in the mid twentieth century. These were thought to have been constructed around the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries (*op cit*, 13-17). Census entries indicate that they were occupied by multiple families employed as sack makers, linen and handloom weavers (*op cit*, 7-11). To the south of this is Red Barn/Red Warehouse (HER 42179), which was a warehouse and small allotment dating to at least the early nineteenth century.

The western side of the development site was known to be heavily disturbed in modern times. Therefore, a single 30m long evaluation trench was excavated within the eastern side, investigating 50m² of the proposed development area. The trench was machine-excavated down to the natural geology, revealing no archaeological features. There was no evidence of any significant truncation across the eastern half of the site at least, which would indicate that the lack of archaeological remains identified genuinely reflects the area examined.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Gail Staton of Home North West for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Jo Mackintosh of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, Kendal for her assistance with this project.

Paul Clark undertook the evaluation, with assistance from Vickie Jamieson during trial trenching. The drawings were produced by Marie Rowland, the finds examined by Chris Howard-Davis, and Paul Clark compiled the report. Emily Mercer, who also edited the report, managed the project.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Planning permission has been granted to construct ten dwellings on the former council depot at Harmony Hill, Milnthorpe, Cumbria, with a condition to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of any construction work. Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) (*Appendix 1*) issued a formal brief stipulating the requirements due to the high archaeological potential of the site; in 2005 four human cremations were uncovered within the grounds of Dallam School situated to the north of the proposed development site. Three of the cremations were of late Bronze Age date and grouped together. The fourth cremation was located away from the other three and was dated to the late Neolithic (ASUD 2005a; ASUD 2005b). In order to assess the potential for below ground archaeological remains, in accordance with the brief, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake a rapid desk-based assessment, visual inspection and evaluation trenching, which was carried out in July 2008.
- 1.1.2 The rapid desk-based assessment comprised a search of the Historic Environment Record (HER) in Kendal. An appraisal was carried out of the HER information relating to the site and its study area, consisting of a 0.5km radius centred on the site. A visual inspection survey was undertaken to relate the desk-based findings, and identify areas of potential interest or disturbance on the site.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development site equated to approximately 2000m². However, the western half of the site is known to be heavily disturbed. Therefore, evaluation trenching consisted of the excavation of 50m², to assess the extent, nature and significance of any remains that may be threatened by the proposed development. This was achieved through the excavation of a single 30m long trench positioned within the eastern half.
- 1.1.4 This report sets out the results of the rapid desk-based assessment, visual inspection and the trenching, in the form of a short document, outlining the findings and assessing the impact of the proposed development.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The proposed development site (centred on NGR SD 5005 8163; Fig 1) is bounded to the south by the B6385, to the east by The Orchard, to the north by Dallam School and to the west by Harmony Hill. Milnthorpe lies nine miles south-west of Kendal on the A6, within South Lakeland District. The site lies between 29m and 31m aOD.
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is of Carboniferous Dinantian limestones and shaley limestones (British Geological Survey 1977). Overlying the solid geology are drift deposits of glacial material, such as gravel and boulder clay, which are

known to be varied and convoluted in nature (Countryside Commission 1998). The soils in the Milnthorpe area are typical brown earths of the Denbigh 1 Series (Ordnance Survey 1983).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 OA North was requested to submit a project design (*Appendix 2*), in line with the CCCHES brief (*Appendix 1*), which was subsequently approved by CCCHES. The project design was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and English Heritage, as generally accepted best practice, and in line with PPG 16 (DoE 1990).

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken as the first stage in a programme of archaeological evaluation, prior to further intrusive investigation in the form of trial trenching. In this instance, a low-level assessment was required. The following was undertaken:

2.2.2 ***Cumbria County Historic Environment Record (CHER)***: an appraisal was carried out of the HER information relating to the site and a study area, consisting of a 0.5km radius centred on the site, following consultation of the CHER, Kendal. Only the primary and secondary sources, including first and second edition Ordnance Survey (OS) maps, and any relevant aerial photographs referenced in the HER were assessed.

2.2.3 ***Oxford Archaeology North***: various publications and unpublished reports on excavations and other work in the town are held within the OA North library, and any relevant archives were examined. OA North also holds a complete series of the *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*, which were also consulted.

2.3 VISUAL INSPECTION

2.3.1 Following the rapid desk-based assessment, a visual inspection of the site was undertaken on 29th July 2008 to provide an understanding of the impact of the proposed redevelopment (Plate 1). This information, together with the desk-based assessment results, was used to inform the position of the evaluation trench.

2.3.2 The visual inspection was undertaken to:

- relate the existing landscape to any research findings and note any features of potential archaeological interest;
- identify any areas of potentially significant disturbance to surviving archaeological remains;

- identify any hazards and constraints to undertaking further archaeological work on site, i.e. evaluation trenching (including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders).

2.4 EVALUATION TRENCHING

- 2.4.1 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 either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. All features of archaeological interest were investigated and recorded
- 2.4.2 All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner. Trenches were located by use of a Differential Global Positioning System, and altitude information has been established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum.
- 2.4.3 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with an accompanying pictorial record (plans, sections, and monochrome contacts). Primary records were available for inspection at all times.
- 2.4.4 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts were recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines).

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 A full, professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 2*) and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North will deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) with the County Record Office, Kendal.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 PREHISTORIC PERIOD

- 3.1.1 No prehistoric remains were known from the vicinity previous to the scheme of works undertaken by Archaeological Services, University of Durham (ASUD 2005a, 2005b), immediately to the north of the proposed development site (HER 41439). Generally, however, there is evidence for activity throughout the South Lakes during the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, from 3500 cal BC onwards, in the form of stray finds, such as stone axes, adzes, axe-hammers and quernstones (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000), including a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age razor from Milnthorpe (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 49). A circular enclosure in Dallam Deer Park (HER 2492) has tentatively been identified as a ring cairn of prehistoric date, but is unexcavated and has also been identified as a later beacon, watchtower or medieval building.
- 3.1.2 Dallam School Cremation Cemetery, Milnthorpe (HER 41439), comprised an isolated pit containing ash, burnt human bone and Grooved Ware pottery dating to the Late Neolithic. No related features were found in the excavated vicinity (ASUD 2005a). A cluster of three cremation burials were identified during a second phase of investigation prior to the proposed extension of the existing school. Two of the cremations were placed in urns and typologically dated to the Late Bronze Age. The undated remains of a possible stone-filled boundary ditch, and a pit containing an undiagnostic flint flake, were also found in close proximity to the burials and may be contemporary (ASUD 2005b). An additional archaeological investigation undertaken in 2008 (OA North 2008) elsewhere in the Dallam School grounds, 30m to the north of the proposed development site, found no remains of any archaeological significance beyond a post-hole of unknown date (*ibid*).

3.2 ROMAN PERIOD

- 3.2.1 The main Roman road along the west coast of England ran through the Lune valley some 12km to the east of Milnthorpe, and no Roman remains are known from the vicinity.

3.3 MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- 3.3.1 The settlement at Milnthorpe was not mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Faull and Stinson 1986). However, the manor of Heversham was held by Roger de Poitou, as part of the Barony of Kendal for William the Conqueror. During consolidation of the power in the north by William Rufus in 1082, the area around Kendal passed to Ivo de Taillebois, who gave a third to the abbey of St Mary in York, and two thirds were allegedly administered from a manor house in Milnthorpe (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). The lands were with the de Tallebois family until the thirteenth century when the great, great grandson of Ivo de Tallebois changed his name to William of Lancaster.

His daughter married Alexander de Wyndesore who obtained the granting of a market and fair from Edward I in the manor of Heversham to be held at Milnthorpe around 1280. The charter was re-confirmed in 1334 to William de Wyndesore and it was established that a weekly market could be held on Fridays and a fair held annually (*ibid*).

- 3.3.2 The Milnthorpe lands remained in the hands of the de Wyndesores until the later fourteenth century when it passed into the Nevil family who were a branch of the Earls of Westmorland. On the death of the last male Nevil, around 1577, the land was sold to a Thomas Bradley as the manor of Heversham and Milnthorpe, who owned it for twenty years before selling it on to the Bellingham family (*ibid*).
- 3.3.3 The earliest specific mention of Milnthorpe appears to be in the Register of St Bees of 1282. The origin of the name and fourteenth century references indicate there was at least one water-powered mill in Milnthorpe in the medieval period (Somerville 1930, 74; Farrer 1923, 151). The mill was part of the manor and there was a tax/tithe on the use of the mill, which was paid to the church until this was commuted (given over) as part of the 1803 Enclosure Act. The early date of the mill may indicate that the mill races, weirs and the overall management of the River Bela also date back to this period (OA North 2003).
- 3.3.4 One site of medieval date was identified within the study area. Milnthorpe Market Cross is listed in the HER as a medieval, standing monument (HER 2495), and is Grade II Listed (no 75567). However, the extant monument shaft and base are possibly eighteenth century, with the top probably a nineteenth century repair. In 1823 there is a reference to the 'new cross' after the rebuilding of the Cross Keys Inn (LB 75562) suggesting it had been moved or replaced (Bingham 2000, 40-41). It was taken down in 1845 and re-erected on top of a lock-up built on its site during the construction of the railway when there was rioting locally. The lock-up was taken down in 1862 and the cross replaced on the ground in its original position (*ibid*). The location for the post-medieval weekly market was linked to the original market cross, seen on Jeffrey's map of 1770, opposite the Cross Keys Inn (OA North 2003).

3.4 POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- 3.4.1 The River Bela provided an excellent source of water power, and watermills are referred to as early as the fourteenth century (Somerville 1930). By the post-medieval period there were two main areas of mills along the river that varied in use, including cotton, flax and paper, together with an iron forge (Bingham 1987, 156). The Kent estuary, approximately a kilometre to the west, was navigable as far as Milnthorpe up to c 1800 and, there are indications of a port having existed in the fourteenth century. However, the first clear mention of the port dates from 1558 when the area was referred to as Milnthorpe Haven (Hindle 1998, 169). Goods were still being transported to Milnthorpe port from Grange in 1790 (UBD 1790), possibly stored within warehouses, such as that located approximately 250m to the west of the site (HER 2681). By the mid nineteenth century the port at Milnthorpe was a

member of the port of Lancaster, although by this time only small vessels could navigate that far upstream (Hindle 1998).

- 3.4.2 Numerous documents provide details of the population figures for Milnthorpe from the sixteenth century onwards as well as information on economic activities (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). By the later seventeenth century the hearth tax (1674) shows a total of fifty three names eligible to pay tax. A later Window Tax of 1777 shows a total of one hundred and twenty-six houses to be taxed (*ibid*). Around this time Milnthorpe was shown as ‘Milthorp’ on Thomas Jeffery’s ‘Map of Wesstmorland’ (1770) and a comparison of the lettering style for placenames implies that it was given the same regard as Kendal by the surveyor, whereas the nearby settlements of Beetham (‘Beethum’) and Heversham (‘Haversham’) were given less regard (OA North 2003). A closer inspection reveals an overall town plan with the main east/west streets aligned with a continuous strip of buildings leading towards the river and port. The main north/south road is depicted as having almost no developments along it. The medieval market cross (HER 2495, LB 75567) is represented, although no details are shown apart from it being a standing structure. There is surprisingly little development at the eastern end of the town at this time, with the routes through and out of town in this direction being shown as dashed lines. This implies that the routes were not formalised roads at this time.
- 3.4.3 Nevertheless, the location of Milnthorpe meant it became a communication and transport nexus; the route northwards between Lancaster and Kendal passed through and the estuarine position allowed sea access. The Turnpike Acts for this area were relatively early, the first passed in 1759 (Hindle 1998, 169). By 1826 Blount’s map shows terraced buildings were developing along the main north/south road through Milnthorpe. By 1829 the Cross Keys Inn (HER 2495, LB 75567) was a busy coaching inn, which ran daily services to Lancaster and regular services to Ulverston and Kendal (Parson and White 1829). Furthermore, the emergence of the railway saw the main line north/south opening in 1846, and then in 1876 the Arnside Branch opened, later known as the Furness Branch. Initially, this allowed the transportation of coke and coal, but they were later used for passengers (Bingham 1987, 102).
- 3.4.4 By the early nineteenth century the eastern end of the town was now being developed. Between 1813 and 1816 the Kendal Union workhouse (HER 40411) was constructed, taking in the poor from the surrounding area and was funded from the money raised by the Poor Law. This is located approximately 500m to the east of the development site. The land at this end of Milnthorpe was owned by the Wilson family and Blount’s map (1826) shows a plot set aside for the workhouse. Other sites recorded in the HER show the workhouse was not isolated; to its south is the smithy workshop (HER 14013) present on the Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition map (1862), and south of this is the Ackenthwaite Sand pit (HER 14014) present on the OS second edition map (1898). The area of the workhouse has since been redeveloped for residential use, although most of the workhouse was reported as still standing in 1987, when an associated pump, the Ackenthwaite workhouse pump (HER 14030), was recorded (Bingham 1987).

- 3.2.13 The historic core of Milnthorpe, immediately to the west of the development site, is a Conservation Area with several Listed Buildings situated in and around it and referenced in the HER. The site of a former butcher's premises (between 1873 and 1929; HER 40461) within the medieval market place was subject to an archaeological watching brief in 2004, having been already destroyed by a gas explosion (OA North 2004). A Post Office (HER 40462), occupied by the Rawlinson family from at least 1850 to 1929, was also situated within the medieval market place. Bingham (1987) records that this property dates from at least the eighteenth century. To the north-west of the market place is a barn identified from the OS first edition map (1862).
- 3.2.14 Curwen records that The Royal Oak Inn (HER 40464), situated within the Conservation Area, was advertised for let in 1843, where the Inn, brewhouse, barn, stables and slaughter house were listed in the particulars. Its date is unknown but was known to Curwen as the 'old inn' (Curwen 1930). The White Lion Inn (HER 40463), outside, but immediately to the west of, the Conservation Area, is at least eighteenth century in date having been recorded as being occupied by a Thomas Huddleston in 1758 (*ibid*).
- 3.2.15 Of most significance to the proposed development is the Harmony Hill complex of buildings. The whole of the proposed development site has been identified in the HER as the site of a former weaver's shop and paddock belonging to the Dallam Tower Estate (HER 42180). This dates to at least the early nineteenth century but by the second half of the century it had been cleared (Figs 2 and 3), and partially occupied by sheep pens by 1914 (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd 2008, 8). Later in the twentieth century the site became a Council Yard. Adjoining the western side of the proposed development site, and within the Conservation Area, is the site of Warehouse Cottages (HER 42178) demolished in the mid twentieth century. These were thought to have been constructed around the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries (*op cit*, 13-17). Census entries indicate that they were occupied by multiple families employed as sack makers, linen and handloom weavers (*op cit*, 7-11). To the south of this site is Red Barn/Red Warehouse (HER 42179), which was a warehouse and small allotment date to at least the early nineteenth century.

4. TRENCHING RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The CCCHES brief (*Appendix 1*) requested that a minimum area of 50m² should be excavated. This was achieved by excavating a single trench measuring 30m in length and 1.7m in width (Fig 4). The trench was excavated down to the natural geology. A list of contexts is provided in *Appendix 3*. No archaeological features were identified within the trench. The lack of archaeological remains identified on site, meant that there were no suitable deposits to assess by palaeoenvironmental or soil micromorphological techniques.

4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 The trench was located towards the eastern end of the site (Fig 4), and was aligned broadly east/west. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.94m. Topsoil, **1**, comprised sandy-silt to a maximum depth of 0.15m and overlay subsoil **2**, which was 0.23m thick and comprised sandy-silty-clay. This sealed layer **3**, which consisted of 0.29m thickness of sandy-clay, and appeared to represent a natural deposit; it directly sealed natural deposit, **4**, which comprised sandy-clay, containing a high proportion of limestone, presumably eroded from the bedrock. No features were identified within the trench (Plates 2 and 3).

4.3 FINDS

4.3.1 In all, seven fragments of artefacts or ecofacts were recovered from the topsoil, **1**. Five of these were pottery, one a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem, and one a small tooth, probably from a sheep.

4.3.2 Only the pottery gives any indication for dating. Four of the five fragments are from a single vessel, a small bowl in a red iron-rich fabric, with simple slip-trailed decoration. This is most likely to be locally made, although its origin cannot be further identified, and is probably of late nineteenth to early twentieth century date. The fifth fragment is a small white-glazed earthenware sherd, of similar date.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 During the rapid desk-based assessment, the proposed development site was shown to be situated adjacent to the east side of the Milnthorpe Conservation Area, containing numerous Listed Buildings. Within the 0.5km study area centred on the proposed development site, 15 sites were identified from the HER. These comprised a prehistoric site, Dallam School Cremation Cemetery (HER 41439); a medieval site, the Market Cross (HER 2495); and a number of sites of post-medieval date associated with buildings within the settlement, such as a workhouse (HER 40411) and Post Office (HER 40462).
- 5.1.2 However, of most significance were the HER sites located on or adjacent to the proposed development site. Warehouse Cottages (HER 42178) demolished in the mid twentieth century were located abutting the western side of the development site, probably dating to around the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries. To the south of this site is Red Barn/Red Warehouse (HER 42179), which was a warehouse and small allotment dating to at least the early nineteenth century. Moreover, the whole of the proposed development site was identified in the HER as the site of a former weaver's shop and paddock belonging to the Dallam Tower Estate (HER 42180), which dated to at least the early nineteenth century. However, by the second half of the nineteenth century it had been cleared, as shown on the Ordnance Survey first (1862) and second (1898) edition maps. The site was then later partially occupied by sheep pens by 1914 and became a Council Yard in the twentieth century (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd 2008, 8).
- 5.1.3 Overall, the rapid desk-based assessment showed there to be a potential for Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age remains, although an evaluation undertaken 30m to the north of the proposed development site showed there to be no remains of any archaeological significance. More importantly, however, was the potential for remains associated with the former weaver's shop and paddock.
- 5.1.4 Excavation of a 30m long trench on the eastern half of the proposed development site revealed no archaeological features, and there was no evidence of significant truncation that may have been associated with the clearance of the cottages or modern use of the site.

5.2 IMPACT

- 5.2.1 No archaeological remains were discovered by the evaluation trench, suggesting that no archaeological remains will be impacted upon by the proposed development.

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ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location map

Figure 2: Extract from the Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1862

Figure 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey second edition map of 1898

Figure 4: Trench location plan

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Plate 1: West-facing view of site prior to evaluation

Plate 2: East-facing view of evaluation trench

Plate 3: West-facing view of evaluation trench



Figure 1: Site location

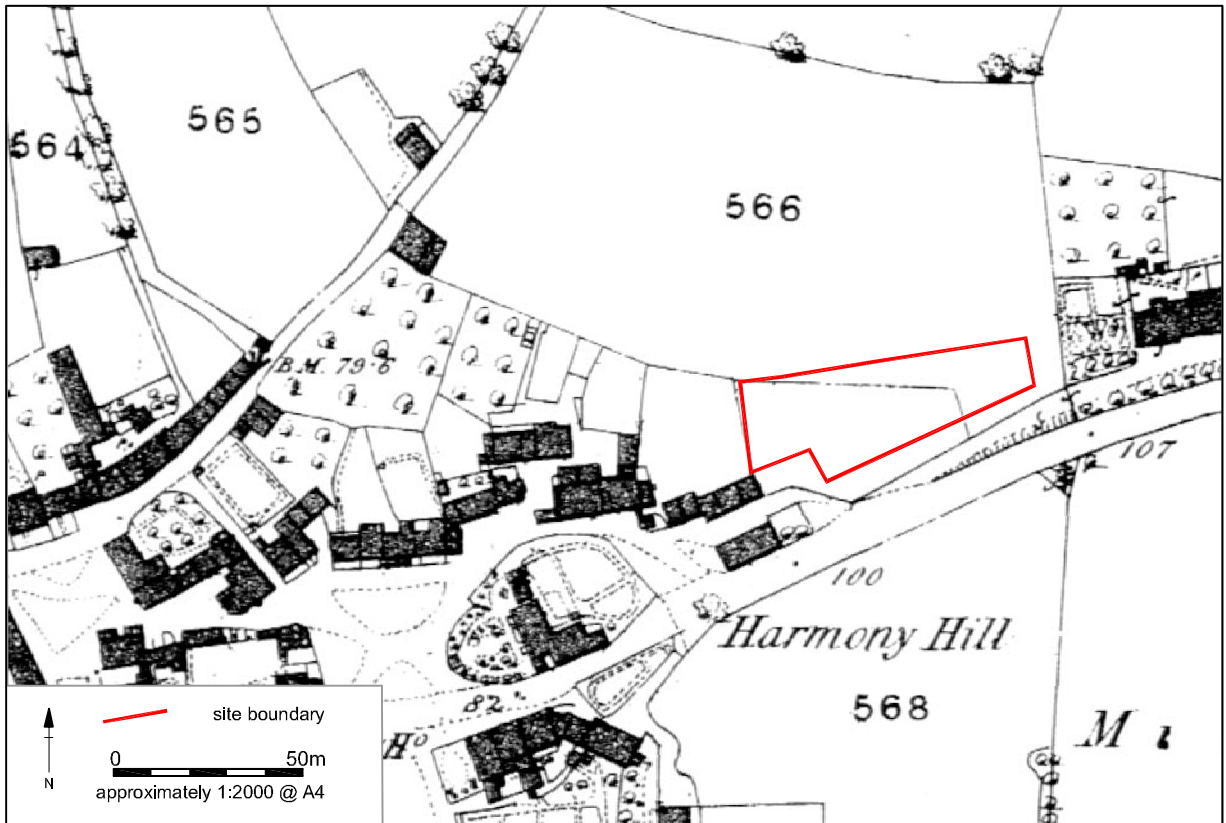


Figure 2: Extract from Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1862

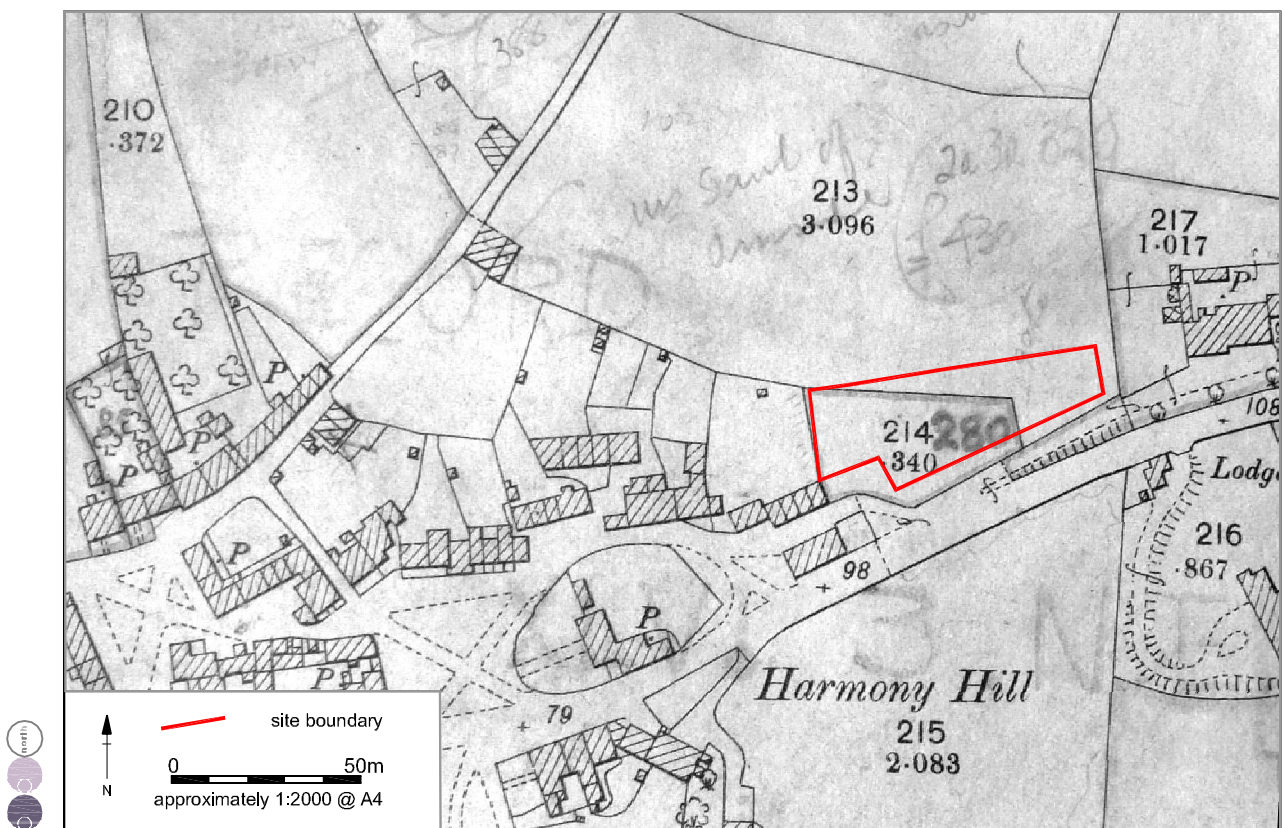


Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey second edition map of 1898

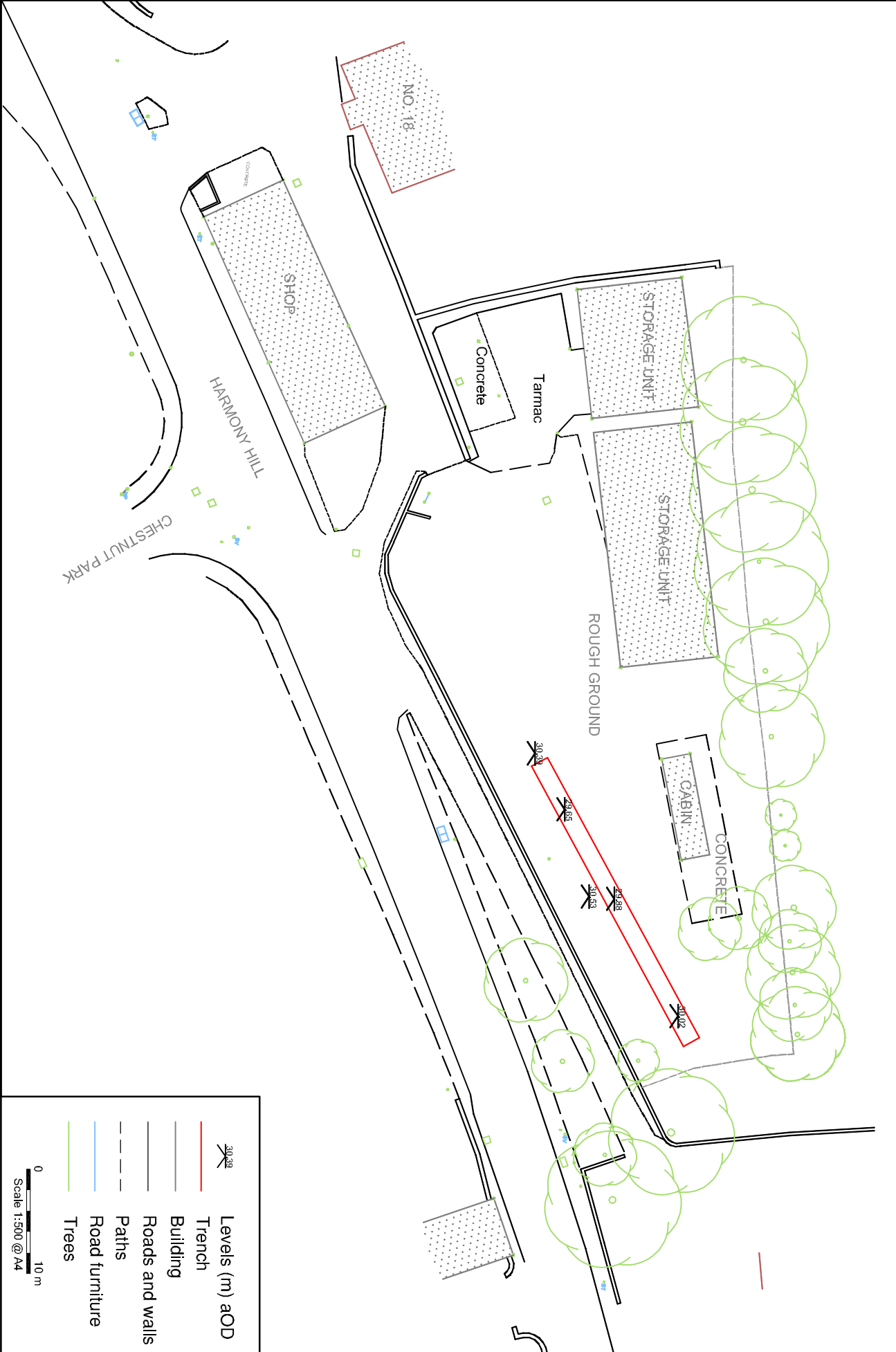


Figure 4: Trench location plan



Plate 1: West-facing view of site prior to evaluation



Plate 2: East-facing view of evaluation trench



Plate 3: West-facing view of evaluation trench

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

1. SITE DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY

Site: Former Depot, Harmony Hill, Milnthorpe

Grid Reference: SD 5005 8163

Scope of Proposed Development: 10 dwellings

Scope of Evaluation: 50 square metres of trial trenching

Detailed proposals and tenders are invited from appropriately resourced, qualified and experienced archaeological contractors to undertake the archaeological project outlined by this Brief and to produce a report on that work. The work should be under the direct management of either an Associate or Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, or equivalent. Any response to this Brief should follow IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 2001. No fieldwork may commence until approval of a specification has been issued by the County Historic Environment Service.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has been consulted by South Lakeland District Council regarding a planning application for the erection of 10 dwellings at the former depot, Harmony Hill, Milnthorpe.
- 2.2 The scheme affects an area considered to have a high archaeological potential and so a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken. The first phase of this work requires an archaeological evaluation to be undertaken to determine the potential impact of the proposal on archaeological remains. Information supplied by SLDC indicates that the western half of the site has been heavily disturbed in the recent past by development and so the archaeological potential of this area is low. However, the eastern half seems to have been relatively free from disturbance and this Design Brief sets out the requirements for the adequate archaeological evaluation of the eastern half of the site, as highlighted on the attached plan.
- 2.3.1 This advice is in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning) and with policy C19 of the South Lakeland Local Plan.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Four human cremations were revealed during an archaeological evaluation and subsequent archaeological excavation at the school in 2005 (Archaeological Services, 2005, *Dallam School, Milnthorpe, Cumbria: Archaeological Evaluation*, unpublished report & Archaeological Services, 2005, *Dallam School, Milnthorpe, Cumbria: Archaeological Excavation*, unpublished report). Three of the cremation were grouped together and have been dated to the late Bronze Age. The fourth cremation was located away from the other three and has been dated to the late Neolithic period. An undated pit and ditch were associated with the late Bronze Age cremations.

4. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- 4.1 *Objectives*
 - 4.1.1 The evaluation should aim to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied.

4.2 Work Required

- 4.2.1 Before any on site work commences the County Historic Environment Record should be consulted and a *rapid* desk-based survey of the existing resource undertaken. This should include an assessment of those primary and secondary sources referenced in the County Historic Environment Record.
- 4.2.2 A visual inspection of the site. This should include a walkover of the site noting any surface features of potential archaeological interest, areas of potentially significant disturbance, and hazards and constraints to undertaking further archaeological work on site (including the siting of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths).
- 4.2.3 The excavation of a series of linear trial trenches to adequately sample the area highlighted on the attached plan, and the investigation and recording of deposits and features of archaeological interest identified within those trenches. All features must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the County Historic Environment Service. Initial topsoil and demonstrably modern overburden removal can be undertaken by machine, but subsequent cleaning and investigation must be by hand. A minimum sample of 50 square metres of trial trenching should be investigated.
- 4.2.4 The evaluation should provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. An impact assessment should also be provided, wherever possible.
- 4.2.5 The following analyses should form part of the evaluation, as appropriate. If any of these areas of analysis are not considered viable or appropriate, their exclusion should be justified in the subsequent report.
- A suitably qualified specialist should assess the environmental potential of the site through the examination of suitable deposits, including: (1) soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and; (2) the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits.
 - Advice is to be sought from a suitably qualified specialist in faunal remains on the potential of sites for producing bones of fish and small mammals. If there is potential, a sieving programme should be undertaken. Faunal remains, collected by hand and sieved, are to be assessed and analysed, if appropriate.
 - The advice from a suitably qualified soil scientist should be sought on whether a soil micromorphological study or any other analytical techniques will enhance understanding site formation processes of the site, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. If so, analysis should be undertaken.

5. SPECIFICATION

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

- ❖ A projected timetable for all site work and post excavation work
- ❖ The proposed locations of the trial trenches

5.3 Any significant variations to the proposal must be agreed by the County Historic Environment Service in advance.

6. REPORTING AND PUBLICATION

6.1 The archaeological work should result in a report, this should include as a minimum:

- ❖ A site location plan, related to the national grid
- ❖ A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
- ❖ The dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
- ❖ A concise, non-technical summary of the results
- ❖ An explanation of any agreed variations to the brief, including justification for any analyses not undertaken (see 4.2.5)
- ❖ A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and the results obtained
- ❖ Plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of deposits and finds located
- ❖ A list of, and dates for, any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified
- ❖ A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained

6.2 Three copies of the report should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within two months of completion of fieldwork. This will be on the understanding that the report will be made available as a public document through the County Historic Environment Record.

6.3 The results of the evaluation will need to be made available for inclusion in a summary report to a suitable regional or national archaeological publication if further archaeological fieldwork is expected.

6.4 Recommendations concerning any subsequent mitigation strategies and/or further archaeological work following the results of the field evaluation should **not** be included in the report. Such recommendations are welcomed by the County Historic Environment Service, and may be outlined in a separate communication.

6.5 Cumbria HER is taking part in the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> must therefore also be completed as part of the project. Information on projects undertaken in Cumbria will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

7. THE ARCHIVE

7.1 An archive must be prepared in accordance with the recommendations in Brown, DH, 2007, *Archaeological Archives A Guide To Best Practice In Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum. Arrangements must be made for its long term storage and deposition with an appropriate repository. A copy shall also be offered to the National Monuments Record.

7.2 The landowner should be encouraged to transfer the ownership of finds to a local or relevant specialist museum. The museum's requirements for the transfer and storage of finds should be discussed before the project commences.

7.3 The County Historic Environment Service must be notified of the arrangements made.

8. PROJECT MONITORING

- 8.1 One weeks notice must be given to the County Historic Environment Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 8.2 Fieldwork will be monitored by the Historic Environment Officer on behalf of Capita Symonds.

9. FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 9.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to establish safe working practices in terms of current health and safety legislation, to ensure site access and to obtain notification of hazards (eg. services, contaminated ground, etc.). **The County Historic Environment Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this Brief or subsequent specification.**
- 9.2 All aspects of the evaluation shall be conducted in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Code of Conduct* and the IFA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.
- 9.3 Human remains must be left *in situ*, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation should normally be permitted beyond that necessary to establish the date and character of the burial, and the County Historic Environment Service and the local Coroner must be informed immediately. If removal is essential, it can only take place under appropriate Department for Constitutional Affairs and environmental health regulations.
- 9.4 The involvement of the County Historic Environment Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding this brief, contact

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Kendal
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Email: Jeremy.Parsons@cumbriacc.gov.uk

For further information regarding the County Historic Environment Record, contact

Jo Mackintosh
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APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Home Group Ltd (hereafter the 'client') has requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals for an archaeological investigation of an area of land at a former depot, Harmony Hill, Milnthorpe, Cumbria (centred NGR SD 5005 8163). Planning permission has been granted for the construction of 10 dwellings on the site, but with a condition that a programme of archaeological work is undertaken prior to construction to assess the potential impact on any below ground archaeological remains. The proposed development site is within an area of high archaeological potential; four human cremations were uncovered during an archaeological evaluation at the school in 2005, three of which were Bronze Age and the fourth was Neolithic.

1.1.2 Consequently, as part of the planning process, South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) consulted Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), from which a formal brief has been issued requesting an evaluation of the proposed development area. This brief has requested that the archaeological investigation will be concerned only with the eastern half of the site, as the western half has been subject to extensive disturbance in the past. The following proposals have been prepared in accordance with the CCCHES brief.

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology North has considerable experience of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 30 years. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables.

1.2.2 OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) **registered organisation, registration number 17**, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 This initial phase of the archaeological investigation aims to evaluate the potential for archaeological deposits, and determine their extent, nature and significance of any remains that may be threatened by the proposed development. To this end, the following programme has been designed to provide a programme of archaeological evaluation. The results will provide information as to the impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains. The stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

2.2 **Rapid desk-based assessment:** to provide a rapid assessment of the site to identify the archaeological potential prior to any development (in accordance with the IFA standards (1999)).

2.3 **Visual Inspection Survey:** to undertake a site inspection to relate the desk-based assessment findings, and identify areas of potential archaeological interest or disturbance.

2.4 **Archaeological Evaluation:** to implement a programme of trial trenching examining a minimum of 50m² within the proposed development area.

2.5 **Report and Archive:** a report will be produced for the client within eight weeks, unless a report submission deadline is agreed with the client at the time of commission. An archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (MAP 2 (1991)).

3. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.1 **Risk Assessment:** OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
- 3.2 **Services and other constraints:** full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc.) during the evaluation as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. As a matter of course the field team will use a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) and Genny prior to any excavation to test for services. However, this is only an approximate location tool. Any **information regarding services**, i.e. drawings or knowledge of live cables or services, within the study area and held with the client should be made known to the OA North project manager prior to the commencement of the evaluation.
- 3.3 **Contamination:** any known contamination issues or any specific health and safety requirements on site should be made known to OA North by the client to ensure all procedures can be met, and that the risk is dealt with appropriately. Should any presently unknown contamination be discovered during excavation, it may be necessary to halt the works and reassess the risk assessment. Should it be necessary to supply additional PPE or other contamination avoidance equipment this will be costed as a variation.
- 3.4 **Staff issues:** all project staff will be CSCS qualified, proof of which can be provided in the form of CSCS cards.
- 3.5 A portable toilet with hand washing facilities is required and can be provided and located on or adjacent to the site, unless the client would prefer to arrange alternative facilities. Therefore, the cost has been provided as a contingency item.
- 3.6 **Fencing/hoarding requirements:** unless significant archaeological deposits are discovered and it is necessary for the trenches to remain open for monitoring purposes, the trenches will be backfilled once they have been recorded and planned.

4. METHOD STATEMENT

4.1 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 4.1.1 **Introduction:** a desk-based assessment is usually undertaken as the first stage of a programme of archaeological recording, prior to further intrusive investigation in the form of trenching. It is not intended to reduce the requirement for evaluation, excavation or preservation of known or presumed archaeological deposits, but it will provide an appraisal of archaeological constraints and a guide to any requirement for further archaeological work.
- 4.1.2 In this instance, a rapid, or low-level, desk-based assessment is required, which entails an appraisal of resources at the County Historic Environment Record Office. The following research will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of source material. The level of such work will be dictated by the time scale of the project.
- 4.1.3 **Cumbria County Historic Environment Record (CHER):** the work will include consultation of the County Council's Historic Environment Record ((HER), formerly the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)) in Kendal. An appraisal will then be carried out of the HER information relating to the site and its study area, consisting of 0.5km radius centred on the site. Only the primary, secondary and relevant aerial photographs referenced in the HER will be assessed.
- 4.1.4 **Oxford Archaeology North (OA North):** various publications and unpublished reports on excavations and other work in the town are held within the OA North library, and any relevant archives will be examined. OA North also holds a complete series of the *Transactions of the*

Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, which will also be considered.

4.2 VISUAL INSPECTION

4.2.1 Following the desk-based assessment the site will be visited to provide an understanding of the area of impact by the proposed redevelopment. This information will be used to inform the proposed positions of the evaluation trenches, prior to the next stage (4.3, below).

4.2.2 A visual inspection of the site will be undertaken to;

- relate the existing landscape to any research findings and note any features of potential archaeological interest,
- identify any areas of potentially significant disturbance to surviving archaeological remains,
- identify any hazards and constraints to undertaking further archaeological work on site, i.e. evaluation trenching (including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders).

4.3 TRIAL TRENCHING

4.3.1 The programme of trial trenching will establish the presence or absence of any previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, will then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. In this way, it will adequately sample the threatened available area.

4.3.2 **Trenches:** the evaluation is required to examine a minimum of 50m². The exact location and configuration of the trenches will be determined by the desk-based assessment and visual inspection. However, this would equate to trenches measuring a total length of approximately 29m, with the width being equivalent to a typical excavator bucket (approximately 1.7m). Subject to the assessment there may also be additional areas of disturbed land, which are inappropriate for evaluation and hence may reduce the overall area requiring evaluation trenching.

4.3.3 **Methodology:** the topsoil will be removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. This deposit will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. All features of archaeological interest must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed by CCCHEs. The trenches will not be excavated deeper than 1.2m to accommodate health and safety constraints; any requirements to excavate below this depth will involve recosting.

4.3.4 Any impeding rubble/concrete surfaces will need to be removed prior to trenching. Therefore, any concrete surfaces that require breaking out will be carried out under OA North supervision, using a breaking arm mounted on the mechanical excavator. This will be subject to a variation.

4.3.5 All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Trenches will be located by use of GPS equipment which is accurate to +/- 0.25m, altitude information will be established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum.

4.3.6 Any investigation of intact archaeological deposits will be exclusively manual. Selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal. It is hoped that in terms of the vertical stratigraphy, maximum information retrieval will be achieved through the examination of sections of cut features. All

excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features, which appear worthy of preservation *in situ*.

- 4.3.7 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections, and monochrome contacts) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 4.3.8 Results of all field investigations will be recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.
- 4.3.9 **Environmental Sampling:** environmental samples (bulk samples of 40 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (gullies, pits and ditches). An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of suitable deposits by the in-house palaeoecological specialist, who will examine the potential for further analysis. The assessment would include soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features. In addition, the samples would be assessed for plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits. The costs for the palaeoecological assessment are defined as a contingency and will only be called into effect if good deposits are identified.
- 4.3.10 Advice will also be sought as to whether a soil micromorphological study or any other analytical techniques will enhance the understanding of the site formation processes, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. Should this be required the costs for analysis have been provided as a contingency.
- 4.3.11 **Faunal remains:** if there is found to be the potential for discovery of bones of fish and small mammals a sieving programme will be carried out. These will be assessed as appropriate by OA north's specialist in faunal remains, and subject to the results, there may be a requirement for more detailed analysis. A contingency has been included for the assessment of such faunal remains for analysis.
- 4.3.12 **Human Remains:** any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and character of the burial. CCCHES and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations. Any delays caused by unforeseen and complex excavation of inhumations may be subject to a variation to the cost of the contract and will be agreed with the client.
- 4.3.13 **Contingency plan:** a contingency costing may also be employed for unseen delays caused by prolonged periods of bad weather, vandalism, discovery of unforeseen complex deposits and/or artefacts which require specialist removal, use of shoring to excavate important features close to the excavation sections etc. This has been included in the Costings document and would be in agreement with the client.
- 4.3.14 The evaluation will provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. In this way, an impact assessment will also be provided.

4.4 FINDS

- 4.4.1 All finds recovered during the evaluation investigation will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines.
- 4.4.2 Finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (current IFA guidelines) and subject to expert advice. OA has close contact with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York 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. 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.
- 4.4.3 Neither artefacts nor ecofacts will be collected systematically during the mechanical excavation of the topsoil unless significant deposits, for example clay pipe waster dumps, are encountered. In such an eventuality, material will be sampled in such a manner as to provide data to enhance present knowledge of the production and dating of such artefacts, although any ensuing studies will not be regarded as a major element in any post-excavation analysis of the site. Other finds recovered during the removal of overburden or metal detecting survey will be retained only if of significance to the dating and/or interpretation of the site. It is not anticipated that ecofacts (eg unmodified animal bone) will be collected during this procedure.
- 4.4.4 Otherwise artefacts and ecofacts will be collected and handled as per specification. All material will be collected and identified by stratigraphic unit during the evaluation trenching process. Finds will be processed and administered at regular intervals (on a daily basis) and removed from the site.
- 4.4.5 Any waterlogged finds will be treated as appropriate. In the case of large deposits of waterlogged environmental material (eg unmodified wood), advice will be sought with the OA North consultant with regard to an appropriate sampling strategy.
- 4.4.6 Where possible, spot dates will be obtained on pottery and other finds recovered from the site. Artefacts will be examined and commented upon by OA North in-house specialists.
- 4.4.7 All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained on advice from the recipient museum's archive curator.
- 4.4.8 Any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.

4.5 REPORT

- 4.5.1 One bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the client, and three copies to the Cumbria HER within eight weeks of completion of the work. The report will include;
- a site location plan related to the national grid
 - a front cover to include the planning application number, where relevant, and the NGR
 - a concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - the circumstances of the project and the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken

- description of the methodology, including the sources consulted
- a summary of the historical background of the study area
- an interpretation of the results and their significance, using the ‘Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments’ included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990)
- appropriate plans showing the location and position of features or sites located
- a statement, where appropriate, of the archaeological implications of the proposed development
- photographs as appropriate
- a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
- the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted
- an index to the project archive

4.5.2 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision.

4.6 ARCHIVE

4.6.1 The results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with Appendix 3 of the current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) with the County Record Office, Kendal, and the material archive will be submitted to an appropriate museum.

5. OTHER MATTERS

5.1 ACCESS

5.1.1 Liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through the client. It is understood that there will be access for both pedestrian and plant traffic to the site.

5.2 REINSTATEMENT

5.2.1 The ground will be backfilled so that the topsoil is laid on the top, and the ground will be roughly graded with the machine. Should there be a requirement by the client, other than that stated, this will involve recosting.

5.3 INSURANCE

5.3.1 OA North has a professional indemnity cover to a value of £2,000,000; proof of which can be supplied as required.

5.4 PROJECT MONITORING

5.4.1 Whilst the work is undertaken for the client, the County Archaeologist or representative will be kept fully informed of the work and its results, on behalf of the local planning authority,

and will be notified a week in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork. Any proposed changes to the project design will be agreed with CCCHES in consultation with the client.

5.5 WORK TIMETABLE

- 5.5.1 **Rapid Desk-based Assessment:** approximately two-three days will be required for this element.
- 5.5.2 **Visual Inspection:** approximately one day will be required to complete this element, which would be undertaken following the desk-based assessment.
- 5.5.3 **Evaluation Trenching:** one day will be required to complete this element. A trench location plan will be drawn up following the results of the desk-based assessment, to be agreed by CCCHES.
- 5.5.4 **Report and Archive:** the report and archive will be produced following the completion of all the fieldwork. The final report will be available within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork, and the archive deposited within six months.
- 5.5.5 OA North would require a formal written agreement at least one week before commencement in order to notify CCCHES and schedule the work as above.

5.6 STAFFING

- 5.6.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Emily Mercer BA (Hons) MSc AIFA** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 5.6.2 The desk-based assessment will be undertaken by an OA North project officer or supervisor experienced in such work. Due to scheduling requirements it is not possible at present to provide the staff details.
- 5.6.3 The evaluation will be supervised by either an OA North project officer or supervisor experienced in this type of project, with an assistant. Due to scheduling requirements it is not possible to provide these details at the present time. All OA North project officers and supervisors are experienced field archaeologists capable of carrying out projects of all sizes.
- 5.6.4 Assessment of the finds from the evaluation will be undertaken under the auspices of OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis** (OA North finds manager). Christine has extensive knowledge of finds from many periods in the North West.
- 5.6.5 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken by or under the auspices of **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (OA North project officer). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.

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APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Maximum Depth	Description
<i>1</i>	0.15m	Dark brown sandy-silt topsoil
<i>2</i>	0.23m	Greyish-brown sandy-silty-clay
<i>3</i>	0.29m	Dark orange sandy-clay natural
<i>4</i>		Mid brown sandy-clay natural, with high proportion of limestone