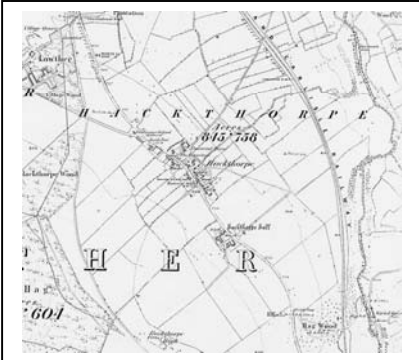


LAND AT HACKTHORPE PENRITH Cumbria



Evaluation Report



Oxford Archaeology (North)

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SUMMARY

In November and December 2001, Oxford Archaeology North carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation of land to the south-west of the A6 road, within the village of Hackthorpe, Cumbria (NY 5425 2316). The evaluation was conducted at the request of John Turner, acting on behalf of The Lowther Estate, and was commissioned on the advice of the Cumbria County Archaeological Service, in advance of a possible residential development.

The subject site, an area of 0.18ha fronting the main road through the village, was under pasture when the project was conducted. The desk-based assessment involved the study of primary and secondary sources held by the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record, the County Record Office, Kendal, and the library of Oxford Archaeology North; it showed that the morphology of Hackthorpe village demonstrates probable medieval origins, and that a manor at Hackthorpe was first documented in 1361. The field evaluation involved the use of a mechanical excavator to open three evaluation trenches, each measuring *c* 11m x 1.6m. The upper interface of the natural solid geology was exposed and cleaned using hand tools, and the archaeological features revealed were sample excavated.

In Trench 1, a possible platform revealed by the desk-top study was found to consist entirely of topsoil with occasional sandstone boulders, and should not necessarily be regarded as a man-made structure. A shallow ditch was revealed in Trench 2, together with a possible pit, which may in fact have been merely a widening of the ditch; the trench also produced several relatively large, unabraded sherds of thirteenth- to fourteenth-century medieval pottery, several of which were recovered from the ditch/pit, and a small deposit of charred grain and peas, again from the ditch/pit. Trench 3 contained a small pit which contained several fragments of probable iron smithing slag, a further sherd of medieval pottery being recovered from the south-west end of the trench.

The evaluation has confirmed that Hackthorpe represents a shrunken medieval village, but has also provided valuable evidence regarding the date of the occupation and abandonment of one of its vacant plots. The absence of late-medieval and post-medieval finds, and the good condition of the thirteenth to fourteenth century pottery, suggests a cessation of activity prior to the fifteenth century, perhaps reflecting population decline as a result of the historically-attested troubles of the fourteenth century. Because of the significance of the pottery found in the evaluation, the presence of iron slag, and the potential for the survival of charred plant remains, a further stage of archaeological recording is recommended, should any development of the site occur. This could consist either of a small excavation conducted in advance of building works, or of a programme of archaeological recording built into the construction schedule, if a topsoil strip is planned.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North is grateful to The Lowther Estate, and to John Turner, the Resident Agent, for commissioning the project. The evaluation was monitored by Helena Smith, Assistant Archaeologist, Cumbria County Archaeological Service, and valuable assistance with the desk-top study was provided by Bette Hopkins (Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record) and Richard Hall (County Record Office, Kendal). The evaluation was undertaken by Richard Heawood and Neil Wearing, the report being written by Richard Heawood, and the report drawings were prepared by Emma Carter. Ian Miller and Sean McPhillips studied the finds, Elizabeth Huckerby examined charred plant material, and Alan Lupton acted as project manager and edited the report.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 The Lowther Estate commissioned Oxford Archaeology North to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation of a site lying to the south-west of the A6 road, within Hackthorpe village (NY 5425 2316; Fig 1). The evaluation was commissioned in advance of a potential residential development, on the advice of Cumbria County Council's Archaeological Service (CCAS), and was conducted to fulfil the terms of a brief issued by CCAS.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY, AND TOPOGRAPHY

1.2.1 The subject site is an area of *c* 0.18ha, lying south-west of the main street, within the historic core Hackthorpe village; it lies mostly within a single field, but also includes a small parcel of land to the north-west. At the time of evaluation, the site was under pasture.

1.2.2 The site lies on relatively steeply sloping ground, which rises up from the A6 road towards enclosed pasture to the south-west. The solid geology comprises a sequence of sandstone, mudstone, and limestone (Yoredale facies; Institute of Geological Sciences 1982), and appears to outcrop without any covering of glacial drift. Hackthorpe falls within Lowther parish, in the former county of Westmorland.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 Further to the client's request for an archaeological evaluation, a project design (*Appendix 2*) was submitted by Oxford Archaeology North. Following formal acceptance of the project design by the County Archaeological Service, Oxford Archaeology North undertook the fieldwork in November and December 2001. The work conducted was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED SURVEY

2.1.1 ***Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (CSMR)***: existing archaeological information was obtained for all sites within a study area comprising 1km grid squares NY 52/22, 52/23, 53/22, and 53/23 (Fig 2); in effect, this included almost all sites within a 1km radius of the development area. Sites of all periods and types were noted.

2.1.2 ***County Record Office, Kendal (CRO, Kendal)***: manuscript and printed maps, directories, and selected other documents, as well as published sources, were studied. Sources provided information concerning land use and ownership, population, and the general local history of the study area.

2.1.3 ***Aerial photographs***: existing aerial photographs of Hackthorpe village held by the CSMR were studied.

2.1.4 ***Oxford Archaeology North library***: published and unpublished archaeological reports, geological maps, and secondary sources for the history and archaeology of medieval Cumbria were studied.

2.1.5 ***Gazetteer of Sites***: all archaeological information relating to the study area (*para 2.1.1*, above) was collated to form a gazetteer (*Appendix 3*). Forty three sites have been defined, and details of their location, period, and character provided. The position of each site is indicated on Figure 2.

2.3 EVALUATION

2.3.1 Three evaluation trenches were opened using a wheeled excavator working under full archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued down to the level of the first potentially significant archaeological deposit, or the upper surface of the natural geology, depending on the deposits revealed in each trench. All subsequent excavation of archaeological features was by hand. The trenches were cleaned by hand, and the excavation spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts and other potentially significant materials.

2.2.2 Recording was by means of Oxford Archaeology North's standard context recording system, with context records and supporting registers and indices. A photographic record in colour slide and monochrome formats was compiled, and section and plan drawings were made of relevant areas of the trenches at appropriate scales. The trench locations were recorded by means of a total station interfaced to a pencomputer.

2.4 HEALTH AND SAFETY

2.3.1 Full regard was given to all health and safety constraints, as well as to all Health and Safety regulations. A risk assessment was carried out in advance of work commencing; Oxford Archaeology 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 (rev 1999).

2.5 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 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 (1991). The paper archive will be deposited with the CRO, Kendal, and the material archive with Penrith Museum.

3. RESULTS OF DESK-BASED SURVEY

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 **Introduction:** this section reviews existing knowledge of Hackthorpe and its environs, with particular reference to a study area comprising 1km grid squares NY 52/22, 52/23, 53/22, and 53/23 (Fig 2). All SMR sites and Listed buildings within this study area are considered, and are cited using the site number allocated to them in the Gazetteer (*Appendix 3*).
- 3.1.2 **Prehistoric (500,000 BP – AD 43):** the village of Hackthorpe lies 8km south-west of the confluence of the Rivers Eden and Eamont, where an area of fertile agricultural land contains one of the greatest clusters of archaeological sites in Cumbria, including a concentration of henge monuments suggestive of some density of population in the vicinity in the late Neolithic (LUAU 1997c, 7). Hackthorpe itself lies at a higher altitude, but several monuments demonstrate Bronze Age activity around the present village. Within the study area, a ring cairn 500m east of the subject site was excavated in the nineteenth century, and thirteen cremations, an inhumation in a cist, and several flint artefacts were found (Site 24); two cropmarks, possibly representing barrows, have also been identified on aerial photographs at least 1.4km south-west of the subject site (NY 55000 22000). Elsewhere, a pair of round cairns lie 1.2km south of the subject site at Round Hill (NY 541 219; SMR 5375), and a pair of standing stones with associated round cairn 3km to the north at Crooklands (NY 5314 2593).
- 3.1.3 The earliest recognised settlement remains in the locality are of Iron Age date. The multi-vallate Castlesteads Hillfort lies 3km north-west of Hackthorpe (NY 51830 25209; SMR 2900; SAM 23677); the site consists of a triple ramparted, roughly circular enclosure approximately 53m in diameter, the SMR indicating the presence of internal earthworks which might represent the remains of structures. The hillfort is one of only 18 prehistoric defended enclosures in Cumbria, and has been interpreted as an agricultural settlement of some importance (LUAU 1997a, 16). Other potential Iron Age settlement sites are known within the study area. Cropmarks considered reminiscent of Iron Age or Romano-British settlements have been identified on aerial photographs 400m north-east of the subject site (Site 14), and 600m to the south-east (Site 27); additional cropmark or earthwork sites remains undated (see *Undated remains*, below).
- 3.1.4 **Romano-British (AD 43-AD 410):** the gently undulating ground between the upper Eden Valley and the Lake District has one of the greatest densities of surviving Romano-British settlement remains in the North West, giving rise to the suggestion that a more intensive use of the landscape was achieved in the Roman period than in later times (LUAU 1997a, 22). A Romano-British enclosed settlement is known at Yanwath Wood, 3.5km north-west of Hackthorpe (NY 5193 2598; SMR 2899). The enclosure is subdivided into at least eight subrectangular enclosures, and includes a low mound which has

been interpreted as a hut circle; an associated field system includes three large subrectangular fields to the east of the enclosure. Excavation of one of the field ditches in 1936 produced second century pottery. The site is 800m away from Castlesteads, demonstrating that this piece of landscape continued to be settled from the Iron Age into the Roman period (LUAU 1997a, 22). A second settlement of probable Romano-British date has been identified at Greatholme Plantation, 1.5km west of Hackthorpe, and again survives in earthwork form (NY 52858 23128; LUAU 1997a, Site 57). The site is characterised by a series of large, prominent banks forming a series of roughly rectilinear enclosures, enclosed on the north side, at least, by a substantial but broken boundary bank, and contains at least three circular hut structures. Although rectangular in shape, it has been attributed to the Romano-British period on typological grounds; the settlement lacks any defensive qualities, and some of the boundaries have a lynchet profile rather than a raised bank profile. The layout appears to provide for the grouping of domestic structures and yards in one area, and the grouping of enclosures/plots on the other side of the settlement (LUAU 1997b, 18).

- 3.1.5 Within the study area, an earthwork rectilinear enclosure at Round Hill, 1km south of the subject site, has been attributed to the Romano-British period (Site 38), and, as noted above, two other enclosures, potentially indicative of settlements, have been considered to be either of Iron Age or Romano-British date (Sites 14 and 27). Finds of the period have also been made in two locations. A hoard of *aes* coins of late Roman date (Site 25), a late Roman annular bracelet (Site 42), and a circular mount (Site 43) were found in the same field at Hackthorpe; the grid reference provided by the SMR indicates a find spot 300m south-west of the subject site, but it is unclear whether it was intended to refer to this spot, or to the 1km grid square NY 54 23. Elsewhere, a hoard of 88 radiates derives from a field 900m south-east of the subject site; coins found as casual finds in the same area date from the second to fourth centuries (Site 36).
- 3.1.6 **Early medieval (AD 410-1066):** the archaeological evidence for the post-Roman centuries in the North West is sparse, particularly compared with that from many other parts of England. Until recently, excavated settlement evidence from eastern Cumbria was confined to the proposed monastic site of Dacre, near Pooley Bridge, where sixth to eleventh century remains were found (Newman and Leech forthcoming), although there are indications that Penrith may have developed from a pre-Conquest nucleus around St Andrew's Church (Newman *et al* 2000; Winchester 1987, 124). However, the presence of these two high status centres implies the existence of well-established agricultural hinterlands, and ephemeral traces of rural settlements are now being found for the first time. Over the last decade, evidence for timber buildings, probably predating AD 800, has been found at Fremington (Oliver *et al* 1996, 127-169) and Whinfell Forest (Heawood forthcoming), both lying c 4km north of Hackthorpe in the parish of Brougham, and at Shap, some 8km south of Hackthorpe (*ibid*). Artefactual evidence from these sites has been limited, as is often the case in this period, but has included loom weights (Fremington and Shap) and pottery (Fremington).

- 3.1.7 To obtain a more balanced view of the settlement of the region in this period, the limited excavation evidence must be supplemented with place name evidence, and finds of Anglo-Scandinavian stone sculpture. Gillian Fellows-Jenson has argued that the Scandinavian *-by* place names of the Eden valley above Temple Sowerby represent the influx of Danes from the Danelaw into a landscape already well-settled by the English; some of the English *-tun* names survived, whilst others were partially or completely scandinavianised (Fellows-Jenson 1985, 80). The name Hackthorpe itself contains the common Scandinavian generic *þorp*, meaning ‘dependent secondary settlement’ (*op cit*, 66); in the Eden valley, place names in *-þorp* have been taken to represent influence from the Danelaw (*op cit*, 68), although again, it should be cautioned that the generic may have been applied to an existing English township, and need not imply Scandinavian colonisation of vacant land.
- 3.1.8 Finds of stone sculpture in the parish of Lowther further support the hypothesis that the landscape remained settled in the pre-Viking period, then came under Scandinavian influence from the tenth century. Two cross-shafts of later eighth- to early ninth-century date were formerly present inside Lowther Castle, and may have originated from nearby St Michael’s Church (LUAU 1997a, 23; Bailey and Cramp 1988, 127-129); they suggest the presence of a contemporary church or monastic institution, with access to an agricultural surplus. Three rather later Anglo-Scandinavian hog-back stones are still present within the church porch (Bailey and Cramp 1988, 130-1), and imply some degree of Scandinavian influence by the late tenth or early eleventh century.
- 3.1.9 **Medieval (1066-1500):** the settlement morphology, and surviving earthworks, of many villages in the upper Eden Valley have been interpreted as representing evidence of medieval origins (CCAS undat). Many show a rectangular plan, sometimes around a green, but often apparently based around a narrow street (Roberts 1993, 131-3); the village fields were laid out at right angles to the street, and there were typically two, which is not uncommon in highland areas of Britain (*op cit*, para 2.9). The former extent of the village fields is often now reflected by numerous narrow fields, which appear to represent the enclosure of groups of strips (as at Askham, 3km west of Hackthorpe). Several of the settlements are characterised by areas, sometimes individual plots, in which there are earthwork remains of former buildings (*op cit*, para 2.1). This has been interpreted as demonstrating that the villages were larger in the medieval period, or that the focus of settlement has shifted. It has been argued that ‘the quality and number of such remains is quite remarkable, and must be regarded as of national significance’.
- 3.1.10 The numbers of surviving ‘medieval’ villages is not repeated in the southern half of old Westmorland (*op cit*, para 2.2), suggesting that they were a product of the agricultural wealth of the Eden valley. Two possibilities have been advanced for their distinctive morphology; the first is that they developed along the outgang or narrow fan of land leading from an existing farmstead to the unenclosed common, the second that they were new and deliberate creations, and represent evidence for planning (Roberts 1993, 133). The date at which the villages originated remains problematic and, to some extent,

appears to rest on the assumption that they must have been settled before the disasters of the fourteenth century (plague, diseases of livestock, and Scottish raids; problems described by Winchester 1987, 44-45).

- 3.1.11 Hackthorpe appears to be one of these rectangular settlements with probable medieval origins. Building plots front the main street, as represented by the modern A6, and there is a back lane to the north-east of the settlement (Fig 3, OS 1899). Beyond the building plots, long narrow fields stretch back at right angles to the main street, some field boundaries displaying traces of the reverse 'S' curvature typical of medieval ploughing. Further north-east, narrow fields on different alignments appear to represent additional furlongs within the north-east town field. Earthwork remains are also present within the village, in the vacant plot which forms the present subject site, and in a vacant plot diagonally opposite on the other side of the main street. The central part of the modern settlement is part of SMR hazard area 6747 (Site 15, Fig 2), an area which measures some 600m x 400m and includes the subject site. The earthworks within the subject site have been classified as Class 2, which comprises boundary and cultivation features (CCAS undat, appendix 1). Despite their classification, aerial photographic evidence suggests the possibility that a building platform may survive as a positive feature to the rear of the plot (photograph MU CS 34, 19, held in the SMR).
- 3.1.12 Historical evidence confirms that there was a medieval settlement at Hackthorpe (a township within Lowther parish) which may plausibly be related to the modern village site. A manor at Hackthorpe is known to have been in the possession of Sir Thomas de Strickland in 1361, because in that year he obtained a royal licence to impark his woods in that township and elsewhere, for services in the French wars (Bulmer 1885, 345). The Strickland family held the manor until its purchase by the Lowthers in 1535 (*ibid*), but no documents relating to their tenure are listed in the catalogue of Sizergh manuscripts held by the CRO (Kendal).
- 3.1.13 A variety of medieval remains is known elsewhere within the study area. A second potential medieval village site has been identified 600m south-east of the subject site, on the basis earthworks observed during a rapid field inspection visit; a hazard area measuring some 500m x 350m has been defined (Site 35). The site is termed Hackthorpe Hall, although the hall in fact lies equidistant between the two SMR medieval village hazard areas. Earthwork ridge and furrow and a trackway, both attributed to the medieval period, have been identified 350m north of the subject site (Site 13), and additional earthwork ridge and furrow of medieval character has been noted 900m north-east of the subject site (Site 3; Lambert 1996, site 1022). Ridge and furrow cultivation features of unknown date have also been identified 750m north-east of the subject site (Site 12), and 900m west-south-west (Site 30). Together, the surviving earthwork ridge and furrow remains, and the pattern of field boundaries visible on nineteenth century and modern maps, suggest that in the medieval period, Hackthorpe was surrounded by open fields, probably two in number, which were used for arable agriculture.

- 3.1.14 A medieval deer park to the south-west of Hackthorpe extended to within 600m of the subject site (LUAU 1997b, 15-16 and fig 4). The park was licenced to Sir Hugh Lowther II in either 1283 or 1337, and seems to have comprised around 200 acres (*ibid*). Until *c* 1350, the seat of the Lowther family seems likely to have been a ringwork at Castlesteads (NY 5188 2414), some 2.6km north-west of the subject site; a peel tower was then built *c* 400m nearer to Hackthorpe, on a site later occupied by Lowther Castle (LUAU 1997a, 23). Settlement remains to the east and south-east of Castlesteads appear to represent the medieval village of Lowther, pulled down by Sir John Lowther in 1682 (*ibid*). It is evident that the land surrounding this settlement, as at Hackthorpe, was for the most part subject to arable farming.
- 3.1.15 ***Post-medieval (1500-present)***: the Westmorland Hearth Tax return for 1674 provides the first indication of the size of post-medieval Hackthorpe. The occupiers of 17 properties are referred to, of whom 15 had one hearth, one had two hearths, and one had six hearths (Cumbria Family History Society 2000). The last named apparently resided at Hackthorpe Hall, which stands 350m south-east of the subject site. The hall is a Listed building (Site 29), an early seventeenth century farmhouse built for Sir Christopher Lowther, and altered in the mid-seventeenth century. It is a two-storey structure comprising three bays of double span, with cement-rendered limestone rubble walls, and a graduated greenslate roof. The only other structure in Hackthorpe that clearly pre-dates 1750 is the Listed Lowther Castle Inn, standing 20m south-east of the subject site (Site 20). The left part of the structure is dated 1717, and the building has painted stucco walls, under a partly hipped graduated greenslate roof. The Listed buildings register lists seven mid-eighteenth to nineteenth century structures within the village which are of historical or architectural interest (Sites 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23).
- 3.1.16 Post-medieval settlement evidence in the SMR is confined to the model village at Lowther, 800m north-west of the subject site, built for Sir James Lowther between 1765 and 1773 by Robert Adam, but never completed (Site 5; see also Sites 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11). Industry and quarrying are represented by quarries 500m south-west of the subject site (Site 33; present by 1899 Ordnance Survey second edition), 900m south (Site 37; present by 1863 Ordnance Survey first edition), and 1.1km north (Site 1; present by 1863 Ordnance Survey first edition); by a limekiln of unknown date 850m north-west (Site 2); and by the Hackthorpe Tile Works and Tramway, 1.2km south (Site 39; present by 1863 Ordnance Survey first edition), which was destroyed during construction of the M6 motorway.
- 3.1.17 The first cartographic evidence for Hackthorpe village located by this study is the tithe map of 1837 (Apportionment of the rent charge in lieu of tithes in the Parish of Lowther, CRO (Kendal)). The disposition of buildings appears to be substantially the same as that shown by modern mapping, and it is not apparent that any of the structures standing on the properties which adjoin the subject site post-date 1837. The field boundaries to the south-west of the village appear to correlate exactly with their modern counterparts, though to the north-east of the A6, narrow strip fields aligned north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east have been amalgamated into much larger fields. The

narrow fields depicted on the 1837 map appear to demonstrate the enclosure of small groups of strips within the former town fields to either side of the main street. The accompanying apportionment shows that the three narrow fields south-west of the subject site were owned by three different landowners in 1837.

- 3.1.18 ***Undated earthwork/cropmark remains:*** a variety of earthwork/cropmark remains of unknown period is listed by the SMR, and lie within the study area. They comprise cropmarks of a dyke, trackway, and possible enclosure 250m south-west of the subject site (Site 26); a subrectangular earthwork defined by a low broken bank 500m to the south-west (Site 32); two possible settlement sites appearing as both cropmarks and earthworks, 650m south (Site 34); possible earthwork enclosures 1.2km south-west (Site 31); an earthwork field system 1km north-west (Site 4); a cropmark and earthwork square enclosure 1.3km south-east (Site 41); and a possible settlement site 1.2km south-east (Site 40). These remains demonstrate that the landscape has been intensively utilised in the past, and that settlement patterns have altered.

3.2 HISTORICAL LAND USE WITHIN THE SUBJECT SITE

- 3.2.1 The earliest documentary or cartographic source relating specifically to the subject site is the tithe map of 1837 (CRO (Kendal)). It shows that the present field boundaries have not altered since 1837, with the exception of a subdivision created in the north-east corner of the 1837 plot; the plot is depicted as being devoid of buildings.
- 3.2.2 Subsequent mapping shows no change to the 1837 layout (Ordnance Survey 1863; 1899), suggesting that the field has been used continuously for pasture since at least the early nineteenth century.
- 3.2.3 One of three aerial photographs of Hackthorpe village held by the SMR shows a potential earthwork platform within the subject site (Site 15, MU CS 34, 19; CCAS undat, appendix 1). This must pre-date the early nineteenth century, and may be medieval in origin, given the apparent medieval morphology of Hackthorpe. It is as yet unclear whether it indeed represents a building platform.

4. RESULTS OF EVALUATION TRENCHING

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 Summary results of the evaluation trenching are presented below. Figure 3 shows the Trench locations, and the context list is reproduced as *Appendix 4*.

4.2 TRENCH 1

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 was positioned close to the western boundary of the site, in order to investigate a flat, subcircular platform, which appeared to be visible as an earthwork (Fig 3; see above *para 3.2.3*). It was aligned north-east/south-west, parallel to the orientation of the relatively steep slope down to the A6 road, some 40m to the east. The trench measured 11.8m long x 1.6m wide, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m. A depth of 0.5m-0.95m of dark reddish brown sandy silt topsoil, **101**, was removed by machine, revealing the surface of a natural deposit of sand and sandstone, at a height of 229.85m OD at the west of the trench, falling to 228.65m OD to the east.
- 4.2.2 The putative platform proved to consist solely of topsoil, with occasional very large subangular sandstone boulders. The north-east/south-west profile of the feature, as revealed by Trench 1, indicated that the present ground surface reflected the underlying surface of the solid geology relatively closely, casting some doubt as to whether the platform is a man-made feature.
- 4.2.3 No other potential archaeological features were revealed, and no finds were recovered.

4.3 TRENCH 2

- 4.3.1 Trench 2 was sited 22m from the street frontage, and was aligned north-west/south-east, across the line of the slope. It measured 10.5m long x 1.6m wide, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m. A depth of 0.35m-0.6m of mid brown sandy silt topsoil, **103**, was removed by machine, exposing the upper interface of a natural deposit of sand and sandstone, at a height of 226.70m OD.
- 4.3.2 A shallow linear feature, 0.05m-0.3m deep, **105/109**, was revealed below topsoil **103**, aligned north-north-west/south-south-east (Fig 4). It was not continuous, having a break 0.5m long some 2m from the north-west end, but the shallowness and irregularity of the feature suggested that it should be regarded as a single cut that had been partially removed by horizontal truncation. In total, the feature was at least 6.7m long, and for most of its length, it measured c 0.5m wide. The upper break of slope varied from gradual to sharp, and the sides likewise varied from near vertical to gentle, with the base being uneven and 'pitted'. Where the cut entered the south-west edge of the trench, it widened slightly, suggesting the possible presence of another

feature, perhaps a pit (**107**). The fills of **105/109** and of **107** were indistinguishable one from another, but also very closely resembled topsoil **103**; it is considered that this homogeneity is probably the product of ongoing soil-formation processes which have been operating since the features filled. As a result, it was impossible to determine any stratigraphic relationship between **107** and **109**, or to determine whether **105/109** was sealed by the total depth of topsoil horizon **103**, or whether it was cut from a higher level. Three sherds of late twelfth to fourteenth century pottery were recovered from the fills of **105/109**.

4.4 TRENCH 3

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 was sited between 5m and 17m from the street frontage, in order to determine whether the remains of a dwelling might survive in a corresponding position to the extant buildings on adjacent plots. The trench was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 12.1m long x 1.6m wide, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m. Topsoil **113**, 0.25m deep, and subsoil **117**, 0.1-0.35m deep, were removed by machine, revealing the surface of the natural sand and sandstone at 225.97m OD at the south-west end of the trench, and 225.34m OD to the north-east.
- 4.4.2 A single pit was revealed in plan after hand-cleaning of the trench, cutting the natural geological strata. Pit **111** was curvilinear in shape, with steeply angled sides and an irregular though roughly flat base. It measured 0.9m long x 0.5m wide x 0.45m deep, and had a lower fill of brownish red sand (redeposited natural), and an upper fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt, both fills containing 50% small, medium, and large angular fragments of sandstone, and small and medium fragments of slag. No other finds were recovered.
- 4.4.3 When the trench edge 0.1m south-east of pit **111** was examined, a wide shallow cut was identified in section, 2.0m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig 4). Its fill closely resembled the upper fill of **111**, suggesting that this might be the upper portion of the same cut, caught in section. If so, the pit would have had a stepped profile, with gently angled upper sides, which became steep towards the base. In section, the feature was clearly cut from the base of the topsoil, having been dug through subsoil layer **117**.
- 4.4.4 A further cut feature was visible in section at the south-west end of the trench. Cut **116** could be seen cutting vertically through subsoil **117**, but did not penetrate the natural subsoil, and so was not evident in plan. Only the north-west side of the feature was clearly visible, and it was uncertain whether it had any stratigraphic relationship with pit **111**. An unstratified nineteenth-century button (see below, 4.5 *Finds*) may have been derived from the fill of **116**.
- 4.4.5 No other features were identified in Trench 3, but a large and relatively unabraded sherd of medieval pottery was recovered whilst cleaning the south-west end of the trench.

4.5 FINDS

- 4.5.1 In total, 25 fragments of artefacts and ecofacts were recovered from the evaluation, and in general the material was well preserved. The assemblage comprised ceramic vessel sherds, industrial residues, and a single metal object. Other classes of material, such as glass, brick, and animal bone were absent. All finds were treated in accordance with standard OA North practice, and a catalogue of the artefacts is provided as *Appendix 5*.
- 4.5.2 The finds assemblage was dominated by fragments of pottery (14 sherds), all of which may be dated to the medieval period. The pottery was in good condition, neither badly abraded nor rolled, suggesting little serious disturbance and, in corroboration, some of the fragments were quite large, with several pieces of a single vessel, broken in antiquity, found in close association. Analysis of the pottery was based solely on visual inspection of individual sherds, and has been described using the terminology developed by Orton *et al* (1993) and the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG 1998).
- 4.5.3 The pottery may be divided into three groups, based on clear variations in the fabric types, and is described accordingly. The date ranges suggested for these fabrics are approximate, and are based on parallels from excavations in Carlisle (McCarthy 1990; 2000; Miller and McPhillips in prep) and Penrith (Newman *et al* 2000). The absence of rims or other diagnostic sherds, however, has precluded the confident identification of vessel forms.

Fabric 1: a hard, coarse fabric with rough surfaces and a hackly fracture. It contains moderate, ill-sorted, sub-rounded to sub-angular quartz inclusions up to 1mm across, fragments of rock, and abundant mica. Wall surfaces are a pale brown with no evidence of a glaze, and the core is reduced to a dark grey. It may be described as being of the Northern Gritty Tradition.

Date range: approximately later twelfth to thirteenth/fourteenth centuries.

Fabric 2: a fairly fine sandy reduced grey to dark grey fabric with an irregular fracture. There are frequent tiny inclusions with sparse larger sub-rounded quartz inclusions up to 0.5mm across, and moderate mica. The exterior surfaces are oxidised to orange, frequently with a yellow to olive-green lead glaze.

Date range: approximately thirteenth to fourteenth centuries.

Fabric 3: a hard, oxidised fabric with rough surfaces and an irregular fracture. There are moderate sub-rounded quartz inclusions up to 0.5mm across, and sparse mica. The surfaces are orange with a yellow lead glaze.

Date range: approximately later twelfth to fourteenth /?fifteenth centuries.

- 4.5.4 Numerically, Fabric 2 was the most significant, occurring unstratified in Trench 2 (**100**, two sherds), in the topsoil in Trench 2 (**103**, one sherd), and in the possible pit **107** in Trench 2 (**106**, six sherds), and in Trench 3 (**112**, one sherd). It is likely, however, that many of the sherds were from a single vessel. This vessel appeared to have a sagging base, and is likely to have been of medium to wide proportions. Other than having a splashed glaze on the exterior surface, the vessel was undecorated. The absence of any evidence for a lip, spout, or handles suggests that the vessel may have been a jar, although this cannot be asserted with confidence without diagnostic rim sherds.

- 4.5.5 Fabric 1 was represented by two sherds, single fragments being retrieved from the fills of linear feature **105/109** in Trench 2 (**104** and **108**). One sherd had clearly been discoloured from contact with heat, and traces of a soot deposit on the exterior surface suggest the vessel to have been used as a cooking pot. Fabric 3 was also represented by two sherds, retrieved from topsoil **103** and fill **104** of the linear feature in Trench 2, both of which had a complete yellow glaze on the exterior surface.
- 4.5.6 The absence of any post-medieval pottery within the assemblage is of note, indicating that the excavated features were sealed, with little, if any, disturbance during the post-medieval or modern periods. Similarly, the absence of Late Medieval Fully reduced wares is of interest. As these fabrics tend to become dominant during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries (McCarthy and Brooks 1988), their absence from the Hackthorpe assemblage may indicate a cessation of activity prior to that time.
- 4.5.7 The likely sources of pottery used in Cumbria during the medieval period are as yet not well known, and the fabrics present in the Hackthorpe assemblage cannot be ascribed to a specific source. It is likely, however, that they are the product of a local source, and it is interesting to note that all three fabrics contained micaceous inclusions.
- 4.5.8 In addition to the pottery, 10 pieces (1430g) of industrial residues were retrieved, all from fill **110** of pit **111** in Trench 3. None appeared to be abraded, and their concentration within pit **111** may indicate metal working processes in the vicinity. Whilst some of the larger pieces are comparatively light in weight, the bun-shaped sections suggest that they may be the result of smithing. In the absence of a secure stratigraphic sequence and an absence of other datable artefacts from fill **110**, the industrial residues cannot be dated. However, given the paucity of post-medieval material retrieved from other excavated deposits during the evaluation, a medieval date for the industrial residues cannot be discounted.
- 4.5.9 A single metal button was recovered from an unstratified context, **112**. This is most probably nineteenth century in date, and is of little archaeological significance.

4.6 CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

- 4.6.1 **Methodology:** a single sample of less than one litre, from fill **106** of pit **107** (Trench 2) was floated, and the flot retained on a 500 microns mesh. The flot was examined with a Wild-Leitz M3 stereozoom microscope. The matrix of the flot, ie the presence or absence of charcoal, coal, cinder, wood, etc, was noted. The charred plant remains were identified where possible and recorded quantitatively.
- 4.6.2 **Results and discussion:** the small flot contained abundant carbonised cereal grains, some carbonised peas, and single carbonised seeds of grass and Sheep's Sorrel. The cereal grains, in total 145, were poorly preserved but the majority

(100) were identified as oats (*Avena*). A single fragment of an oat awn and an insect were recorded.

4.6.3 Other medieval samples in the North West of England, with high concentrations of oat grains, have been recorded from the Mitchell's Brewery site in Lancaster (Newman *et al* forthcoming) and at Audlem, Cheshire (Huckerby 2000), but both these are from urban sites. Rural medieval sites are poorly studied for plant macrofossil remains in the North West (Huntley and Stallibrass 1995, 65-9; LUAU 2001) so this small assemblage is regionally important.

4.6.4 **Recommendations:** this sample has provided evidence for the preservation of carbonised material at Hackthorpe. Because rural medieval sites are not well studied for plant macrofossils, it is recommended that during any potential archaeological mitigation work in the future, samples should be taken, and a record and assessment of all deposits containing organic material should be carried out.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The desk-based study demonstrates that a manor existed at Hackthorpe in 1361, and further suggests that the morphology of the present-day settlement and adjacent fields resembles that of several medieval villages in the upper Eden Valley (CCAS undat). This evidence for the antiquity of Hackthorpe is confirmed by the results of the evaluation trenching. A single definite archaeological feature of proven medieval date was found, linear cut **105/109**, but the number of relatively large sherds of unabraded thirteenth to fourteenth century pottery recovered from possible pit **107**, and from elsewhere in Trenches 2 and 3, gives a clear indication of medieval settlement in the immediate vicinity.
- 5.2 Linear cut **105/109** was relatively irregular in shape and depth; it is not clear whether this irregularity is a product of the difficulty of digging into the rocky geology beneath the topsoil, or the result of the feature being disturbed subsequently by root action. Given the latter possibility, it could be suggested that **105/109** represents a structural beam-slot, but it is more probable that the feature was a shallow boundary ditch or drain, possibly demarcating the site of a dwelling house close to the street frontage, from a croft to the rear. Two sherds of late twelfth to fourteenth century pottery were recovered from the north-west end of the feature, **105**, a further sherd of the same date being derived from the south-east end, **109**. The alignment of the cut is striking, as it is divergent from that of the street, and from extant buildings and boundaries in the vicinity; this might imply an earlier pattern of boundaries, or simply that the feature was a drain angled diagonally downslope to avoid a building on the frontage.
- 5.3 The greatest concentration of medieval pottery was recovered from an apparent widening of linear cut **105/109**, recorded as possible pit **107**; given the proximity of the trench edge, and the homogeneity of all the deposits overlying the natural geology, it was impossible to determine whether the linear feature simply became wider here, or whether it intersected with another feature, also of medieval date. A small concentration of charred plant remains, consisting mostly of oats and peas, was also recovered from **107**.
- 5.4 Ten fragments of industrial debris, probably iron smithing slag, were recovered from a small pit at the north edge of Trench 3. Given the almost complete absence of evidence for post-medieval or modern activity in the evaluation area, a medieval date for the industrial residues cannot be discounted. The discovery of a relatively large and unabraded sherd of medieval pottery in Trench 3 indicates that medieval activity was not confined to the immediate vicinity of Trench 2.
- 5.5 The excavation of Trench 1 demonstrated that the apparent earthwork feature at the rear of the site (see above, *paras 3.1.11, 3.2.3*) consisted only of topsoil with occasional large boulders as inclusions. The profile of the present ground surface was also found closely to follow that of the underlying natural geology, and no evidence of any structure was found. It remains uncertain

whether this is a natural feature given the appearance of a platform by two tracks which cut into it to the north-west and south-east, or whether it indeed results from the terracing of the hillside.

- 5.6 The absence of late-medieval, post-medieval, and modern pottery from the evaluation trenches has been remarked upon in the finds report (4.6 above). The assemblage is predominantly of thirteenth to fourteenth century date, and it is quite possible that the proposed development area was last used for domestic settlement in that period, perhaps being abandoned as a result of the troubles of the fourteenth century (Winchester 1987, 44-45), when population, and presumably demand for habitation sites, declined. Although the total volume of pottery recovered from this evaluation is not great, it represents the third largest assemblage from a rural context in the upper Eden valley (R Newman pers comm), and is thus of considerable significance. The contraction, or settlement shifts, of medieval villages in the Eden valley is at present not well dated or understood (see above, *para 3.1.10*), and excavated evidence such as that produced by this evaluation is consequently of great value.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation has produced several large unabraded sherds of medieval pottery, suggesting that sealed and relatively undisturbed archaeological features exist within the proposed development area. The range and condition of the pottery suggests that medieval domestic occupation occurred in close proximity to Trenches 2 and 3, and the survival of charred grain and other ecofacts demonstrates potential for environmental reconstruction. It is therefore recommended that further archaeological investigation be conducted prior to any development of the site, in order to locate evidence for structural or boundary features, and recover additional pottery and ecofacts, before archaeological remains are threatened by construction works.
- 6.2 The nature of further archaeological investigation should to some extent be determined by the client's proposed working methods during construction. If the site is to be stripped of topsoil as part of any construction programme, it might be appropriate for archaeological mitigation to be achieved by means of a recording brief. Topsoil stripping should be conducted under archaeological supervision, with an interval left afterwards for a programme of archaeological cleaning, excavating, and recording.
- 6.3 If the client proposed to dig strip foundations without large-scale topsoil stripping, it is recommended that a small archaeological excavation be conducted in advance of construction works. The area of potential indicated by this evaluation should be adequately examined by excavation of an area equivalent to 15m x 20m.
- 6.4 In either eventuality, it should be recognized that the stoniness of the underlying geology means that after careful machine stripping of the area of interest, hand-cleaning of the exposed surface will be essential.

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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

October 2001

Lancaster
University
Archaeological
Unit

LAND AT HACKTHORPE, PENRITH, CUMBRIA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr J Turner, of the Lowther Estate, for an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed development of land at Hackthorpe, Penrith, Cumbria.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A residential development has been proposed on land at Hackthorpe, near Penrith, Cumbria (NY 5425 2316). The proposed development affects an archaeological site registered in the County Sites and Monuments Register (reference 6747). Consequently, the Cumbria County Archaeology Service has recommended that an evaluation of the site is necessary to inform further the planning process. The following document represents a project design to carry out the evaluation of the site as defined in a brief supplied by the Assistant Archaeologist of Cumbria County Council.
- 1.2 Little is known of the development of nucleated settlement in the early medieval/medieval period south and west of Penrith and thus this opportunity to examine a site in the core of such a settlement is of importance. Cartographic evidence and the street system suggest that the proposed development site would have formed part of this medieval settlement. Buried remains associated with this settlement could survive within the proposed development area.
- 1.3 LUAU has considerable experience of excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 20 years, including work in Carlisle, Appleby, Kendal, Penrith, and other towns in Cumbria. Rural work has also been of importance, with evaluations undertaken in several villages, such as at Maulds Meaburn and Dacre. 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. LUAU has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. LUAU is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 27, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.
- 1.4 LUAU has particular experience of the archaeology of the Hackthorpe area, having undertaken a major excavation of the early christian site and later medieval village development at Dacre, as well as work in Penrith itself, and Brougham, a short distance to the north-east.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The following programme has been designed to evaluate the archaeological deposits affected by the proposed development of the site. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:
- 2.2 ***Desk-Based Survey***
To undertake a desk-based survey of the existing resource including primary and secondary maps and documents.

2.3 ***Archaeological Evaluation***

To undertake evaluation trenching of *c* 3% of the proposal area (an area of *c* 53m²) to determine the quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site.

2.4 ***Post-Excavation and Report Production***

An evaluation report will be produced for the client within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork. A site archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990).

3. METHODS STATEMENT

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

3.2 **DESK-BASED SURVEY**

3.2.1 The following 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.

3.2.2 ***Documentary and Cartographic Material:*** This work will assess the full range of potential sources of information relating to the area affected by the proposed development. It will include an appraisal of the data in the Cumbria Sites and Monument Record, appropriate sections of County histories, early maps (printed and manuscript), and such primary documentation (tithe and estate plans etc.) as may be reasonably available will also be assessed. Particular attention will be paid to field and place names recorded on early cartographic sources relating to estate and parish boundaries, field boundaries, woodlands and routes, as these often provide important evidence of archaeological activity and transformation of the historic landscape. All available published and unpublished documentary sources will also be examined and assessed. Organisations/Institutions to be consulted will include the County Record Office.

3.2.3 ***Aerial Photography:*** Any relevant photographic material held by Cumbria County Council will also be studied. This may indicate the range and survival of archaeological and structural features in the designated area no longer visible at ground level.

3.2.4 ***Physical Environment:*** A rapid desk-based compilation of geological (both solid and drift), pedological, topographical and palaeoenvironmental information will be undertaken in order to set the archaeological features in context. Any engineering and/or borehole data relating to the site will also be examined.

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 3.3.1 Following discussion with the Assistant Archaeologist regarding positioning of the trenches a *c* 3% sample of the proposal area (an area of *c* 53m²) will be subject to evaluation trenching (equivalent to approximately 3 11m x 1.6m trenches). The uppermost modern surface will be removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions.
- 3.3.2 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*.
- 3.3.3 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 of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 3.3.4 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.
- 3.3.5 The deposition and disposal of any artefacts recovered in the evaluation will be agreed with the legal owner prior to the work taking place. Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to an appropriate receiving museum.
- 3.3.6 Environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from suitable deposits (i.e. the deposits are reasonably well dated and are from contexts the derivation of which can be understood with a degree of confidence). Where such deposits are encountered, an appropriate sampling strategy will be agreed with the Cumbria County Archaeology Service.
- 3.3.7 Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate. If necessary, access to conservation

advice and facilities can be made available. LUAU maintains close relationships with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, employs artefact and palaeoecology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

- 3.3.8 **Health and Safety:** LUAU 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.
- 3.3.9 The client is requested to provide information relating to services in the vicinity of the trenches, though LUAU will undertake a Cat scan in advance of site commencement.
- 3.3.10 If necessary the trenches will be excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m. Following completion of the evaluation, the trenches will be backfilled with the material removed in their excavation. Any other form of land reinstatement will be the responsibility of the client.
- 3.3.11 LUAU has professional indemnity to a value of £2,000,000, employer's liability cover to a value of £10,000,000 and public liability to a value of £15,000,000. Written details of insurance cover can be provided if required.
- 3.3.12 Normal LUAU working hours are between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday, though adjustments to hours may be made to maximise daylight working time in winter and to meet travel requirements. It is not normal practice for LUAU staff to be asked to work weekends or bank holidays and should the client require such time to be worked during the course of a project a contract variation to cover additional costs will be necessary.

3.4 **POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION**

- 3.4.1 **Archive:** The results of Stage 3.2 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 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 paper archive will be deposited with the County Record

Office within six months of the completion of the fieldwork. The material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) will be deposited with an appropriate museum following agreement with the client.

- 3.4.3 **Report:** One copy of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client and two copies to the County SMR within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. The final report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed above, and will include a review of the 1993 evaluation in order to come to as full an understanding as possible of the archaeology of the development area. In addition, recommendations for any further mitigation works and details of the final deposition of the project archive will also be made.
- 3.4.4 **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 brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

4.1 **Desk-Based Survey**

A four day period will be required to complete this element, including preparation of notes to be included in the final evaluation report.

4.2 **Archaeological Excavation**

A three day period is required to excavate evaluation trenching equivalent to a c 3% sample (53m²) of the proposal area.

4.3 **Post-Excavation and Report Production**

An evaluation report will be submitted within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

- 4.4 LUAU can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client. Two weeks notice would be sufficient to allow the necessary arrangements to be made to commence the task.

5. STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The desk-based survey will be undertaken by a desktop specialist experienced in assessing information in the Sites and Monuments Records in the majority of the counties of northern England, including Cumbria.
- 5.2 Excavation of the evaluation trenching is likely to be supervised by either an LUAU project officer or a project supervisor. All LUAU project officers and supervisors are highly experienced field archaeologists who have undertaken evaluation and excavation work throughout Cumbria and other parts of the North West.
- 5.3 Assessment of the finds from the evaluation will be undertaken by LUAU's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA MIFA** (LUAU project officer). Christine acts as LUAU's in-house finds specialist and has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England. However, she has specialist knowledge regarding Roman glass, metalwork, and leather, the recording and management of waterlogged wood, and most aspects of wetland and environmental archaeology.
- 5.4 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples which may be taken will be undertaken by **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (LUAU 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.
- 5.5 The project will be managed by **Alan Lupton, PhD** (LUAU Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

6. MONITORING

- 6.1 Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the Cumbria Archaeology Service.
- 6.2 Access to the site for monitoring purposes will be afforded to the Cumbria Archaeology Service at all times.

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APPENDIX 3: GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number 1
Site name Highcross Quarry, Lowther
NGR NY 5332 2388
Site type Quarry
Period Post-medieval
SMR No 15450
Source SMR
Description Highcross quarry lay in fields near Highcross Wood and Lowther village
Assessment Post-medieval quarry 1.1km from the subject site

Site number 2
Site name Lowther
NGR NY 5370 2381
Site type Lime kiln
Period Unknown
SMR No 30838
Source SMR
Description Site of a lime kiln
Assessment 850m from the subject site

Site number 3
Site name Hackthorpe
NGR NY 5493 2381
Site type Field system
Period Medieval
SMR No 629
Source Lambert 1996, 194
Description Field system, trackway
Assessment 900m north-east of the subject site

Site number 4
Site name Lowther field system, earthworks
NGR NY 5340 2370
Site type Field system, earthworks
Period Unknown
SMR No 13586
Source SMR
Description Remains of field system and other unclassified earthworks, shown on aerial photographs
Assessment 1km north-west of the subject site

Site number 5
Site name Lowther village
NGR NY 5360 2360
Site type Village
Period Post-medieval
SMR No 5484
Source SMR
Description Lowther village, built 1765, 1773, and spasmodically thereafter
Assessment 800m north-west of the subject site
Site number 6

Site name Lowther village, Nos 13-20
NGR NY 5361 2367
Site type Houses
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/148
Description Twelve estate houses built by Robert Adam, in 1766-73
Assessment 850m north-west of the subject site

Site number 7
Site name Lowther village, Nos 23-26
NGR NY 5361 2367
Site type Houses
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/152
Description Four estate houses built by Robert Adam, in 1766-73
Assessment 850m north-west of the subject site

Site number 8
Site name Lowther village, Nos 21-22
NGR NY 5370 2363
Site type Houses
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/151
Description Two estate houses built by Robert Adam, in 1766-73
Assessment 850m north-west of the subject site

Site number 9
Site name Lowther cottage
NGR NY5365 2358
Site type House
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/153
Description Cottage built by Robert Adam, in 1766-73
Assessment 850m north-west of the subject site

Site number 10
Site name Lowther village pump and trough
NGR NY 5362 2364
Site type Village pump
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/150
Description Pump and trough at end of open courtyard of Lowther village
Assessment 850m north-west of the subject site

Site number	11
Site name	Lowther village Nos 1-12
NGR	NY 5355 2360
Site type	Houses
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/148
Description	Twelve estate houses built by Robert Adam, in 1766-73
Assessment	850m north-west of the subject site

Site number	12
Site name	Hackthorpe ridge and furrow
NGR	NY 5360 2360
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Unknown
SMR No	6211
Source	SMR
Description	Ridge and furrow
Assessment	800m north-east of the subject site. May relate to the north-west town field of the medieval village of Hackthorpe

Site number	13
Site name	Hackthorpe ridge and furrow
NGR	NY 5410 2350
Site type	Ridge and furrow, trackway
Period	Medieval
SMR No	6212
Source	SMR
Description	Ridge and furrow, and trackway around Hackthorpe village
Assessment	350m north of the subject site. May relate to the north-west town field of the medieval village of Hackthorpe

Site number	14
Site name	Hackthorpe settlement
NGR	NY 6050 8800
Site type	settlement
Period	Prehistoric/Roman
SMR No	2840
Source	SMR
Description	Settlement cropmark
Assessment	400m north-east of the subject site, demonstrating the potential for Iron Age and Romano-British archaeology in the vicinity

Site number	15
Site name	Hazard area for Hackthorpe village
NGR	NY 54 23
Site type	Hazard area, village
Period	Medieval
SMR No	6747
Source	SMR; CCAS undat
Description	Hazard area for Hackthorpe village. The village shares many of the morphological characteristics of medieval settlements in the Eden valley, and a manor at Hackthorpe is known to have existed in 1361

Assessment Demonstrates the potential for significant archaeological remains within the present Hackthorpe village

Site number 16
Site name Thorpe Grange
NGR NY 5411 2329
Site type House
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/127
Description Late eighteenth-century house. Two storeys, with three central recessed bays and single bay wings
Assessment Demonstrates proximity of eighteenth century structures to subject site

Site number 17
Site name Townend Farmhouse and barn
NGR NY 5426 2328
Site type House and barn
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/131
Description Late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century farmhouse and barn. Two storeys, three bays with right-angled two-bay rear extension and lower left four-bay barn
Assessment Farm 100m north of the subject site

Site number 18
Site name Bush Cottage and adjoining barn
NGR NY 5422 2320
Site type House and barn
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/128
Description Mid-eighteenth century farmhouse and barn with later alterations. Two storeys, three bays with two-bay extension, and right, single bay barn
Assessment Demonstrates presence of eighteenth century structure 30m north of subject site

Site number 19
Site name Boxwood cottage
NGR NY 5425 2321
Site type House
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/129
Description Late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century house. Two storeys, two bays
Assessment Demonstrates presence of eighteenth-/early nineteenth-century structure 30m north of subject site

Site number	20
Site name	Lowther Castle Inn and former stables
NGR	NY 5430 2314
Site type	Inn
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/130
Description	Public house and former stables. Two storeys, four bays, with left set-back single-bay extension and right higher two-storey, three-bay stables
Assessment	Demonstrates presence of early eighteenth-century structure 20m south-east of subject site

Site number	21
Site name	Brockle Bank and adjoining barn
NGR	NY 5436 2310
Site type	House and barn
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/132
Description	Probable mid-eighteenth century farmhouse with early nineteenth-century barn. Two-storey two-bay house, with higher left single-bay bank barn
Assessment	Mid-eighteenth century structure 100m south-east of the subject site

Site number	22
Site name	Hill Rise
NGR	NY 5438 2307
Site type	House and barn
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/133
Description	Mid-eighteenth century farmhouse and barn. Two-storey two-bay house, with right short barn under common roof
Assessment	Mid-eighteenth century structures 130m south-east of the subject site

Site number	23
Site name	Barn south of Hill Rise
NGR	NY 5440 2305
Site type	Barn
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/134
Description	Early nineteenth-century bank barn. Two storeys, four bays, upper-floor central projecting cart entrance with gabled roof, reached by earth ramp
Assessment	150m south-west of the subject site

Site number	24
Site name	Hackthorpe burial and ring cairn
NGR	NY 5480 2315
Site type	Burial, finds, ring cairn
Period	Bronze Age
SMR No	2874
Source	SMR

Description	Tumulus, removed in the nineteenth century. Composed of soil, amongst which were bones and charcoal. Soil covered a stone circle with a radius of 10m. An inverted urn containing a cremation, and 12 other cremations, were found, four of which were in a pit. The lower tier of a cist at the centre of the circle contained human bones. Flint flakes and artefacts were found with some of the cremations
Assessment	500m east of the subject site. Demonstrates the presence of Bronze Age activity in the locality

Site number	25
Site name	Hackthorpe Roman coin hoard
NGR	NY 54 23
Site type	Coin hoard
Period	Roman
SMR No	19674
Source	SMR
Description	A hoard of <i>aes</i> coins of late Roman date was found at Hackthorpe by a metal-detectorist in 1992. Some pot sherds and metal objects were found in the vicinity (see Sites 42 and 43)
Assessment	Demonstrates Romano-British activity in the vicinity

Site number	26
Site name	Lowther cropmarks
NGR	NY 5410 2290
Site type	Dyke, enclosure, trackway
Period	Unknown
SMR No	13587
Source	SMR
Description	Cropmarks of dyke, trackway, and possible enclosure
Assessment	Undated cropmarks 300m south of the subject site

Site number	27
Site name	Hackthorpe settlement
NGR	NY 5460 2340
Site type	Settlement
Period	Prehistoric/Roman?
SMR No	2841
Source	SMR
Description	Settlement cropmark
Assessment	Undated cropmarks 600m south-east of the subject site

Site number	28
Site name	Barns adjoining Hackthorpe Hall
NGR	NY 5445 2285
Site type	Barns
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Source	List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/136
Description	Early eighteenth-century barns, sharing common roof with adjoining hall. Two storeys, three bays, with right-angled, two-storey, four-bay extension
Assessment	350m south-east of the subject site

Site number	29
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Site name Hackthorpe Hall
NGR NY 5445 2283
Site type House
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Source List of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, 12/135
Description Early seventeenth-century farmhouse with mid-seventeenth century alterations. Two storeys, three bays of double span
Assessment 350m south-east of the subject site

Site number 30
Site name Lowther ridge and furrow, dykes
NGR NY 5320 2280
Site type Dyke, ridge and furrow
Period Unknown
SMR No 5296
Source SMR; LUAU 1997a, site 74
Description Dykes, ridge and furrow
Assessment Undated earthworks 1.1km south-west of the subject site

Site number 31
Site name Lowther enclosure
NGR NY 5310 2270
Site type Enclosure
Period Unknown
SMR No 5297
Source SMR; LUAU 1997a, site 112
Description Possible earthwork enclosures within a wood
Assessment Undated earthworks 1.2km south-west of the subject site

Site number 32
Site name Boonby Plantation earthworks
NGR NY 5398 2277
Site type Earthwork
Period Unknown
SMR No 9868
Source SMR
Description A subrectangular earthwork defined by a low, broken bank
Assessment Settlement or quarry 500m south-west of the subject site

Site number 33
Site name Boonby quarry
NGR NY 5405 2271
Site type Quarry
Period Post-medieval
SMR No 15453
Source SMR
Description Quarry, mapped in 1899 by Ordnance Survey
Assessment Quarry 500m south of the subject site

Site number 34
Site name Lowther settlement
NGR NY 5410 2250
Site type Quarry/settlement
Period Unknown
SMR No 4874
Source SMR
Description Two earthwork features considered to represent either quarries or settlements
Assessment 700m south of the subject site

Site number 35
Site name Hazard area for Hackthorpe Hall
NGR NY 54 22
Site type Village hazard area
Period Medieval
SMR No 6750
Source SMR
Description Although named after Hackthorpe Hall, this hazard area relates to a possible deserted medieval village site located at least 200m beyond Hackthorpe Hall
Assessment Site of possible deserted medieval village 300m south of Hackthorpe

Site number 36
Site name Great Strickland coin hoard
NGR NY 5480 2240
Site type Coin hoard
Period Roman
SMR No 16871
Source SMR
Description A hoard of 88 radiates, found in a field
Assessment Demonstrates Romano-British activity 900m south-east of the subject site

Site number 37
Site name Hackthorpe Plantation quarries
NGR NY 5422 2215
Site type Quarry
Period Unknown
SMR No 15455
Source SMR
Description A group of quarries south of Hackthorpe
Assessment Quarries 1km south of the subject site

Site number 38
Site name Round Hill
NGR NY 5410 2210
Site type Enclosure
Period Roman
SMR No 4200
Source SMR
Description A rectilinear earthwork enclosure
Assessment Indicative of Romano-British activity 1km south of the subject site
Site number 39

Site name Hackthorpe Tile Works
NGR NY 5477 2206
Site type Tile works and tramway
Period Post-medieval
SMR No 15452
Source SMR
Description Tilery destroyed by construction of the M6. A tramway to the west was mapped in 1863 by Ordnance Survey
Assessment Tilery at least 1.1km south of the subject site

Site number 40
Site name Hackthorpe settlement
NGR NY 5490 2210
Site type Settlement
Period Unknown
SMR No 2831
Source SMR
Description Cropmark/earthwork identified as a possible settlement site
Assessment Undated remains at least 1.1km south of the subject site

Site number 41
Site name Hackthorpe Square Enclosure
NGR NY 5495 2205
Site type Square enclosure
Period Unknown
SMR No 2832
Source SMR
Description Square enclosure appearing as a cropmark
Assessment Undated remains at least 1.1km south of the subject site

Site number 42
Site name Hackthorpe Annular Bracelet
NGR NY 54 23
Site type Find spot
Period Roman
SMR No 19659
Source SMR
Description Simple annular bracelet of third or fourth century date, found in the same field as Sites 25 and 43
Assessment Indicative of Romano-British activity in the vicinity of Hackthorpe

Site number 43
Site name Hackthorpe Mount
NGR NY 54 23
Site type Find spot
Period Unknown
SMR No 19660
Source SMR
Description A circular mount found in the same area as Sites 25 and 42
Assessment Remains of uncertain date, found 600m north-east of the subject site. May be of medieval rather than prehistoric origin

APPENDIX 4: CONTEXT LIST

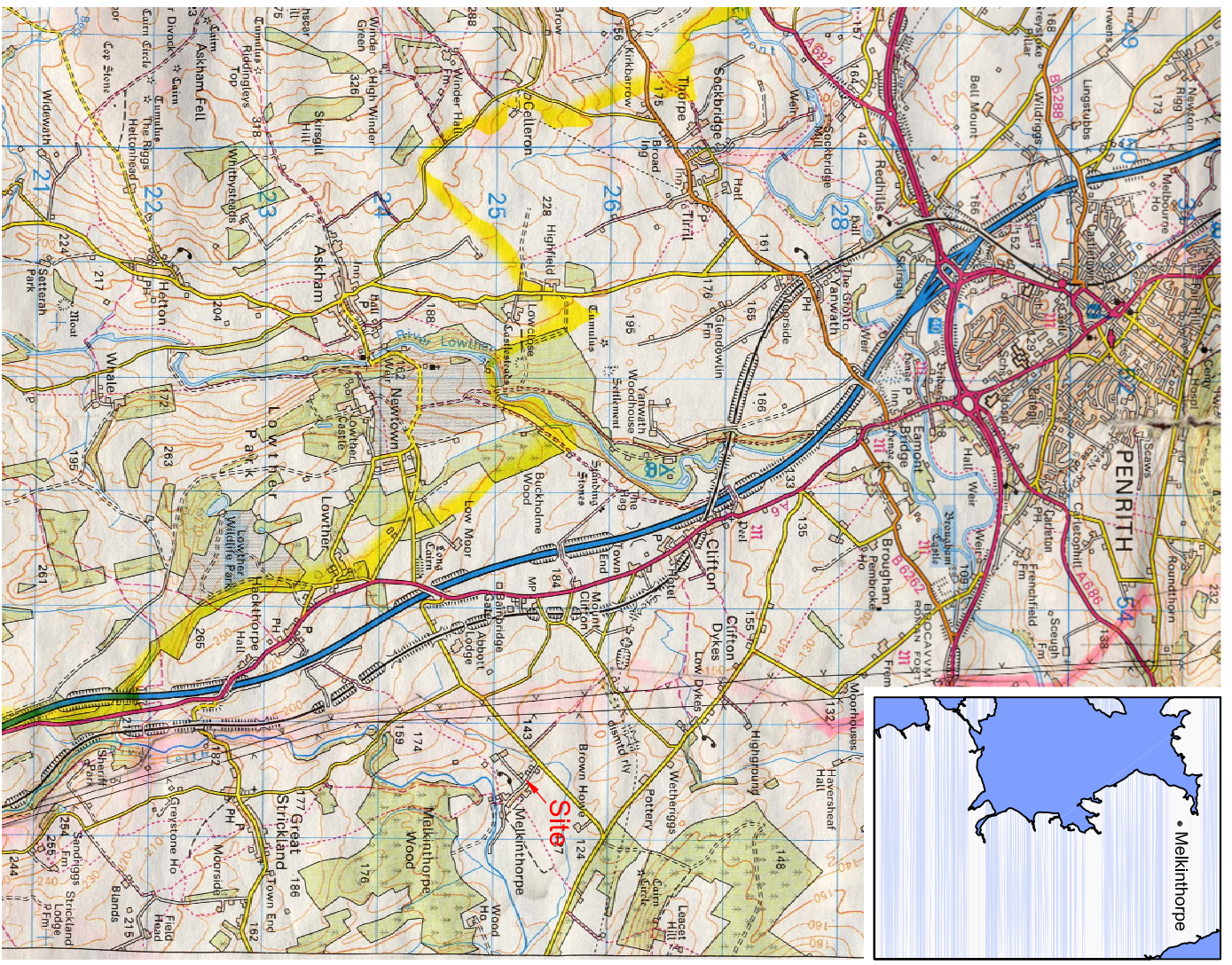
Context	Trench	Description
<i>100</i>	2	Unstratified finds, Trench 2
<i>101</i>	1	Topsoil, Trench 1
<i>102</i>	All	Natural sand/sandstone
<i>103</i>	2	Topsoil, Trench 2
<i>104</i>	2	Fill of <i>105</i>
<i>105</i>	2	Cut of linear feature
<i>106</i>	2	Fill of <i>107</i>
<i>107</i>	2	Cut of ? pit
<i>108</i>	2	Fill of <i>109</i>
<i>109</i>	2	Cut of linear feature
<i>110</i>	3	Fill of <i>111</i>
<i>111</i>	3	Cut of pit
<i>112</i>	3	Unstratified finds, Trench 3
<i>113</i>	3	Topsoil, Trench 3
<i>114</i>	3	Lower fill of <i>111</i>
<i>115</i>	3	Fill of <i>116</i>
<i>116</i>	3	Cut recorded in Section 56 only
<i>117</i>	3	Subsoil layer above <i>102</i>

APPENDIX 5: FINDS CATALOGUE

OR	Context	Description	Date
1000	104	One body sherd of Fabric 3, with yellow lead glaze. One body sherd of Fabric 1.	Late twelfth to fourteenth centuries
1001	108	One sherd of Fabric 1, incorporating an obtuse-angled base with traces of soot.	Late twelfth to fourteenth centuries
1002	103	One body sherd of Fabric 2, with traces of a splash glaze. One body sherd of Fabric 3.	Thirteenth to fourteenth centuries
1003	106	Six large sherds of Fabric 2, some of which are adjoining. Includes two sagging base sherds.	Thirteenth to fourteenth Centuries
1004	100	Two body sherds of Fabric 2; one is small and abraded and has no glaze.	Thirteenth to fourteenth centuries
1005	112	One body sherd of Fabric 2.	Thirteenth to fourteenth centuries
1006	112	One button with a copper alloy loop on the rear side.	Nineteenth century
1007	110	Ten fragments of industrial debris.	Undated

ILLUSTRATIONS

- Figure 1 Location Map
- Figure 2 Location of Gazetteer Sites
- Figure 3 Trench Location Plan
- Figure 4 Plans of Trenches 2 and 3
- Figure 5 Sections 51, 52, 54, 55 and 56



based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:50000
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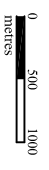
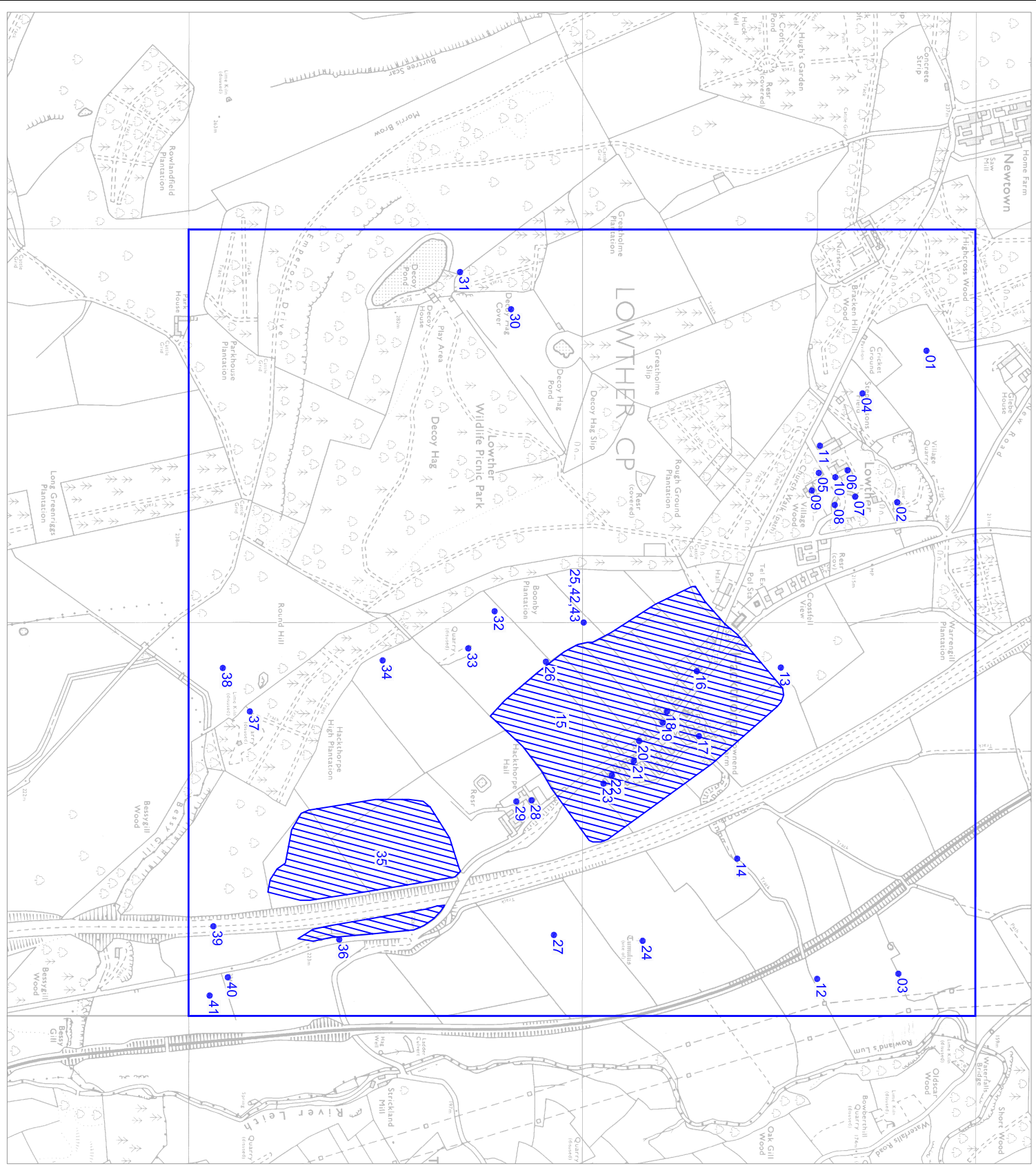


Figure 1: Location Map



Oxford Archaeology North
 Stoney Institute
 Meeting House Lane
 Lancaster
 LA1 1TF
 Tel 01524 848666
 Fax 01524 848606

PROJECT: Hackthorpe

DRAWING No: 2

Scale 1:10,000
 DRAWN BY: ELC
 DATE: December 2001

LOCATION: Hackthorpe



- KEY
- Gazetteer Site
 - Hazard areas

TITLE: Gazetteer Sites

COMMISSIONED BY: The Lowther Estate

Figure 2 : Location of Gazetteer Sites



Oxford Archaeology North
 Storey Institute
 Meeting House Lane
 Lancaster
 LA1 1TF
 Tel: 01524 848666
 Fax: 01524 848665

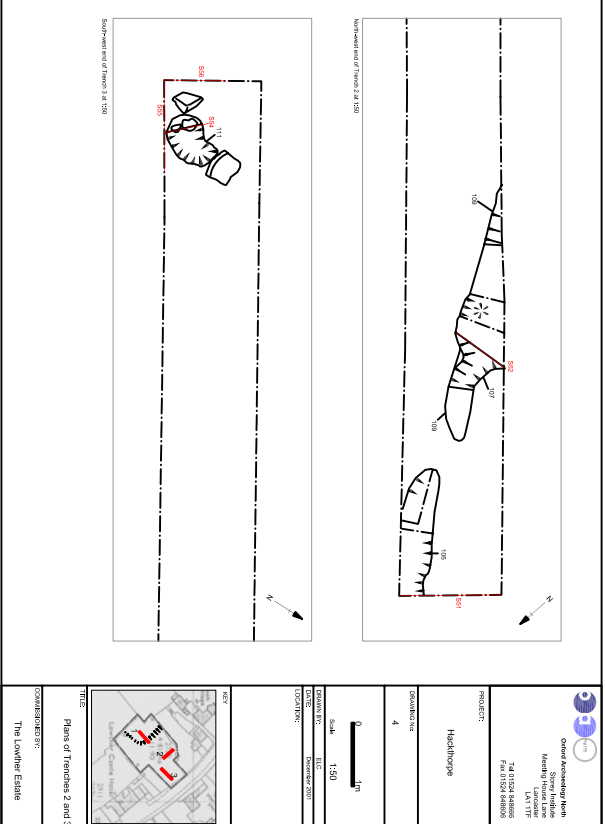
PROJECT: Hackthorpe
 DRAWING No: 3
 SCALE: 1:2000
 TITLE: Trench Location Plan
 CLIENT: The Lowther Estate
 DRAWN BY: ELC
 DATE: December 2001

LOCATION:



KEY

Figure 3 : Trench Location Plan



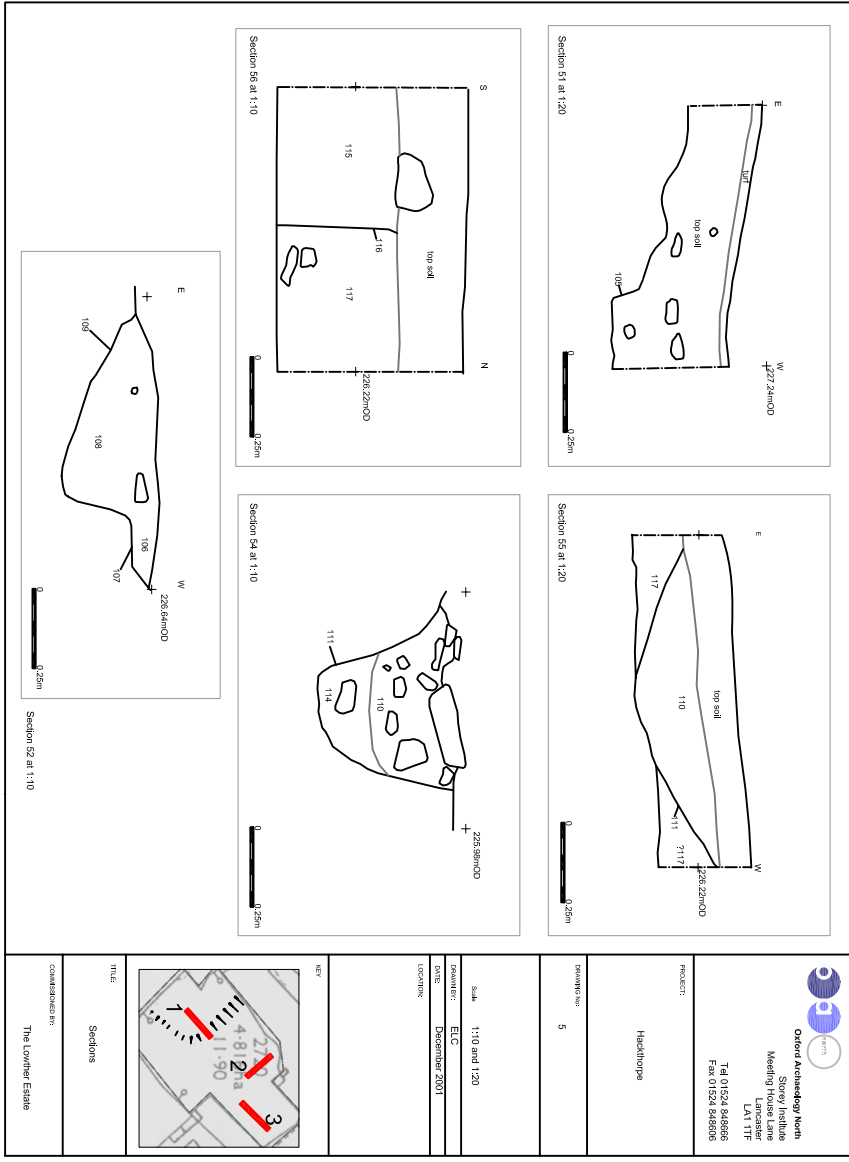
Ordnance Survey
 Ordnance Survey Map
 StreetView Imagery
 Mapping Location
 LA1 1TF
 Td 01524 848666
 Fax 01524 848600

PROJECT: Hedsloppes
DATE: 4
SCALE: 1:20
COMPILED BY: [Name]

LOCATION: [Location]

SCALE: 1:20
 0 100m

COMMENTS:
 Plans of Trenches 2 and 3
 The Lomber Estate



Ordnance Survey
 Ordnance Survey Map
 StreetView Imagery
 Mapping Location
 LA1 1TF
 Td 01524 848666
 Fax 01524 848600

PROJECT: Hedsloppes
DATE: 5
SCALE: 1:10 and 1:20
COMPILED BY: [Name]

LOCATION: [Location]

SCALE: 1:10 and 1:20
 0 100m

COMMENTS:
 Sections
 The Lomber Estate

Figure 4 : Plans of Trenches 2 and 3

Figure 5 : Sections 51, 52, 54, 55 and 56