



# **SKIRTING AND WHANGS BECK, EGREMONT, CUMBRIA**

## **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment**



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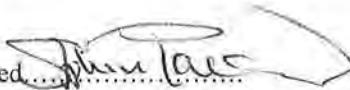
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## SUMMARY

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The Environment Agency (EA) has proposed the installation of a new reservoir, storage, floodgate and flood defence walls, flood storage areas and embankments and penstock chambers, As well as upsizing and repairing sections of the Skirting and Whangs Beck culverts, Egremont, Cumbria (NGR 300529 510808 (centre)). As a result of the potential for negative impacts upon heritage assets during the works associated with the development, the EA Archaeologist advised that a programme of archaeological work should be undertaken. Consequently, the Atkins Global, on behalf of EA, requested that Oxford Archaeology (OA) North undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and heritage impact assessment to provide the relevant information. The landscape in the vicinity of the proposed development is rich in terms of late medieval and especially post-medieval and later activity, but there are also stray finds of Roman and prehistoric date.

The historic research enabled the compilation of a gazetteer of 40 heritage assets within an approximately 250m radius around each section of the proposed development. Egremont Castle has statutory designations, which is both a Grade I Listed Building and a Scheduled Monument, and the medieval core of the town is protected as a Conservation Area (Oxford Archaeology North 2009, 15). Six sites are within close proximity to the development, but these are perhaps unlikely to be affected by the works, although there may be a visual impact upon the setting of Wyndham School (Site **17**). A further four sites potentially lie within the proposed development area. Two of those within the development area have been identified by field place-names, so their importance is uncertain (Longbarrow field place name, Site **30**; 'Great Crowdella', Smithfield Road, Egremont, Site **11**). Work carried out within Egremont Park (Site **39**) and the area of the medieval town (Site **27**) may affect remains relating to the medieval period, although the full extent of the latter is unknown.

Intrusive groundworks associated with the proposed development present the potential for negative impacts upon these and any other as yet unidentified sites within the proposed development area in the form of damage to the physical remains. There is also the potential for previously unidentified remains of various dates within the study area, in particular finds of medieval date may be present within the conservation area and proximity of the castle and prehistoric remains to the west of the town, with industrial features relating to mining likely to be present across the site. However, the impact of the works is likely to be negligible and overall the impact significance of the development is considered neutral although there is the potential need for further work in some areas.

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The project was managed by Dan Elsworth (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd) in communication with Stephen Rowland at OA North. The research and site visit were undertaken by Dan Elsworth, the illustrations were produced by Adam Parsons (OA North) and Tom Mace (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd). The report was written by Dan Elsworth and Tom Mace, and edited by Jo Dawson (Greenlane Archaeology Ltd) and Stephen Rowland (OA North).

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 The Environment Agency (EA) has proposed the installation of a new reservoir, storage, floodgate and flood defence walls, flood storage areas and embankments and penstock chambers, and upsizing and repairing sections of the Skirting and Whangs Beck culverts, Egremont, Cumbria (NGR 300529 510808 (centre)) (Fig 1). The landscape in the vicinity of the proposed development is rich in terms of late medieval and especially post-medieval and more modern features and stray finds of earlier periods are known, including the Roman and prehistoric periods.
- 1.1.2 As a result of the potential for negative impacts upon heritage assets of archaeological interest during the works associated with the development, the EA Archaeologist advised that a programme of archaeological work should be undertaken. Consequently, Atkins Global, on behalf of the Environment Agency, requested that OA North undertake a desk-based assessment (DBA) and heritage impact assessment ahead of the proposed development. This was carried out in November 2014.

### 1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 Egremont is a small historic town situated between Whitehaven and Seascale on the west coast of Cumbria (Fig 1). Sections of the development are spread across the town between approximately 40 and 100m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2011). The immediate landscape is typical of the West Cumbrian Coastal Plain, a pastoral landscape that fringes the upland fells to the east, which in this area comprises small to medium fields with rocky limestone outcrops on the higher ground (Countryside Commission 1998, 25).
- 1.2.2 The underlying solid geology to the south and west is dominated by the Triassic Sherwood sandstone group and Mercian Mudstone and carboniferous limestone to the north and east (Moseley 1978, plate 1). The solid geology is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay (Countryside Commission 1998, 72).



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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 This desk-based assessment (DBA) was carried out in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists and English Heritage guidelines (IfA 2011; 2012a; 2012b; English Heritage 2006) and generally accepted best practice.

### 2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The principal sources of information consulted were historical and modern maps of the study area, primary documentary sources, and published and unpublished secondary sources. Much of this information was taken from previous reports produced by OA North (2009; 2010). A study area of *c* 250m from the edge of every section of the proposed development was examined in detail in order to provide an understanding of the potential impact of the proposed works on any identified surrounding heritage assets. All heritage assets identified within the study area have been included in the summary Gazetteer of Heritage Assets (*Section 5*) and plotted onto Figure 2. The results were analysed using the set of criteria used to assess the national importance of an ancient monument (DCMS 2010). Sources consulted include:

2.2.2 ***Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER)***: the CHER held in Kendal was consulted to establish the sites of archaeological interest already known within the study area. The CHER is a database of all known sites of archaeological interest in Cumbria, and is maintained by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES).

2.2.3 ***Cumbria Archive Centre (Carlisle) (CAC(C))***: the archives and local studies library situated in Carlisle holds both published and manuscript maps, as well as unpublished primary sources and secondary published sources relating to the study area.

2.2.4 ***Cumbria Archive Centre (Whitehaven) (CAC(W))***: the archives and local studies library situated in Whitehaven holds both published and manuscript maps, as well as unpublished primary sources and secondary published sources relating to the study area.

2.2.5 ***Greenlane Archaeology***: Greenlane Archaeology has an extensive archive of secondary sources, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out by Greenlane Archaeology and other organisations. These were consulted where relevant.

### 2.3 SITE VISIT

2.3.1 A site visit was carried out on 20th November 2014. The entirety of the proposed development area was visited primarily to assess the impact of the development on the nearby known heritage assets, but also in order to identify any other sites of archaeological interest, examine sites nearby that are already known, and reveal any constraints to further archaeological work. All of the

fields making up the site were examined, and brief notes were made and digital colour photographs taken.

## **2.4 ARCHIVE**

- 2.4.1 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project. A copy of the report will be sent to the Cumbria Archive Centre (CAC) in Whitehaven.

### 3. BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1.1 **Introduction:** in addition to a detailed investigation of the closely defined study area, it is also necessary to present a general archaeological and historical background of the wider locale. This will allow the wider archaeological context of the site to be considered.

Period	Date Range
Palaeolithic	c 500,000 – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 – 4000 BC
Neolithic	4000 – 2400 BC
Bronze Age	2400 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Roman	AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval	AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval	AD 1540 – c1750
Industrial Period	c AD1750 – 1914
Modern	Post-1914

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

#### 3.2 PREHISTORIC PERIODS

3.2.1 **Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods:** the North West in general is not well-represented by remains belonging to the period immediately after the last Ice Age, at which time people lived in mobile hunter-gatherer groups and so typically left relatively little in terms of physical evidence; however, remains found at a number of cave sites around the northern edge of Morecambe Bay indicate some settlement in this period (Young 2002). Evidence relating to the Mesolithic period, a time in which people continued to live relatively mobile lives (although structural evidence is now coming to light), is more plentiful in the region with large collections of flint artefacts known from a variety of locations. Such sites tend to be typified by the presence of small flint tools known as microliths, arrowheads and spear points, while structural evidence is generally unusual. There is no direct evidence for occupation within Egremont (OSA 2002, 4) but sites of this date have been found in a number of locations in the region, with the west coast of Cumbria particularly prevalent (Cherry and

Cherry 2002), and it has been suggested that coastal and riverine areas were particularly favoured (e.g. Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 26-27).

- 3.2.2 **Neolithic Period, Bronze Age, and Iron Age:** the Neolithic is the period in which people began to properly settle and farm the landscape, and this coincides with a range of technological changes, such as the introduction of pottery, as well as a range of monumental structures (Barrowclough 2010, 105-141). Several stone circles are known from the wider area including those at Blakely Raise and Studfold, which may be early Bronze Age in date (Burl 2000, 109), as well as monuments that have now been destroyed at Egremont le Wheles, Lamplugh, and Wilton (Waterhouse 1985, 34, cited in OA North 2009, 12). A stone circle known as 'Ringing Stones' (HER 1198), now destroyed, is thought to have been located to the south-east of Egremont, although its exact location is unknown (LUAU 1994). It is possible that this may correspond to a record of several tumuli and circle of ten large stones (Site 40) described by Hutchinson in 1794 and said to be located on the common adjoining Egremont (Hutchinson 1794, 25).
- 3.2.3 Ehenside Tarn, located approximately 4km to the south of Egremont, has produced an abundance of Neolithic wooden artefacts, pottery, flint and stone implements (Oxford Archaeology North 2010, 5). Dated evidence suggests activity in the locale from the late Mesolithic Period to the Bronze Age, including the possible production of polished stone axes (OA North 2009, 12).
- 3.2.4 Like the Neolithic Period, the Bronze Age is typified by new technology, specifically the use of metal, and saw a continuation in the importance of burial and ceremonial monuments and an increase in the degree to which the landscape was settled and enclosed (see Barrowclough 2010 142-168). Evidence for this period is again relatively limited, typically comprising stray finds such as bronze weapons and tools (*ibid*). Finds of Bronze Age stone tools have been recovered around Beckermest and Seascale to the south of Egremont (OA North 2010, 5), but none are known from within the study area.
- 3.2.5 The Iron Age is notoriously under represented in North West England (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 51). This is probably influenced as much by the poor survival of material of this date, the lack of a temporally distinct material culture, and the inherent difficulty of recognising potentially subtle regional site-types (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 53; Cowell 2005, 75; Haselgrove 1996, 64) as it is by the often-quoted suggestion of a low population density (Haselgrove 1996, 64). Many sites of this period probably had origins in the late Bronze Age, but few have been looked at in detail and even fewer have been adequately published. There is, however, likely to be considerable overlap in the use of settlement sites from the end of the Iron Age and into the Roman period (and possibly beyond), especially in rural areas (Philpott 2006, 73-74). Again, no sites of this period are known from within the study area.

### 3.3 HISTORIC PERIODS

- 3.3.1 **Roman Period:** Ravenglass, to the south, and Moorsby, to the north, are the closest Roman forts to Egremont (Shotton 1993, 44). The only evidence for Roman activity within the study area is a stray second-century Roman coin of Antonius Pius (Site 16) and a Roman road has been identified south of Egremont (SMR 1255), but this does not positively identify settlement of this period in the area.
- 3.3.2 **Early Medieval Period:** evidence for activity in the immediate area directly following the Roman period is generally very scarce. Cumbria was probably part of the British kingdom of Rheged, which was eclipsed by the more powerful northern kingdom of Strathclyde (Rollinson 1996, 34). In the seventh century, Strathclyde was subsequently subsumed within the Anglian Kingdom of Northumbria (*ibid*), although it saw a resurgence in the early part of the tenth century (Clarkson 2014). The initial influence of Angles, who effectively took control of the area in the late sixth or early seventh century AD is debatable; documentary evidence is limited but place-name evidence does show new settlements were created, although elsewhere in the wider region the evidence suggests the Anglian take-over was carried out through political means rather than violence (Edmonds 2013, 20). Evidence for pre-Norman settlement has been identified at nearby Couderton and Thirnby (OSA 2002, 4). The place-name Egremont first appears during the Norman period, and may be derived from the Latin *acri mons* or the French *aigre mont*, meaning ‘sharp-pointed hill’ or ‘hill beside the [river] Ehen’, since the Latin for Ehen in the *Register of St Bees* is *Egre* (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 379).
- 3.3.3 **Late Medieval Period:** Cumberland did not come under Norman rule until 1092 (Newman 2006, 93). The Barony of Egremont was one of three estates which formed the Forest of Copeland, which was established sometime after 1120 (Todd 1995). The name Copeland may derive from the Norse *kaupa-land* meaning ‘bought land’ and the suggestion is that the area was sold by an existing Anglian ruler to an incoming Norse chief (Winchester 1987). In the early twelfth century Henry I placed William Meschin as the overlord of Copeland (Fair 1937) probably in the period c 1110-15 (OA North 2002, 7). William is likely to have built Egremont Castle (Site 35) before c 1125 and it served as an administrative centre and economic focus (*ibid*).
- 3.3.4 The following information is taken from the Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) entry for Egremont Castle:

*‘Egremont Castle began as a Norman motte and bailey castle but later developed into an enclosure castle. It is strategically located on an elevated knoll high above a crossing point of the River Ehen, and consists of an artificially raised earthen mound known as a motte together with an enclosure bailey. A broad ditch on the west side separates the motte and bailey from a lower castle garth which runs around the west, north and east sides of the motte and bailey.*

*Egremont Castle was constructed in about 1120 by William de Meschines and consists of a motte topped by a timber tower or keep*

*within which the occupants would have resided. An associated bailey, separates from the motte by a dry ditch, was constructed to the south of the motte. This was used for sheltering people and animals and would have contained numerous buildings such as storerooms, workshops, a kitchen and bakehouse. During the late 12<sup>th</sup>/early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries a stone curtain wall was built around the floor of the motte and crossed the intervening ditch between the motte and bailey to fully enclose the bailey. The castle's defences were further enhanced by the digging of a broad dry ditch on the west side. An outer gatehouse was added to the castle's west side and access was provided via a drawbridge across the ditch. A narrow postern gate was provided in the east curtain wall. At about the same time the timber keep on the motte was replaced by a circular stone structure known as the Juliet Tower. The ditch between the motte and bailey was infilled and stone buildings such as the great hall were constructed within the bailey to replace earlier timber structures. During the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century the stone curtain wall was considerably raised in height and its base strengthened. By the 1570s documentary sources indicate that the castle had been abandoned and lay in ruins apart from one chamber which remained in use as a courthouse. This courthouse continued in use until 1786.*

*The castle's west curtain wall and gatehouse displays the earliest surviving stonework and includes substantial amounts of herringbone masonry consisting of thin rubble, bedded diagonally and alternating with thin horizontal courses. This architectural style was introduced to Britain by the Romans and copied by the Normans. It was undertaken at Egremont not for ornamentation but for strength, the object being to secure the greatest amount of strength in the wall in the least possible time. The west gateway was originally in three storeys; a round-headed entrance arch survives as do columns in each corner which carry remains of a domed rib-vault. The postern gate partially survives in the east wall of the curtain wall. The curtain wall survives to varying heights around the bailey as do two short sections of the wall surrounding the motte. Within the bailey the south wall of the great hall survives almost to its original height and contains three windows with traces of two others together with partial remains of its doorway. Elsewhere within the bailey are the remains of the kitchen and the building which was used as a courthouse until the late eighteenth century. Egremont Castle is a Listed Building Grade I' (English Heritage 2014a; 2014b)*

- 3.3.5 Grants of burgages were made by Richard de Lucy, the Lord of the Barony of Copeland, in c 1200 (Winchester 1979). Main Street, Market Place and South Street formed the medieval core of the town, and a market charter was granted in 1267 (*ibid*; OSA 2002, 5). The early thirteenth-century market cross (Site 32) is presently located within the grounds of the Castle but it originally stood within a few yards of the old boundary between Egremont and Lowside Quarter. Further urban development occurred during the late medieval period, although this was marred by periods of shrinkage, most notably in the fourteenth century, resulting from raids by the Scots, including serious attacks

by Robert the Bruce (Rollinson 1996, 50), which included an assault on the Castle in 1315 (Turnbull and Walsh 1994, 79), and sheep murrain (OSA 2002, 5). Outbreaks of plague also devastated vast areas during the period (Rollinson 1996, 50).

3.3.6 John de Multon held the Barony from 1322 until his death in 1334 when the area was divided between his three sisters, at which time the town's industries were predominantly associated with processing local animal products (Winchester 1979). The town's fortunes again appear to have declined somewhat between the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries (Curwen 1913); although truces between England and Scotland brought relative stability to the area from the fifteenth century, the Dissolution of the Monasteries caused serious social and economic damage to the North (Rollinson 1996, 55-60).

3.3.7 **Post-medieval and industrial periods:** the Lowther family held extensive estates across Cumberland and Westmorland during the seventeenth century. They stimulated local linen, wool and tannery industries in the area to produce more exportable goods after the trade port at Whitehaven was established by Sir Christopher Lowther, at a time when the main regional export was coal (Collier 1991, 26-7). Milling was important to the town's growth during the post-medieval period, along with coal and iron mining, and four tanneries (including Site 34) were built in Egremont during the first half of the eighteenth century (NPA 2004, 11). During the nineteenth century there were mines at Helder Pit (Site 29), Falcon Pit (Site 14) and Gillfoot Park Pit No 4 (Site 6) and No 6 (Site 12). Pit No 1 (Site 4) was located just outside the area to the north. Falcon Pit and Gillfoot Park were worked by the Wyndham Mining Company ([http://www.dmm.org.uk/lom/1914\\_206.htm](http://www.dmm.org.uk/lom/1914_206.htm)) and were connected by the Gillfoot Branch Railway (Site 3) to the Whitehaven and Furness Junction Railway, which was completed in 1850 (Furness Railway Trust 2003). Other post-medieval and industrial period sites within the area include: How Bank farmstead (Site 8), Whangs quarry (Site 13), Egremont Brewery (Site 19), Orgill Farmstead (Site 24), Stoney Garth/Stoney House Garth, St Bridget's Lane (Site 28), Bookwell Tannery (Site 34), Greendyke Flax Mill (Site 37), Low House/Ashley Grove Farm (Site 38), public slaughterhouses (Site 21), and the auction mart (Site 22).

3.3.8 **Modern Period:** many jobs were brought to the area in the 1950s by the Nuclear Processing Plant at Winscale (Sellafield; NPA 2004, 12). Modern sites of interest within the study area include Wyndham School (Site 17), constructed between 1962 and 1964, and the Old Castle Cinema (Site 33).

## 3.4 MAP REGRESSION

3.4.1 **Introduction:** the following section comprises an appraisal of the relevant cartographic evidence available for the study area. This comprises late eighteenth century estate plans, the tithe map of c1841, and Ordnance Survey mapping from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Although earlier county maps are available, these tend to be produced at an unsuitable scale for use in map regression analysis. Some are detailed enough to show the principal

settlements, roads and features of interest, but generally, the more useful mapping dates from the 1840s onwards.

- 3.4.2 **Estate plans, 1796:** the north end of the study area is covered by a series of estate plans showing the property of T Hartley Esq of Whitehaven (CAC(W) YDX/235/27 1796; Figs 3-5). Sections of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized pass through a field named ‘Great Crowd Alleys’ (Fig 3; Plot 4) which corresponds to Great Crowdella (Site **11**) recorded on the Tithe Map (Fig 7) and along the edge of ‘Green Moor’ (Fig 3); the north flood storage area occupies ‘Gillfoot meadow’ (Fig 4).
- 3.4.3 **Undated estate plan:** this undated plan of Long Moor and Green Moor (CAC(W) DWM 533/20 nd) also covers the north end of the area (Fig 6). The date of this plan is uncertain but is described in the catalogue as part of the Egremont Enclosure Award, in which case it would likely to be early nineteenth century. Some of the fields are named and correspond with field names of interest seen on other maps, such as ‘Wrays’ (Site **5**) near Gill Foot and ‘Hunting Butts’ (Site **10**), which is also shown as an oval field, unlike on the following maps.
- 3.4.4 **Tithe Map, 1841-1842:** the area is covered by the plan of the parish of Egremont (CAC (C) DRC/8/68 nd). The division of the fields occupying the area is clearly recognisable, the principal farms are named, and most of the roads are present (Fig 7). The south-east of the area, however, is not covered. The accompanying apportionment (CAC (B) DRC/8/68 1841) has several entries of interest which are listed in Table 2 (the corresponding gazetteer site numbers listed in Table 2 are labelled on Figure 2).

Plot Number	Name	Interpretation	Gazetteer site number
201	Orgill meadow	Area where iron ore has been mined	<b>18</b>
210	Long barrow	Site of burial mound	<b>30</b>
216	Quarry field	Site of quarry	<b>15</b>
230	Peile croft	Site of a tower?	<b>25</b>
235	Quarry	Site of a quarry	<b>13</b>
273	Stone House Garth Barn <i>etc</i>	Site of a stone building	<b>28</b>
276	Factory meadow	Site associated with a factory	<b>23</b>
284	Skin yard meadow	Site associated with a tannery	<b>9</b>
288	Hunting Butts	Former park/archery ground?	<b>10</b>
316	Great Crowd Alleys/Great Crowdella	Uncertain	<b>11</b>

Table 2: Summary of details recorded in the tithe apportionment (CAC (B) DRC/8/68 1841)

- 3.4.5 **Ordnance Survey map of 1867, 1:10,560 (Fig 8):** Egremont is shown on the first Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1867. By the time this map was surveyed the railway had been built and the town centre had grown. Various properties are labelled, most notably a brewery, at the north end of town, a tannery, and a number of mills further to the south. The west side of the study area is relatively undeveloped; Whangs quarry and Ringingstone quarry are shown in this area.



- 3.4.6 **Ordnance Survey map of c 1867, 1:2,500 (Fig 9):** this map shows much the same information as the first edition map at 1:10,560, however, the south and east of the area were apparently not fully mapped.
- 3.4.7 **Ordnance Survey map of 1878, 1:2,500 (Fig 10):** the area has seen little change from the previous map.
- 3.4.8 **Ordnance Survey map of 1880, 1:2,500 (Fig 11):** the area is still largely undeveloped to the west and the town centre has hardly changed.
- 3.4.9 **Ordnance Survey map of 1899, 1:2,500 (Fig 12):** the town has begun to spread, in particular at the north end around Smithfield and the Gillfoot Park Mine. Pit numbers 4 (Site 6) and 6 (Site 12) are located at the north end of the study area and Pit No 1 (Site 4) is just outside the area to the north. Falcon Pit (Site 14) is also shown. These were all connected to the L & NW & Furness Joint Railway (Site 1) by Gillfoot Sidings (Site 3). The mill race to the east of the study area has apparently been filled and is crossed by the railway.
- 3.4.10 **Estate plan of 1924 (Fig 13):** although this estate plan is dated 1924 it is clearly based on the earlier edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping because various changes on the 1924 edition are not shown.
- 3.4.11 **Ordnance Survey map of 1924, 1:2,500 (Fig 14):** the town has expanded westward. Falcon Pit is no longer shown but Gillfoot sidings now extend to Helder Pit (Site 29) to the south.

### 3.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

- 3.5.1 No aerial photos of the area were available in the HER other than high level vertical views, which did not show anything of archaeological interest.

### 3.6 PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE AND LAND USE

- 3.6.1 The proposed development area in several places crosses developed residential areas and roads which are likely to have caused disturbance to underlying deposits. The area otherwise comprises open fields that have not been previously developed, although in most cases they have evidently been improved through ploughing, so disturbance is again likely. However, considerable potential remains for the survival of sub-surface features and deposits in these areas, as well as stray finds.
- 3.6.2 Underlying deposits are likely to have been very disturbed, if not destroyed, by existing sections of both Whangs Beck and Skirting Beck culvert, but it is possible that archaeological deposits may be further impacted when sections of these culverts are repaired or upsized.

### 3.7 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.7.1 Several archaeological investigations have already been carried out in the area around Egremont (Fig 15). These include desk-based assessments (DBAs) (NPA 2003; OA North 2009), geophysical surveys (resistivity and ground penetrating radar: GSB Prospection 2002), watching briefs (LUAU 1998; CA 2000; OSA 2002; NPA 2004; OA North 2004), evaluations (LUAU 1993 (including geophysical and topographic survey); 1994; NPA 2003), excavation (Newman 1988), and a building investigation (OA North 2002). The locations of relevant archaeological investigations are shown on Figures 2 and 15 and the results of each piece of work are discussed in chronological order below. The bulk of the work has focused on the castle.
- 3.7.2 **6-10 Main Street excavation:** excavation found remains of nineteenth-century houses, with shallow foundations built on a natural gravel bank; any earlier deposits, if present, were probably destroyed by later activity (Newman 1988).
- 3.7.3 **Egremont Castle:** work at the castle in 1991 established nineteenth century disturbance within the bailey and on the surface of the motte (Turnbull and Walsh 1994).
- 3.7.4 **Gulley Flatts archaeological evaluation:** a topographic survey, geophysical survey (using resistivity and magnetometry) and six evaluation trenches were dug at Gulley Flatts in March 1993 ahead of residential development of the site, totalling c 0.60ha (LUAU 1993; note that the area shown on the HER is marked to the north-east of the area shown on Figure 15 and is in the wrong place; the area shown on Figure 15 is taken from the original report). The topographic survey revealed two earthwork 'platforms', perhaps for outbuildings, boundary ditches and field drains, the majority of which were post-medieval in date but some would not have been out of place in a medieval urban situation. The trial trenches yielded a small quantity of medieval pottery of c thirteenth-century date (LUAU 1993, 5-6).
- 3.7.5 **Queen's Drive evaluation:** the site was devoid of archaeological features and interpreted as featureless pasture which lay outside the area of the medieval town (LUAU 1994; the area shown on Figure 15 is taken from the original site drawings (CAC(W) YDSO/39/9/2 1994) as it is not recorded on the HER).
- 3.7.6 **Egremont Castle:** Lancaster University Archaeological Unit undertook archaeological survey, fabric reconsolidation, landscaping and interpretation at the castle (LUAU 1997).
- 3.7.7 **Egremont Castle revetment walls watching brief:** five architectural features that originally came from the castle were recovered during the course of a watching brief undertaken during repairs to the revetment wall between December 1997 and January 1998 (LUAU 1998).
- 3.7.8 **Egremont Castle, Old Bridge watching brief:** only modern deposits and features were recorded near to the boundary wall, presumably because the depth of intervention was only shallow; it was recommended that further construction work be monitored as archaeological deposits may have been

- present beneath the modern deposits observed during the watching brief (CA 2000, 2).
- 3.7.9 ***Egremont Co-op:*** a watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with an extension to the Co-op supermarket on Main Street between July and November 2001 (OSA 2002). Excavation within the car park area revealed features of probable medieval date beneath post-medieval deposits and demolition material relating to the former Sunday School built on the site in 1877 (*ibid*).
- 3.7.10 ***Egremont Castle archaeological building investigation:*** Oxford Archaeology North collated and analysed the site archive to document the castle's development and produce a phase plan (OA North 2002). The castle originated as an earthwork and timber fortification c 1125 and was rebuilt in stone later in the twelfth century with major building episodes in the twelfth and fourteenth century.
- 3.7.11 ***Egremont Castle geophysical survey:*** '*a number of anomalies were detected that may represent remains of walled features, rubble spreads and possible floor surfaces*', but these had seemingly been disturbed by later landscaping and garden features (GSB Prospection 2002).
- 3.7.12 ***The Old Castle Cinema DBA and evaluation:*** the cinema was built in 1925 on the site a tannery, which was built in 1720 and demolished in 1911 (NPA 2003). There were no significant archaeological features present within the limited area of evaluation trenching.
- 3.7.13 ***Egremont Castle watching brief:*** a series of test pits were excavated to the east of the castle in April 2004 but no significant archaeological features were observed; '*all deposits observed were associated with the existing services located within the test pits*' (OA North 2004, 2; note that the HER records a large block as part of previous archaeological work but in fact only three small trenches were recorded: one towards the south end of the area and two further north, including one very small trench along the northern edge of the area shown on the HER (see Fig 15)).
- 3.7.14 ***Egremont Castle flagpole watching brief:*** no archaeological features were observed during excavation of foundations for a flagpole in November 2004 (NPA 2004).
- 3.7.15 ***West Lakes Academy, Wyndham School DBA:*** late eighteenth-/early nineteenth-century buildings in the area were demolished to make way for the school in 1962-64. The old school mainly consisted of 1960s buildings and an early twentieth-century building then used as a library. The site is within the area of medieval tenements and the entrance on Main Street overlies the medieval street frontage (OA North 2009).
- 3.7.16 ***West Lakes Academy, Wyndham School evaluation:*** an evaluation was carried out in June 2010 to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains relating to medieval burgage plots forming part of the medieval town (Site 27) and/or relating to a nineteenth-century slaughterhouse (Site 21),

brewery (Site **19**), or auction mart (Site **22**) (OA North 2010). No archaeological remains were present within the four trial trenches and ‘*any early remains...were probably comprehensively destroyed immediately prior to the construction of [the] twentieth-century school buildings*’ (OA North 2010, 2).

- 3.7.17 ***South Egremont Pipeline DBA and walkover survey***: a desk-based assessment and walkover survey was carried out for the route of the South Egremont pipeline (Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2012a). The pipeline crosses what is believed to be the course of a Roman road, however, the area was heavily developed during the Industrial Period. The DBA was followed by geophysical surveys at locations along the route of the pipeline in August and September 2012 (Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2012b), and the excavation of six targeted trenches, located outside the current study area, between 31<sup>st</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013 (Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2013). No significant archaeological finds or features were found (*ibid*).
- 3.7.18 ***Egremont Bridge Flood Defences DBA and watching brief***: the DBA recorded nearby sites of medieval and later date, and the watching brief monitored test pitting along the flood defences adjacent to Egremont Bridge on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013 (OA North 2013). Five of the six test pits were devoid of archaeological features, the remaining test pit contained several sandstone steps, which may have been associated with the former Bridge End Tannery (SMR 12886) (*ibid*).

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## 4. SITE VISIT

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### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 Due to limited access, the site visit was inevitably brief in some areas, particularly those in heavily built-up areas, but it was possible to view all of the areas of interest. The site visit identified no new sites of archaeological interest within the study area. Details relating to the site are provided in *Appendix 1* and are summarised in the following section.

### 4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 ***Whangs Beck Culvert Repairs***: this comprises a section of culvert that passes through a built-up area of housing, before passing into a field to the east. At the time of the site visit, the field, which slopes down towards the field boundary along the north side, contained a recently harvested vegetable crop (Plate 1), and has evidently been improved through ploughing. Nothing of archaeological interest was observed.



*Plate 1: The field into which the Whangs Culvert to be repaired passes, viewed from the west*

4.2.2 ***Ashley Grove Farm Storage Area***: this entire area comprises undulating improved pasture (Plate 2), sloping up to the north (Plate 2), and with standing water in the south-west corner. It is accessible via a short track leading between housing on the south-west fringe of Egremont and Ashley Grove Farm to the south-west. No sites of archaeological interest were observed.



*Plate 2: The south side of the Ashley Grove Farm storage area showing the undulating ground and standing water, viewed from the north*



*Plate 3: The rising ground to the north of the Ashley Grove Farm storage area, viewed from the south*

4.2.3 ***Whangs Beck Culvert to be Upsized***: the southern section of this runs along the roads of a twentieth-century housing estate, before running through an open area alongside this, and ending at a pond. Within the area of housing there is

obviously nothing visible of archaeological interest. The open area alongside is essentially a public piece of open grassland, which had clearly been recently used for Bonfire Night celebrations. The pond at the top had a curving brick retaining wall around the south side, seemingly connecting to a sluice gate, which fed a beck running to the south-east, all of which was in a very overgrown area of waste land. Nothing of archaeological interest was observed, although there is perhaps some potential for palaeoenvironmental deposits to be present within the pond, albeit that it appears to be a relatively modern creation.



*Plate 4: Open land alongside housing at the north end of the Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized, viewed from the north*



*Plate 5: The retaining wall along the southern side of the pond at the north end of the Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized*

- 4.2.4 **Orchard Court Storage Area:** this comprises a deep hollow set amongst rising ground on the north-west outskirts of Egremont. The ground comprises rough pasture with a small amount of woodland on the north side, and is clearly wet and boggy at the bottom. Nothing of archaeological interest was observed, although there is perhaps some potential for palaeoenvironmental deposits to be present within the boggy area.



*Plate 6: Hollow area comprising the Orchard Court storage area, viewed from the east*



- 4.2.5 **Sasra Storage Area:** this entire area is currently a sports field utilised by the adjoining West Lakes Academy. It therefore comprises a level area of very improved ground (Plate 7 and 8) surrounded by fences and a footpath. Nothing of archaeological interest was observed.



*Plate 7: The west side of the Sasra storage area, viewed from the north*



*Plate 8: The east side of the Sasra storage area, viewed from the north*

- 4.2.6 ***Skirting Beck Culvert to be Upsized:*** the majority of this area is within the urban area of Egremont, and so little could be observed, even where access was possible. The proposed route does, however, run close to the medieval core of Egremont and to the castle, so there is some potential for deposits of archaeological interest to be encountered.

## 5. SUMMARY GAZETTEER OF HERITAGE ASSETS

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The results of the historic research were collated into the following summary gazetteer of heritage assets (Table 3) and the full details of information held within the CHER and details of listed buildings are provided in *Appendices 1* and *2*, respectively. Details relating to additional sites identified during the desk-based assessment and site visit are also provided in *Appendix 1*.

Site No.	Site Name	Period	HER No./ LB No.	Statutory Designation	Within proposed dev area?
1	L & NW & Furness Joint Railway, Bigrigg Branch, Egremont	Industrial	HER 12710	–	No
2	Gillfoot mining remains	Industrial	HER 16593	–	No
3	Site of Gillfoot Branch railway	Industrial	HER 12741	–	No
4	Gillfoot Park Pit No 1	Industrial	HER 14816	–	No
5	'Wrays', west of Smithfield Road, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	Possibly / unlikely
6	Gillfoot Park Pit No 4	Industrial	HER 14808	–	No
7	Rotary quern find, Smithfield	Prehistoric – Romano-British	HER 4614	–	No
8	How Bank farmstead	Post-medieval	HER 43395	–	No
9	'Skin Yard Meadow', Long Croft, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	No
10	'Hunting Bulls', off Smithfield Road, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	No
11	'Great Crowdella', Smithfield Road, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	Yes
12	Gillfoot Park Pit No 6	Industrial (Victorian)	HER 14875	–	Possibly / unlikely
13	Whangs quarry	Industrial	HER 11997	–	No
14	Falcon Pit	Industrial (Victorian)	HER 43388	–	No
15	'Quarry', near Ashlea Road, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	No

Site No.	Site Name	Period	HER No./ LB No.	Statutory Designation	Within proposed dev area?
16	Roman coin find	Romano-British	HER 4620	–	No
17	Wyndham School, Main Street	Modern	HER 43387	–	Possibly / unlikely
18	'Orgill Meadow', north of Southey Avenue, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	No
19	Egremont Brewery	Industrial	HER 43390	–	No
20	Grindstone find	Unknown	HER 4611	–	No
21	Public Slaughterhouses, Market Street	Industrial (Victorian)	HER 43389	–	No
22	Egremont Auction Mart, Market Street	Industrial (Victorian)	HER 43391	–	No
23	'Factory Meadow', west of Main Street, Egremont	Unknown	–	–	No
24	Orgill Farmstead	Post-medieval	HER 43394	–	No
25	'Peile Croft', Central Avenue, south of St Bridget's Lane, Egremont	Medieval?	–	–	No
26	Ringingstone Quarry	Unknown	HER 11998	–	No
27	Egremont Medieval Town	Late Medieval	HER 40428	Conservation Area according to OA North 2009, 15	Possibly
28	Stoney Garth/Stoney House Garth, St Bridget's Lane	Post-medieval	HER 43386	–	No
29	Helder Pit	Industrial	HER 14869	–	No
30	Longbarrow field place name	Neolithic	HER 14797	–	Yes
31	Haggettend Hall	Late Medieval	HER 43392	–	No
32	Egremont Market Cross	Late Medieval	HER 4447	–	No
33	Old Castle Cinema, Bookwell Road	Modern	HER 40427	–	Possibly / unlikely
34	Bookwell Tannery	Industrial	HER 12341	–	Possibly / unlikely

<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>HER No./ LB No.</b>	<b>Statutory Designation</b>	<b>Within proposed dev area?</b>
<b>35</b>	Egremont Castle	Late medieval	HER 3051; Listed Building (UID 76123; List entry no. 1137138)	Scheduled Ancient Monument (UID 34977; List entry no. 1020455); Listed Building Grade I (UID 76123; List entry no. 1137138)	Possibly / unlikely
<b>36</b>	Key Escutcheon Find	Late Medieval	HER 19535	–	No
<b>37</b>	Greendyke Flax Mill	Industrial	HER 12340	–	No
<b>38</b>	Low House/Ashley Grove Farm	Post-medieval	HER 43393	–	No
<b>39</b>	Egremont Park	Late Medieval	HER 43697	–	Yes
<b>40</b>	Egremont Common	Prehistoric	HER 5341	–	No

*Table 3: Summary gazetteer of heritage assets*

## 6. ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

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### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1 Forty sites, or heritage assets, have been identified within the study area. Sites **5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 18, 22** and **25** were identified through map regression analysis and the remainder were identified from the CHER. Egremont Castle (Site **35**) was also identified from English Heritage's list of buildings with statutory designations; it is Grade I listed (English Heritage 2014a). It is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument (English Heritage 2014b). No new sites were identified during the site visit. It must be stressed that the 40 heritage assets are sites that are currently known within the study area; the potential also exists for previously unidentified sub-surface remains of archaeological interest (*Section 6.2.10*).
- 6.1.2 The field named 'Wrays', west of Smithfield Road (Site **5**), Gillfoot Park Pit No 6 (Site **12**), Wyndham School (Site **17**), the site of the Old Castle Cinema (Site **33**), Bookwell Tannery (Site **34**), and Egremont Castle (Site **35**) all lie close to various sections of the development: the field named 'Wrays' (Site **5**) is south of the north storage area; Gillfoot Park Pit No 6 (Site **12**) is on the north edge of the east flood storage area; Wyndham School (Site **17**) is to the east of the proposed storage wall; the site of the Old Castle Cinema (Site **33**), Bookwell Tannery (Site **34**) and Egremont Castle (Site **35**) are all adjacent to Skirting Beck culvert repairs. Egremont Park (Site **39**) and Egremont Medieval Town (Site **27**) potentially fall inside the boundaries of the proposed development and, therefore, have the potential to be affected by direct physical impacts. Egremont Park (Site **39**) is at the east end of repairs to Whangs Beck culvert but the extent of Egremont Medieval Town (Site **27**) is unknown, elements of which may extend into areas of proposed development. In addition, a section of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized will also pass through a field named Great Crowd Alleys or Great Crowdella (Site **11**), the significance of which is not certain, and a section of Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized will pass through the east end of 'Long Barrow' (Site **30**).
- 6.1.3 The number of sites by period is summarised in Table 4. The specific period of the cairn field and stone circle at Egremont Common (Site **40**) is not listed on the HER; the site is known to be prehistoric and probably dates to the Neolithic period. Egremont park (Site **39**) and castle (Site **35**) and the medieval town (Site **27**) are all known from the late medieval period, although their origins may be earlier and, although the HER does not give the specific period for Haggettend Hall (Site **31**), the market cross (Site **32**) and key escutcheon find (Site **36**), they too are all believed to date from the late medieval period. The period of the rotary quern and grindstone finds (Sites **7** and **20** respectively) is unknown but likely to be post-medieval in date. The origin of Ringingstone Quarry is also unknown (Site **26**) but is probably also post-medieval/industrial. The field named 'Wrays' (Site **5**) is marked on an estate plan of 1796 (CAC(W) YDX/235/27 1796), but its period of origin is unknown; it is possibly medieval. The period when the names of fields recorded on the tithe apportionment originated is also unknown (Site **9, 10, 11, 15, 18, 23** and **25**); however, it seems likely that 'Skin Yard Meadow' (Site **9**),

the ‘Quarry’ (Site 15), and ‘Factory Meadow’ (Site 22) are post-medieval and relate to a tannery, quarry, and factory respectively. Some of the post-medieval sites are known to be Georgian (which overlaps the industrial period), but others are unknown (see Table 3, above, and *Appendix 1*).

Period of Origin	No of Sites	Site
Palaeolithic	0	–
Mesolithic	0	–
Neolithic	2	Longbarrow field place name (Site 30); Egremont Common (Site 40)
Bronze Age	0	–
Iron Age	0	–
Romano-British	1	Roman coin find (Site 16)
Early Medieval	0	–
Late Medieval	6	Egremont Medieval Town (Site 27); Haggettend Hall (Site 31); Egremont Market Cross (Site 32); Egremont Castle (Site 35); key escutcheon find (Site 36); Egremont Park (Site 39)
Post-medieval	10	Gillfoot mining remains (Site 2); How Bank farmstead (Site 8); Whangs quarry (Site 13); Egremont Brewery (Site 19); Orgill Farmstead (Site 24); Stoney Garth / Stoney House Garth, St Bridget’s Lane (Site 28); Helder Pit (Site 29); Bookwell Tannery (Site 34); Greendyke Flax Mill (Site 37); Low House / Ashley Grove Farm (Site 38)
Industrial	8	L & NW & Furness Joint Railway, Bigrigg Branch, Egremont (Site 1); Site of Gillfoot Branch railway (Site 3); Gillfoot Park Pit No. 1, No. 4, No. 6 (Sites 4, 6, and 12); Falcon Pit (Site 14); Public Slaughterhouses, Market Street (Site 21); Egremont Auction Mart, Market Street (Site 22)
Modern	2	Wyndham School (Site 17); Old Castle Cinema, Bookwell Road (Site 33)
Unknown	11	‘Wrays’, west of Smithfield Road (Site 5) Rotary quern find, Smithfield (Site 7); grindstone find (Site 20); Ringingstone Quarry (Site 26); ‘Skin Yard Meadow’, Long Croft, Egremont (Site 9); ‘Hurting Buking’, off Smithfield Road, Egremont (Site 10); ‘Great Crowdella’, Smithfield Road, Egremont (Site 11); ‘Quarry’, near Ashlea Road, Egremont (Site 15); ‘Orgill Meadow’, north of Southey Avenue, Egremont (Site 18); ‘Factory Meadow’, west of Main Street, Egremont (Site 23); ‘Peile Croft’, Central Avenue, south of St Bridget’s Lane, Egremont (Site 25)

Table 4: Number of sites by period

6.1.4 In National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) states that for proposed developments meriting assessment the ‘*significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting*’ should be understood in order to assess the potential impact (section 12.128, NPPF, DCLG 2012). Therefore, the following section will determine the nature and level of the significance of this archaeological resource, as detailed in *Sections*

3 to 5. This is an iterative process, beginning with the guideline criteria outlined in Table 5, below. In general terms, the recording of a heritage asset, e.g. SMR, SM or listed building, and any subsequent grading thereafter, by its nature, determines its importance. However, this is further quantified by factors such as the existence of surviving remains or otherwise, its rarity, or whether it forms part of a group. There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of heritage assets, but that employed here (section 6.2) is the ‘Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments’ (annex 1; DCMS 2010).

6.1.5 Of particular relevance in this case are the two sites of highest significance within the study area – the Scheduled Egremont Castle (Site **35**), and elements contained within the Conservation Area (Site **27**). The Conservation Area is one of nine in Copeland defined by its ‘*many contributing factors such as building quality, historic layout of streets and squares, sense of place created by public and private spaces, archways, trees, parks or street furniture*’ (Taylor Young 2004).

Importance	Examples of Heritage Asset
National	Scheduled Monuments (SMs), Grade I, II* and II Listed Buildings
Regional/County	Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens (Designated Heritage Assets) Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record
Local/Borough	Assets with a local or borough value or interest for cultural appreciation Assets that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade
Low Local	Assets with a low local value or interest for cultural appreciation Assets that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade
Negligible	Assets or features with no significant value or interest
Uncertain	As-yet-undetected sub-surface remains of prehistoric or Romano-British date

Table 5: Guideline criteria used to determine Importance of Heritage Assets

## 6.2 QUANTIFICATION OF IMPORTANCE

6.2.1 The gazetteer sites previously listed (*Section 5*, above) were each considered using the criteria for scheduling ancient monuments, with the results presented below. This information will contribute to the overall assessment of the importance of each heritage asset.

6.2.2 **Period:** Sites dating to the Neolithic period were recorded (Sites **30** and **40**), although the evidence for a long barrow is listed as ‘circumstantial’ (Site **30**). The only potential evidence of Romano-British activity within the study area is a Roman coin findspot (site **16**). Several sites date to the late medieval period (see Table 3). The origins of many of the field names is also unknown. The majority of sites identified within the study area date from the post-medieval and industrial periods. The date of some of the sites is unknown, but



some of those are also thought likely to date to these later periods (Sites 7, 20 and 26).

- 6.2.3 **Rarity:** the later post-medieval, industrial and modern period sites are not uncommon. The late medieval and earlier sites are of greater interest. The castle in particular (Site 35) is recognised as of national importance; it is a Listed Building and a Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- 6.2.4 **Documentation:** this report includes a preliminary search of documentation from accessible resources. As the majority of the gazetteer sites date to the post-medieval and later periods, it is highly likely that there are further associated documents, specifically in relation to the railway (Site 1 and Site 3), Gillfoot Park Pits (Sites 4, 6, and 12), Wyndham School (Site 17) and the Old Castle Cinema (Site 33). Information might also be forthcoming about the flax mill (Site 37), Falcon Pit (Site 14), Helder Pit (Site 29), the public slaughterhouses (Site 21), the auction mart (Site 22), the tannery (Site 34), and the brewery (Site 19), and possibly also about local farmsteads (Sites 8, 24, 28, and 38). Information about these other sites may be contained in local trade directories, local archives, deeds, or in the census or gleaned from other resources available online.
- 6.2.5 **Group Value:** the medieval sites (Sites 27, 31, 32, 35, 36, and 39) form a significant group, especially to the east and south-east side of the study area in the vicinity of the castle. The core of the medieval town probably extended along Main Street, Market Place and South Street (Winchester 1979).
- 6.2.6 The quarrying and mining sites (Sites 2, 4, 6, 12, 13, and 14) also form a significant group and point to the importance of these industries in the area during the post-medieval/industrial period. Several other sites within the study area developed as part of the wider industrialisation and growth of Egremont during this time.
- 6.2.7 **Survival/Condition:** many of the industrial sites identified within the study area are likely have some structural elements remaining, although these will probably only be earthworks (comprising the sections of railway (Sites 1 and 3), mines (Sites 2, 4, 6, 12, 14, and 29), and quarries (Sites 13 and 15). The condition of any remains associated with the other sites is essentially unknown as no surviving features are known, the exception being Egremont Castle (Site 35), which has extensive remains surviving in good condition. Features of probable medieval date have been recorded to the east of Main Street (OSA 2002) and similar remains may survive elsewhere relating to the medieval town (Site 27) where modern make up layers have protected earlier deposits from being disturbed.
- 6.2.8 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** within the proposed development area the fragility and vulnerability of any of the affected or possibly affected sites of archaeological interest is difficult to assess because of the uncertain nature of many of them (Sites 5, 11, 30). Other sites such as the mining remains (Site 12) and other post-medieval structures (Sites 17, 33, and 34) may be fragile or vulnerable, where anything survives at all. The full extent of the medieval town (Site 27) is not known, although any sub-surface remains associated with it may be relatively shallow. Similarly, the full extent of elements relating to Egremont Castle (Site 35) is not known but would be fragile and vulnerable to

the adverse effects of any ground works. Outside of the proposed development area, the sites largely comprise large scale industrial remains that are unlikely to be fragile or sites of unknown scale or findspots where this is impossible to quantify.

6.2.9 **Diversity:** most of the sites exhibit a limited or essentially unknown range of characteristics, particularly those that only hint at something of interest or represent a single find spot, although many of the sites of known industrial activity (Sites **1-4, 6, 12-15, 19, 21-22, 29, 34, and 37**) are likely to have comprised a diverse range of elements when originally operational. Other sites of potential diversity include the prehistoric remains reported on Egremont Common (Site **40**) and at the field named ‘Longbarrow’ (Site **30**), as well as the various domestic buildings within the study area (Sites **8, 28, 31 and 38**).

6.2.10 **Potential:** there is the potential for sub-surface archaeological remains associated with the castle (Site **35**) and medieval town (Site **27**) to be present, although the extent and form of these is uncertain. There is also the potential for previously unidentified sites of prehistoric date, particularly Neolithic and Bronze Age, as demonstrated by the presence of a cairn field and stone circle (Site **40**), as well as place name evidence (Sites **30 and 26**). Moreover, the possibility of encountering the remains of prehistoric, Roman, and early medieval rural settlement and related activities, particularly agriculture, cannot be discounted within any of the proposed development areas where groundworks extend beyond areas of later deep disturbance. In particular, the flood storage areas occupy locations with gentle slopes and good access to local watercourses and various local microenvironments suitable for a range of economic exploitation. Elsewhere, currently unknown post-medieval remains, especially those relating to industrial activity such as mining, are potentially likely across the whole area, with the probable exception of the town centre.

### 6.3 STATEMENT OF IMPORTANCE

6.3.1 Using the guideline criteria outlined in Table 5, together with further quantification (*Section 6.2*), and informed professional judgement, each of the sites listed in the gazetteer has been assessed for importance as a heritage asset of archaeological interest (Table 6).

Site No	Site name	Importance
1	L & NW & Furness Joint Railway, Bigrigg Branch, Egremont	Low local
2	Gillfoot mining remains	Low local
3	Site of Gillfoot Branch railway	Low local
4	Gillfoot Park Pit No. 1	Low local
5	‘Wrays’, west of Smithfield Road, Egremont	Uncertain
6	Gillfoot Park Pit No. 4	Low local
7	Rotary quern find, Smithfield	Low local
8	How Bank farmstead	Low local
9	‘Skin Yard Meadow’, Long Croft, Egremont	Negligible
10	‘Hunting Butts’, off Smithfield Road, Egremont	Low local
11	‘Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella’, Smithfield Road, Egremont	Uncertain
12	Gillfoot Park Pit No. 6	Low local
13	Whangs quarry	Low local
14	Falcon Pit	Low local
15	‘Quarry’, near Ashlea Road, Egremont	Low local

16	Roman coin find	Low local
17	Wyndham School, Main Street	Low local
18	'Orgill Meadow', north of Southey Avenue, Egremont	Low local
19	Egremont Brewery	Low local
20	Grindstone find	Low local
21	Public Slaughterhouses, Market Street	Low local
22	Egremont Auction Mart, Market Street	Low local
23	'Factory Meadow', west of Main Street, Egremont	Negligible
24	Orgill Farmstead	Low local
25	'Peile Croft', Central Avenue, south of St Bridget's Lane, Egremont	Uncertain
26	Ringingstone Quarry	Low local
27	Egremont Medieval Town	Regional/County
28	Stoney Garth / Stoney House Garth, St Bridget's Lane	Low local
29	Helder Pit	Low local
30	Longbarrow field place name	Uncertain
31	Haggettend Hall	Low local
32	Egremont Market Cross	Low local
33	Old Castle Cinema, Bookwell Road	Low local
34	Bookwell Tannery	Low local
35	Egremont Castle	National
36	Key Escutcheon Find	Low local
37	Greendyke Flax Mill	Low local
38	Low House / Ashley Grove Farm	Low local
39	Egremont Park	Low local
40	Egremont Common	Local/Borough

Table 6: Importance of each gazetteer site

6.3.2 Of the ten known sites with the potential to be affected by the development, only three certainly lie within the proposed development area and one other potentially lies within the proposed development area, but its full extent is unknown. The three that certainly lie within the proposed development area are of *uncertain*, possibly *negligible importance* (Longbarrow field place name, Site 30; 'Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella', Site 11) and *low local importance* (Egremont Park, Site 39). The other site which may be within the area is of *local/borough importance* (Egremont Medieval Town, Site 27). The other six sites with the potential to be affected by the development are the field named 'Wrays', west of Smithfield Road (Site 5), Gillfoot Park Pit No. 6 (Site 12), Wyndham School (Site 17), the site of the Old Castle Cinema (Site 33) and Bookwell Tannery (Site 34), and Egremont Castle (Site 35). These are all of *low local importance* apart from Egremont Castle (Site 35), which, given its status as a Grade I Listed building and Scheduled Ancient Monument, is considered of *national importance*.

## 7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 7.1 IMPACT

7.1.1 Heritage assets are an ‘*irreplaceable resource*’ (DCLG 2012). Therefore, it has been the intention of this study to identify the archaeological significance and potential of the study area, and assess the impact of proposed development, thus allowing the policy stated in NPPF (DCLG 2012) to be enacted. Assessment of impact has been achieved by the following method:

- assessing any potential impact and the significance of the effects arising from the proposals;
- reviewing the evidence for past impacts that may have affected the archaeological sites;
- outlining suitable mitigation measures, where possible at this stage, to avoid, reduce or remedy adverse archaeological impacts, or suggestions for further investigation where necessary.

7.1.2 The impact is assessed in terms of the importance, or sensitivity, of the site to the magnitude of change or potential scale of impact during the proposed scheme. The magnitude, or scale, of an impact is often difficult to define, but will be termed substantial, moderate, slight, or negligible, as shown in Table 7, below.

Scale of Impact	Description
Substantial	Significant change in environmental factors; Complete destruction of the site or feature; Change to the heritage asset resulting in a fundamental change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Moderate	Significant change in environmental factors; Change to the heritage asset resulting in an appreciable change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Slight	Change to the heritage asset resulting in a small change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Negligible	Negligible change or no material changes to the heritage asset. No real change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.

*Table 7: Criteria used to determine Scale of Impact*

7.1.3 The scale of impact, when weighted against the importance of the heritage asset, produces the impact significance. This may be calculated by using the matrix shown in Table 8, below.

Resource Value (Importance)	Scale of Impact Upon Heritage Asset			
	Substantial	Moderate	Slight	Negligible
National	Major	Major	Intermediate/ Minor	Neutral
Regional/County	Major	Major/ Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
Local/Borough	Intermediate	Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	Minor	Minor/ Neutral	Neutral
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Uncertain	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Table 8: Impact Significance Matrix

## 7.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT

7.2.1 Following on from the above considerations, the significance of effects has been determined based on an assumption that there will be ground disturbance associated with the development works. The results of the impact significance assessment are summarised in Table 9, below, in the absence of mitigation. The following will require review once detailed design proposals, utilities plans, and depths of intrusion are known.

7.2.2 Of the identified sites, the proximity of six sites is perhaps cause for concern, although they are unlikely to be affected or only minimally impacted, and four other sites (Egremont Park (Site 39), fields named ‘Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella’ (Site 11) and ‘Long barrow’ (Site 30), and possibly elements relating to the medieval town (Site 27)) have the potential to lie within the proposed development area. The full extent of the medieval town (Site 27) is unknown. Only the impact significance of the development on these ten sites has been assessed.

Site No.	Site name	Nature of Impact	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
5	‘Wrays’, west of Smithfield Road, Egremont	Very minimal chance of damage from work relating to the north flood storage area.	Negligible	Unknown
11	‘Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella’, Smithfield Road, Egremont	Possible damage to the site when Skirting Beck culvert is upsized	Negligible	Unknown
12	Gillfoot Park Pit No. 6	Very minimal chance of damage from work relating to the east flood storage area.	Negligible	Neutral
17	Wyndham School	Possible visual impact from the proposed storage wall.	Negligible	Neutral

Site No.	Site name	Nature of Impact	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
27	Egremont Medieval Town	Possible destruction of deposits relating to the medieval town particularly associated with repairs to Skirting Beck culvert; likely to be minimal.	Slight	Neutral
30	Longbarrow field place name	The section of Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized will pass through the east end of 'Long Barrow' field, however, the site has already seen extensive development. It is improbable that anything remains of a 'barrow' here, but any remaining below ground remains may be affected by the works.	Negligible	Unknown
33	Old Castle Cinema, Bookwell Road	Possible damage to site associated with repairs to Skirting Beck culvert; likely to be minimal.	Negligible	Neutral
34	Bookwell Tannery	Possible damage to site associated with repairs to Skirting Beck culvert; likely to be minimal.	Negligible	Neutral
35	Egremont Castle	Possible damage to site associated with repairs to Skirting Beck culvert; likely to be minimal, especially considering that test pitting within this area has previously only recorded deposits associated with the existing services (Oxford Archaeology North 2004, 2).	Negligible	Neutral
39	Egremont Park	Possible damage to site associated with repairs to Whangs Beck culvert; likely to be minimal.	Negligible	Neutral

Table 9: Assessment of the impact significance on each site during development

7.2.3 Table 9 indicates that the potential exists for the destruction of physical remains relating to the medieval town in particular (Sites 27) and possible damage to the other sites listed as a result of the proposed development, depending upon the extent of sub-surface remains associated with each site and the depth of excavation associated with the proposed development. The impact to these sites is only likely to be negligible when repairs are carried out to the culverts given that any associated remains or deposits are likely to have been disturbed already because of damage caused during installation of the existing culvert. Cut features of probable medieval date have previously been recorded to the east of Main Street (OSA 2002) but elsewhere any medieval features, such as there might have been, have been comprehensively destroyed (e.g. OA North 2004; 2010; Newman 1988) or at the very least very disturbed by later development (e.g. GSB Prospection 2002). The impact significance on the site with the 'Longbarrow' field name (Site 30), the field named 'Wrays', west of Smithfield Road (Site 5), and the site called 'Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella' (Site 11) is unknown because the meaning and therefore

significance of the place name is uncertain; however, it seems likely that these sites are only of negligible importance, especially since all of them have seen extensive development across much of their area already. The significance of the impact to these sites could therefore reasonably also be considered neutral. The proposed storage wall may have a visual impact on Wyndham School (Site 17), but this site is not considered of archaeological importance since the school is modern.

- 7.2.4 ***Previously unidentified Heritage Assets:*** in addition to these identified potential impacts, it is possible that further previously unidentified heritage assets of archaeological interest might survive within the proposed development area. As already discussed (see *Section 6.2.10* above) these are perhaps most likely to comprise elements relating to the medieval town and castle, prehistoric remains on the western edge of the town, and aspects relating to the mining industry from across much of the site area. Such remains might be vulnerable to ground works associated with development although the impact of this is difficult to quantify given their unknown nature.

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## 8. CONCLUSIONS

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### 8.1 DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 Activity in the area from at least the Neolithic period is evidenced by the cairn field and stone circle at Egremont Common (Site 39) and hinted at by field place names (e.g. Site 30), however, the available documentary and archaeological evidence shows that the study area really developed from the late medieval period onwards, with the core of the medieval town in the vicinity of the castle (Site 35) where features of probable medieval date have been excavated (e.g. OSA 2002). The area saw further substantial development in the post-medieval, industrial and modern periods. The cartographic sources show that generally the south and west of the area have seen least development, whereas the east of the area falls within the town.
- 8.1.2 A total of 40 heritage assets have been identified, with 32 having been recorded within the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER). A further eight were identified during the desk-based assessment but no new site was identified during the site visit. Egremont Castle (Site 35) has statutory designations within the study area, which is Listed Grade I and a Scheduled Ancient Monument and the medieval core of the town (Site 27) is protected as a Conservation Area (OA North 2009, 15).
- 8.1.3 Of the sites with the potential to be affected by the development, four potentially lie within the proposed development area, two are of *uncertain*, possibly *negligible importance* (Longbarrow field place name, Site 30; 'Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella', Smithfield Road, Egremont, Site 11), one is of *low local importance* (Egremont Park, Site 39) and the other is of *local/borough importance* (Egremont Medieval Town, Site 27), although the full extent of the latter is unknown. There is also likely to be a visual impact upon the setting of Wyndham School (Site 17), and probably negligible further impact on six other sites during work: the field named 'Wrays', west of Smithfield Road (Site 5), Gillfoot Park Pit No. 6 (Site 12), Wyndham School (Site 17), the site of the Old Castle Cinema (Site 33) and Bookwell Tannery (Site 34), and Egremont Castle (Site 35). Overall, the impact significance of the development is considered neutral. Other known sites and find spots from the study area, and the wider vicinity, indicate that there is some, albeit limited, potential for the presence of previously unidentified sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area.
- 8.1.4 Other known sites and find spots from the study area, and the wider vicinity, indicate that there is some, albeit limited, potential for the presence of previously unidentified sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area. There is some potential for previously unidentified remains of various dates, with Neolithic and, more likely, late medieval remains a possibility, although these would only be identified through further archaeological investigation.



## **8.2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.2.1 Although the potential across the site as a whole is relatively low, there are clearly areas where some remains of archaeological interest could be present, specifically in connection with known sites of archaeological interest (see *Section 6.1.2* and *8.1.3*) but also in a number of other areas (see *Section 6.2.10*). The nature of any further archaeological work in these areas would need to be agreed in discussion with the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES).
- 8.2.2 Within the Conservation Area the features that contribute towards its protected status - the built structures, highways, open spaces and so forth (see *Section 6.1.5* above) should be protected and where possible enhanced. This can be achieved by either returning them to the condition found, or, duplicating local building techniques, although, this should be carried out in discussion with the local Conservation Officer.

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## 10. FIGURES

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### 10.1 LIST OF FIGURES

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Figure 3: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1796, showing How Bank

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Figure 5: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1796, showing Southam

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Figure 7: Site location superimposed on the tithe map of 1841-42

Figure 8: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 6":1 mile map of 1867

Figure 9: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 25":1 mile map of c1867

Figure 10: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1878

Figure 11: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1880

Figure 12: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1899

Figure 13: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1924

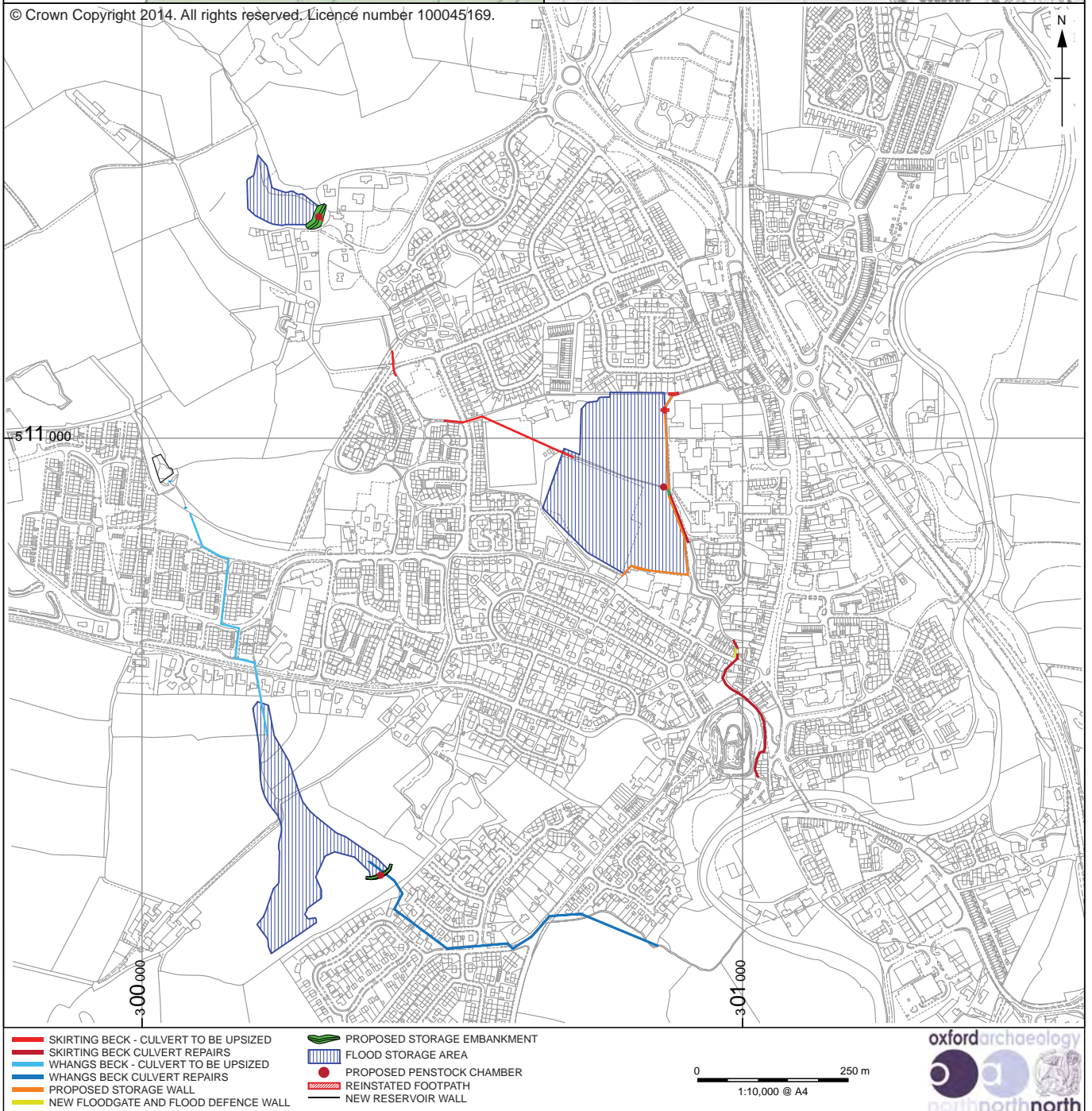
Figure 14: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1924

Figure 15: Plan of previous archaeological work



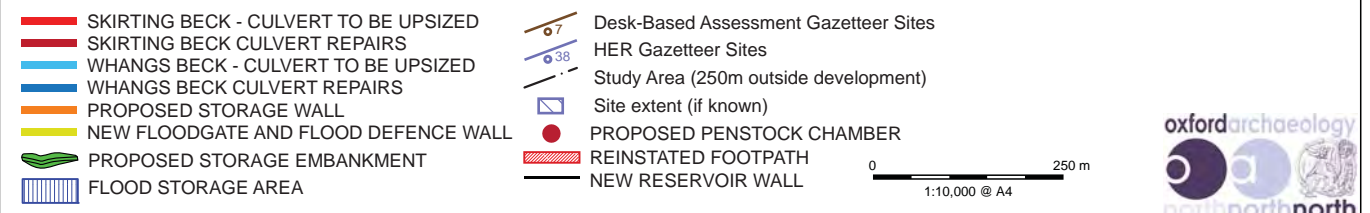
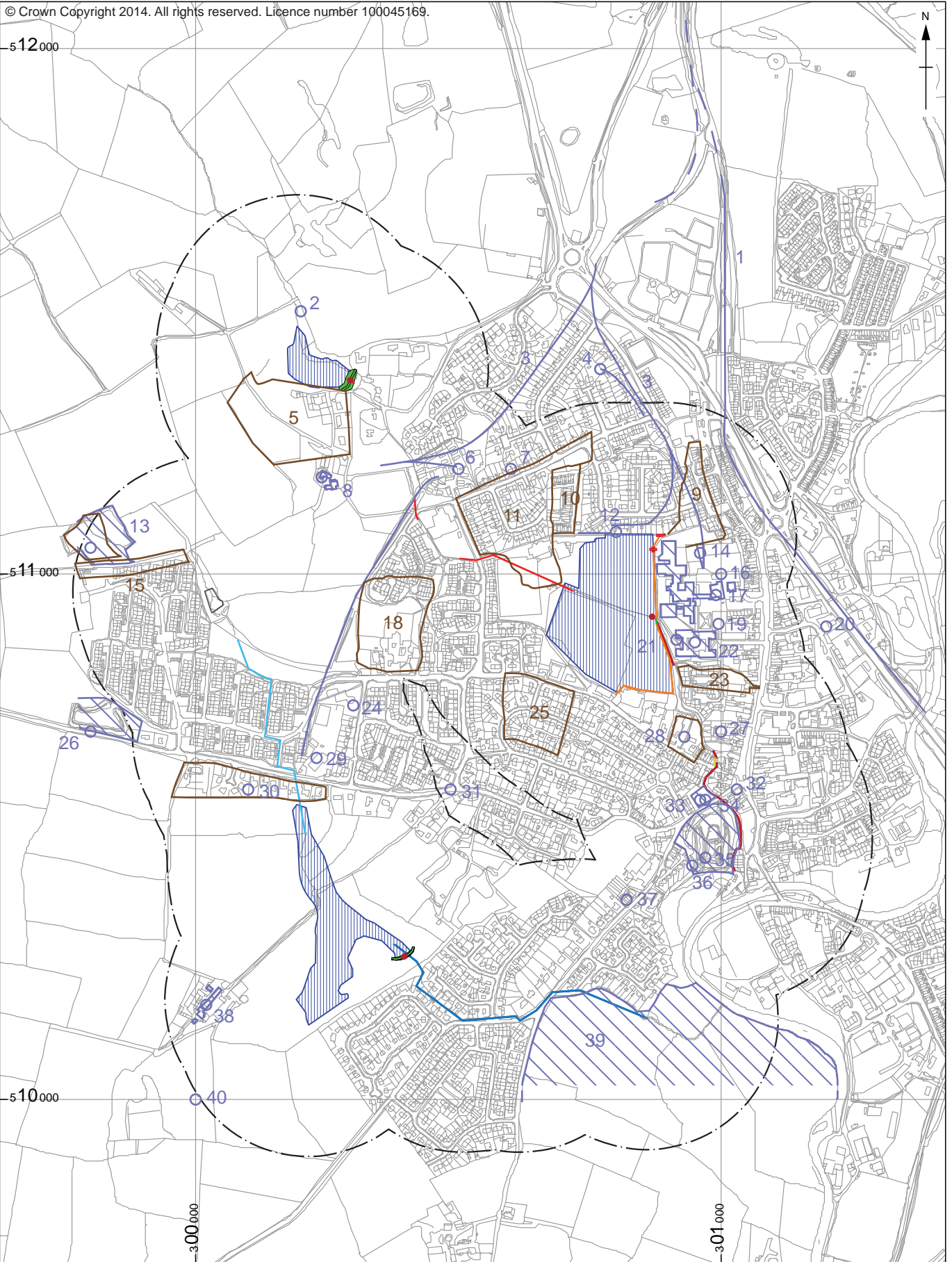


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SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

Figure 1: Site location



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites





Figure 4: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1796, showing Gill Foot

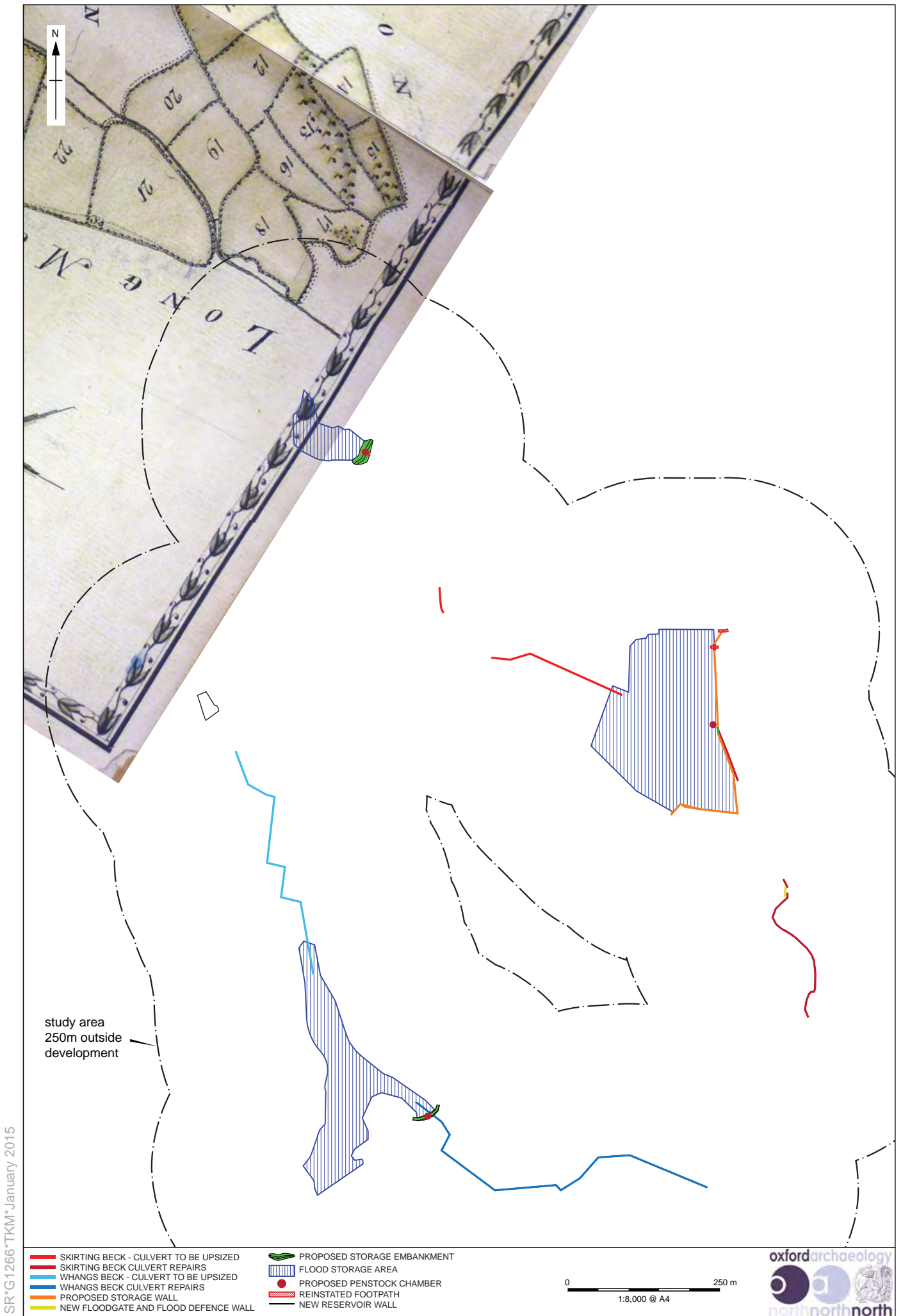


Figure 5: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1796, showing Southam



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

study area  
250m outside  
development

- SKIRTING BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- WHANGS BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- PROPOSED STORAGE EMBANKMENT
- ▨ FLOOD STORAGE AREA
- PROPOSED PENSTOCK CHAMBER
- - - REINSTATED FOOTPATH
- NEW FLOODGATE AND FLOOD DEFENCE WALL
- NEW RESERVOIR WALL

0 250 m  
1:8,000 @ A4



Figure 6: Site location superimposed on undated estate plan of Long Moor and Green Moor

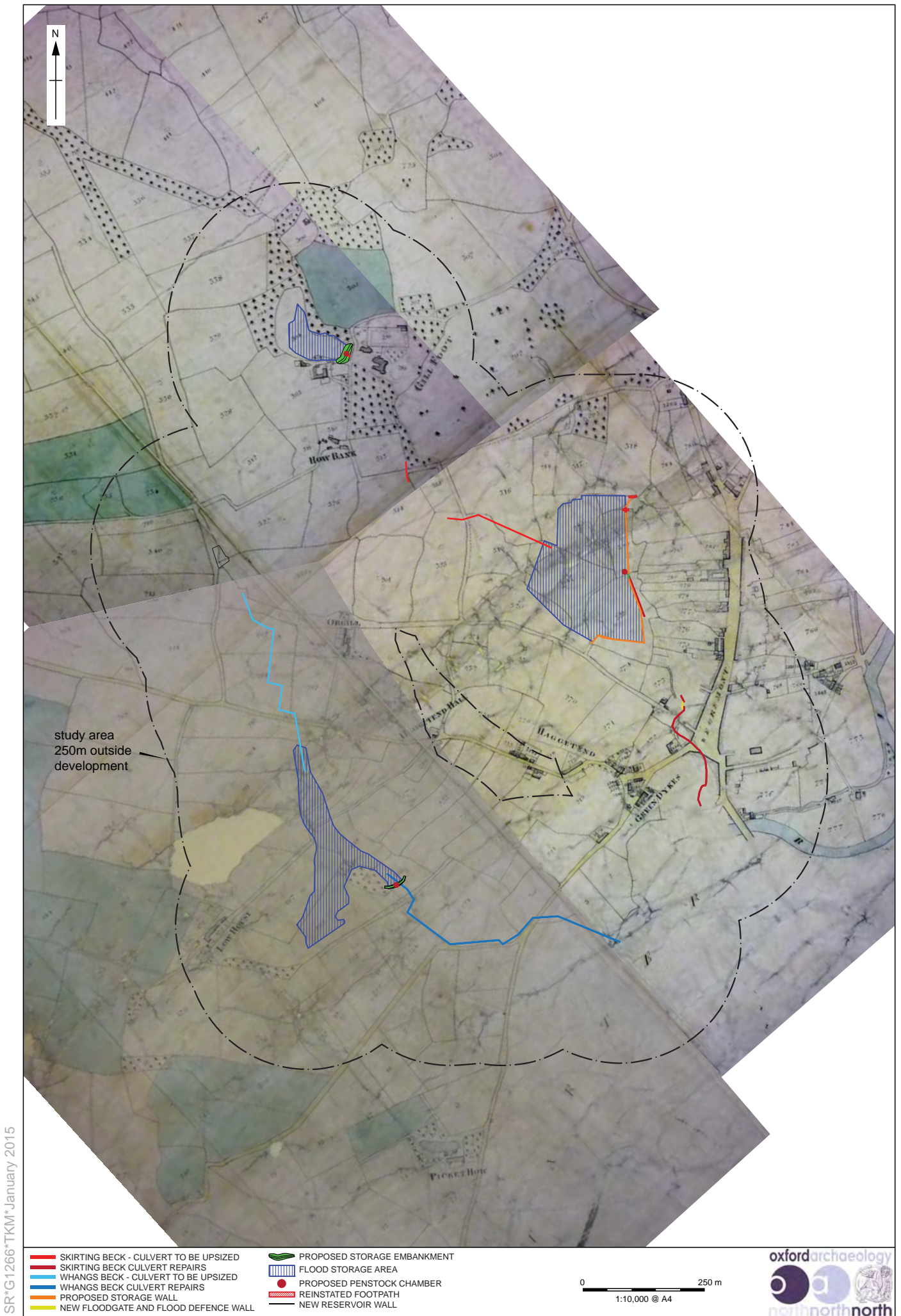


Figure 7: Site location superimposed on the tithe map of 1841-42



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

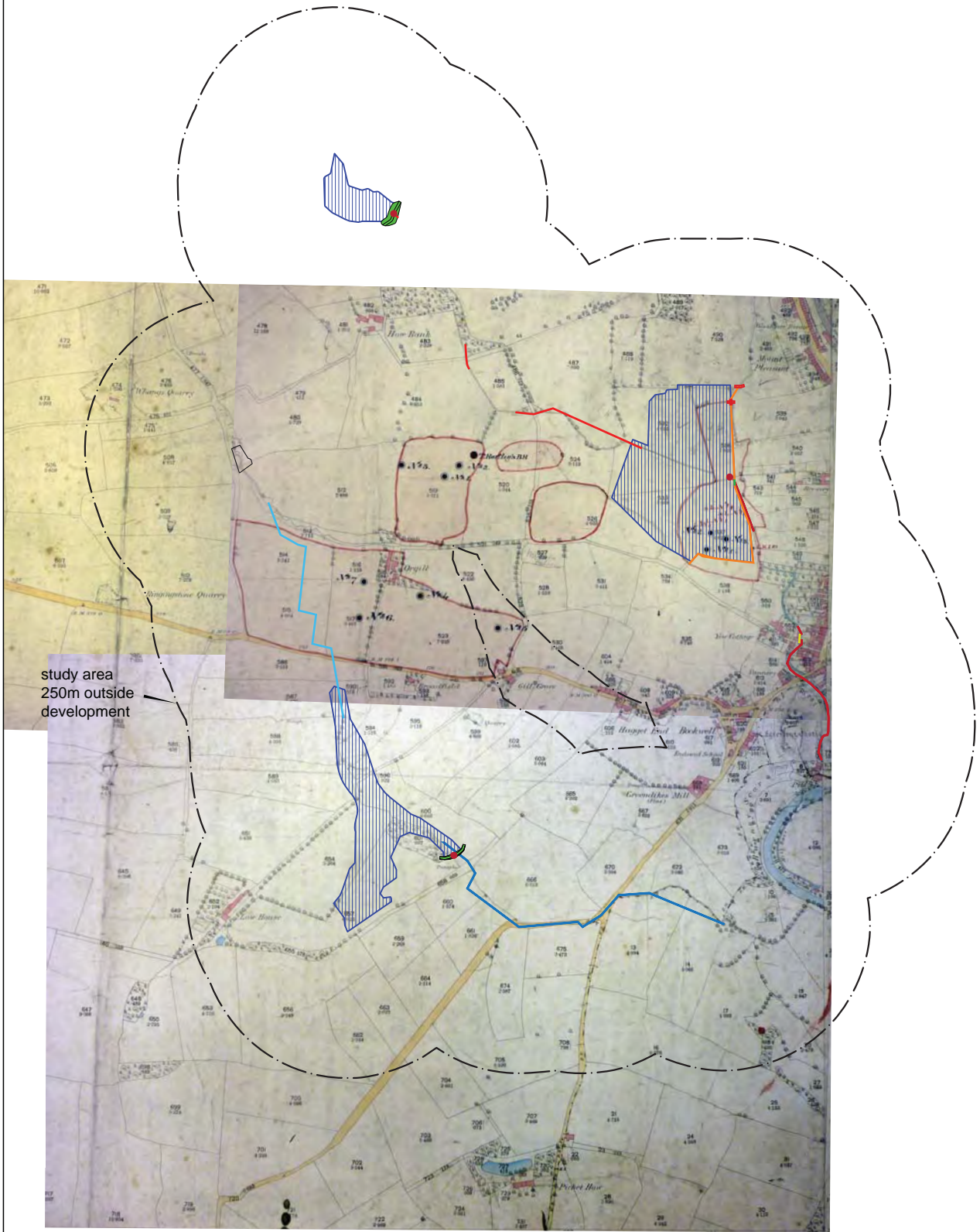
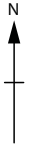
Figure 8: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 6":1 mile map of 1867



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015



Figure 9: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey first edition 25":1 mile map of c1867



study area  
250m  
outside  
development

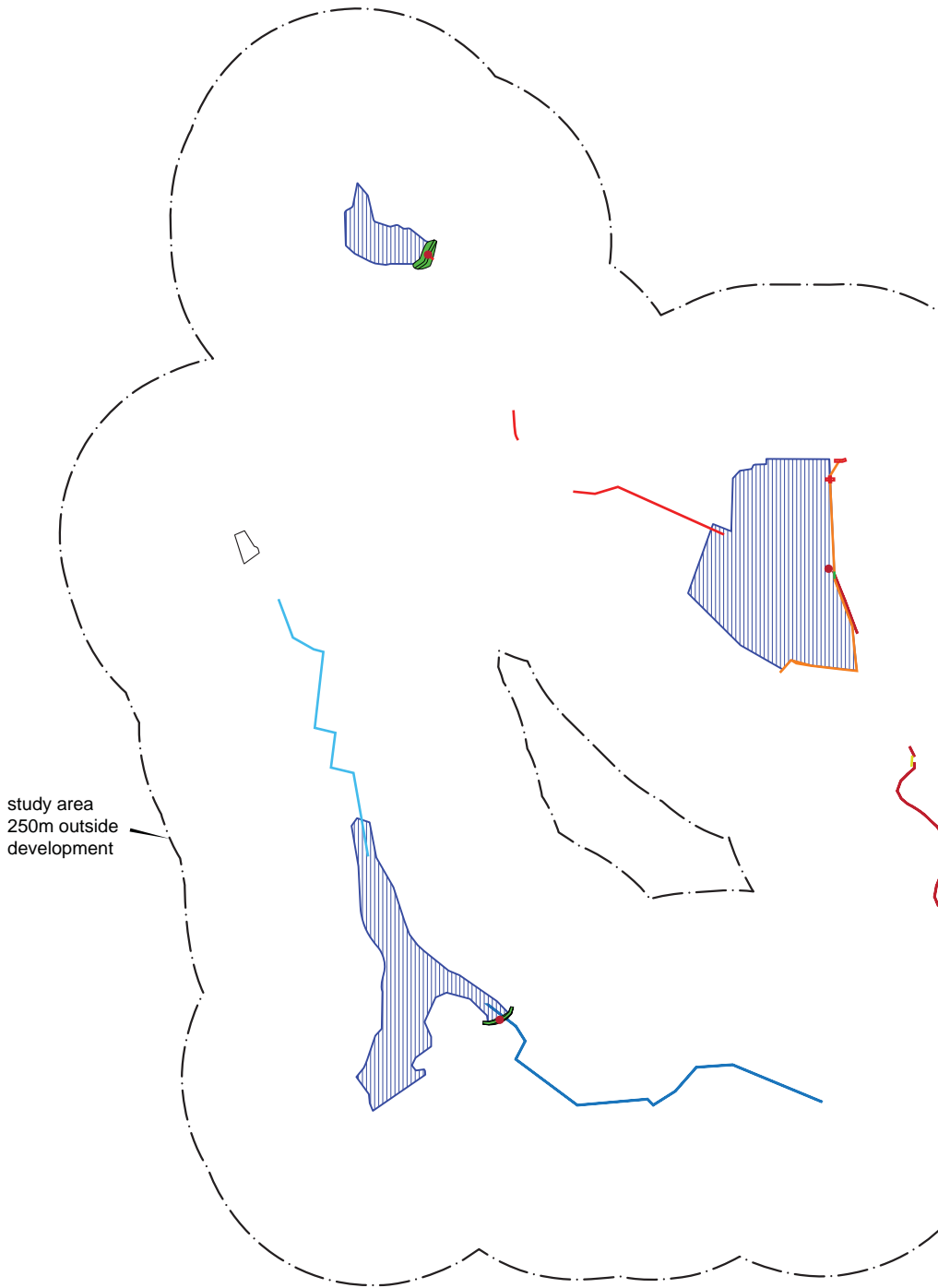
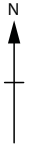
- SKIRTING BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- SKIRTING BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- WHANGS BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- WHANGS BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- PROPOSED STORAGE WALL
- NEW FLOODGATE AND FLOOD DEFENCE WALL
- PROPOSED STORAGE EMBANKMENT
- FLOOD STORAGE AREA
- PROPOSED PENSTOCK CHAMBER
- REINSTATED FOOTPATH
- NEW RESERVOIR WALL

0 250 m  
1:10,000 @ A4



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

Figure 10: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1878



- SKIRTING BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- SKIRTING BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- WHANGS BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- WHANGS BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- PROPOSED STORAGE WALL
- NEW FLOODGATE AND FLOOD DEFENCE WALL
- PROPOSED STORAGE EMBANKMENT
- FLOOD STORAGE AREA
- PROPOSED PENSTOCK CHAMBER
- REINSTATED FOOTPATH
- NEW RESERVOIR WALL

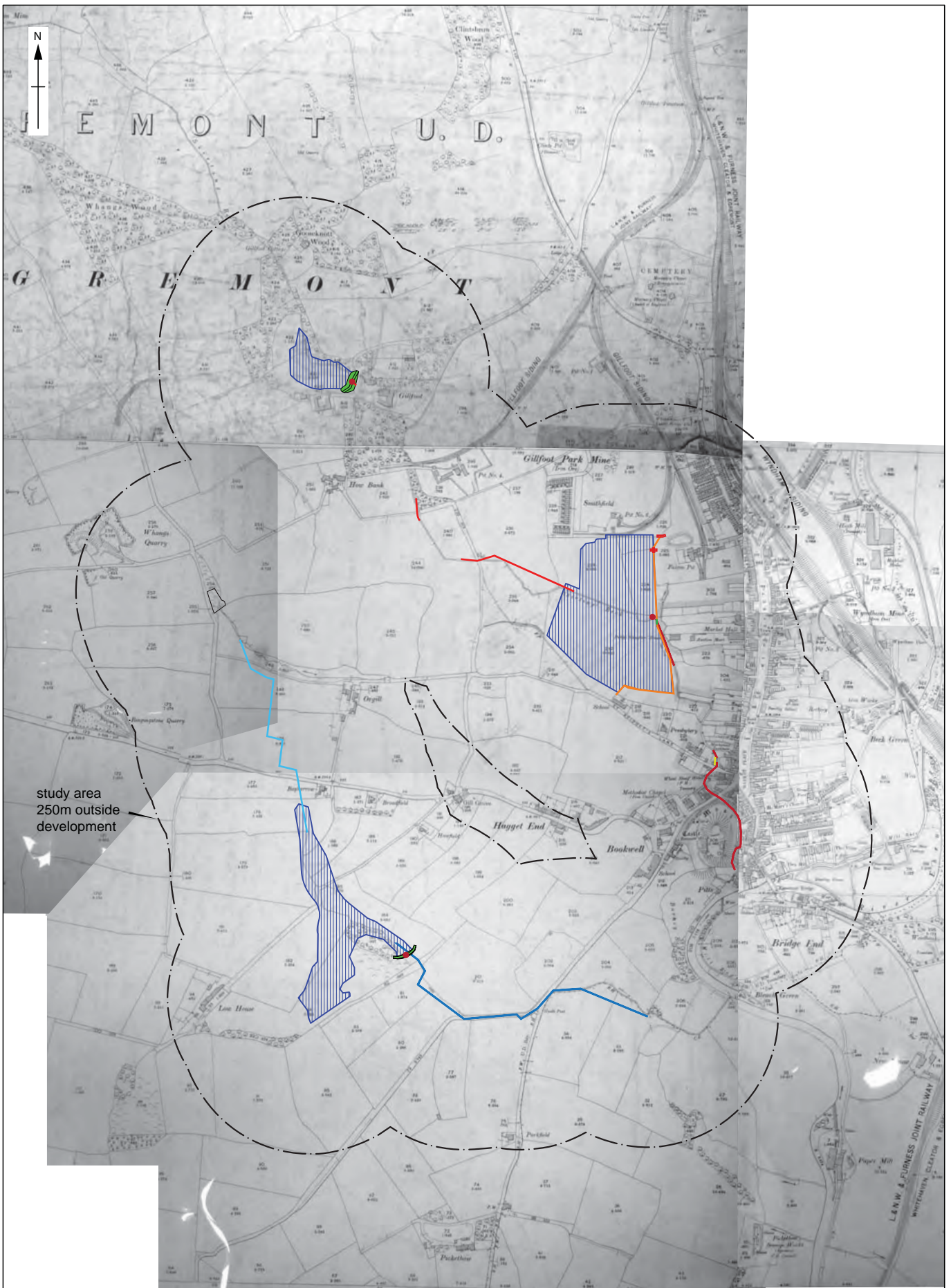
0 250 m  
1:10,000 @ A4



SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

Figure 11: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1880

SR\*G1266\*TKM\*January 2015

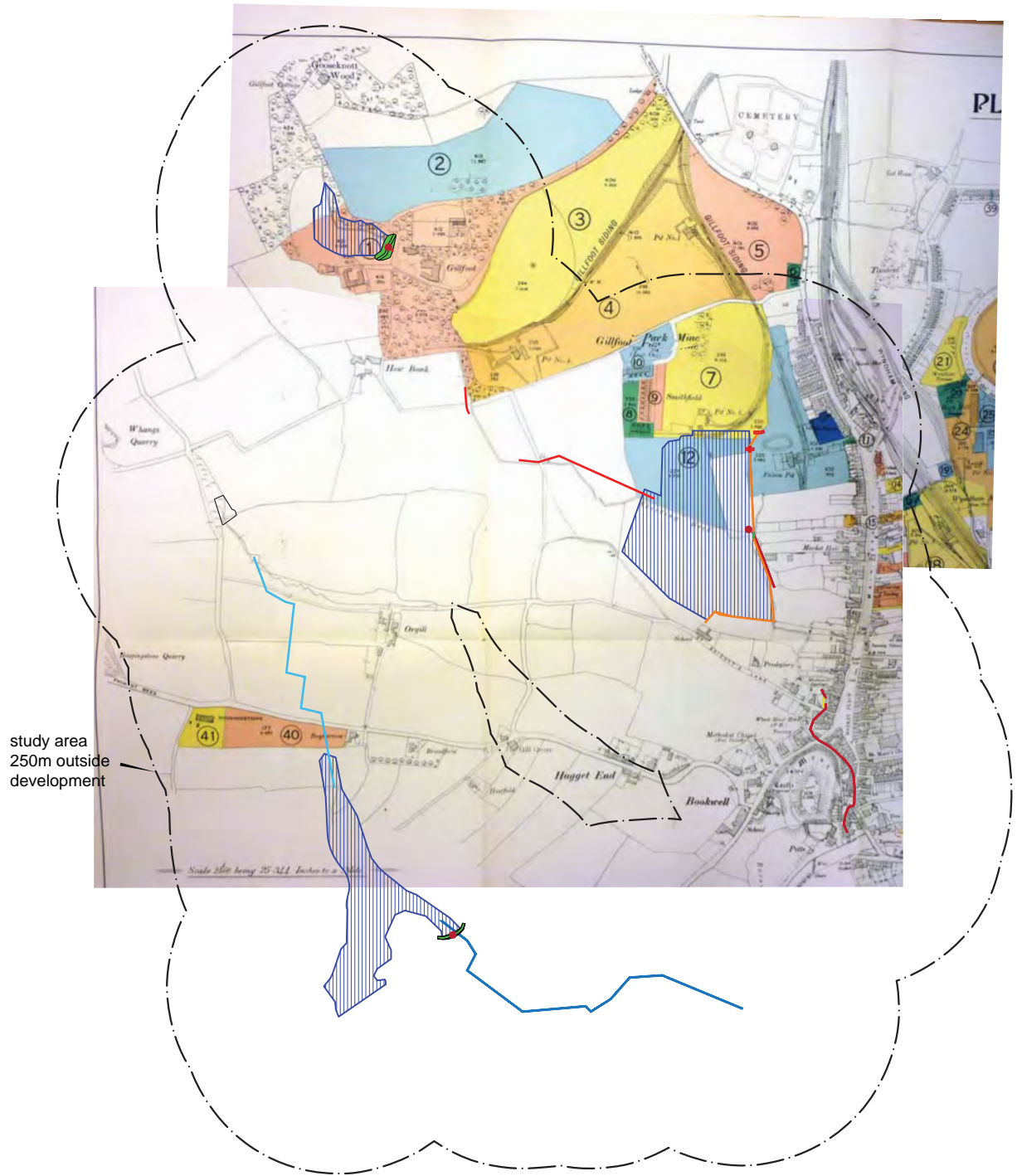
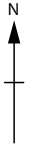


- SKIRTING BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- ▨ SKIRTING BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- WHANGS BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- ▨ WHANGS BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- PROPOSED STORAGE WALL
- ▨ NEW FLOODGATE AND FLOOD DEFENCE WALL
- ▨ PROPOSED STORAGE EMBANKMENT
- ▨ FLOOD STORAGE AREA
- PROPOSED PENSTOCK CHAMBER
- ▨ REINSTATED FOOTPATH
- NEW RESERVOIR WALL

0 250 m  
1:10,000 @ A4



Figure 12: Site location superimposed on the Ordnance Survey revised edition 25":1 mile map of 1899



study area  
250m outside  
development

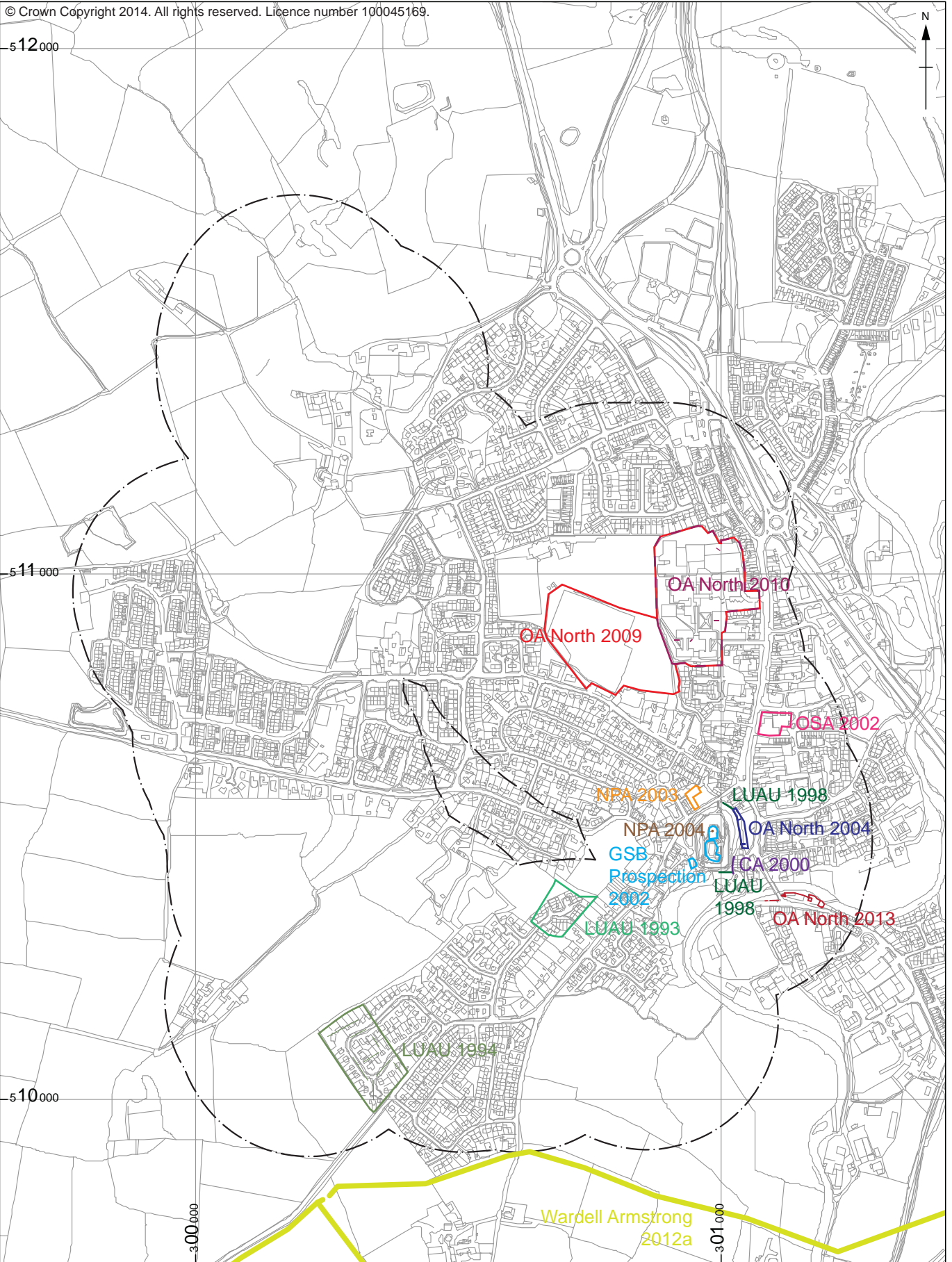
- SKIRTING BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- SKIRTING BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- WHANGS BECK - CULVERT TO BE UPSIZED
- WHANGS BECK CULVERT REPAIRS
- PROPOSED STORAGE WALL
- NEW FLOODGATE AND FLOOD DEFENCE WALL
- PROPOSED STORAGE EMBANKMENT
- FLOOD STORAGE AREA
- PROPOSED PENSTOCK CHAMBER
- REINSTATED FOOTPATH
- NEW RESERVOIR WALL

0 250 m  
1:10,000 @ A4



Figure 13: Site location superimposed on estate plan of 1924





- |                                       |  |                        |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| — NPA 2003                            | --- Study Area (250m outside development)  | — OSA 2002             |
| — NPA 2004                            | — Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) 2004 | — CA 2000              |
| — LUUAU 1993                          | — Oxford Archaeology North 2009            | — GSB Prospection 2002 |
| — LUUAU 1994                          | — Oxford Archaeology North 2010            |                        |
| — LUUAU 1998                          | — Oxford Archaeology North 2013            |                        |
| — Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2012a |  |                        |

0 250 m  
1:10,000 @ A4



Figure 15: Plan of previous archaeological work

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**APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER SITE LIST**


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**Site number** 1  
**Site** L & NW & Furness Joint Railway, Bigrigg Branch, Egremont  
**NGR** 300880 513900  
**Site Type** Railway.  
**HER number** 12710  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER.  
**Description** L & NW & Furness Joint Railway.  
**Assessment** Sections of the former railway used to pass within the study area but they have since been removed.

---

**Site number** 2  
**Site** Gillfoot Mining Remains  
**NGR** 300200 511500  
**Site Type** Earthwork (former mine).  
**HER number** 16593  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER.  
**Description** Mining landscape; the mines are no longer in use.  
**Assessment** The site is approximately 30m north of the north flood storage area and should be unaffected by the works.

---

**Site number** 3  
**Site** Site of Gillfoot Branch Railway  
**NGR** 300960 511980  
**Site Type** Railway.  
**HER number** 12741  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER.  
**Description** Gillfoot Branch Railway, owned by LM and SR, it branched from the Whitehaven/Egremont line at NY 0096 1198 and serviced Gillfoot Park Mine Pit (Site 6) and ended at Helder Pit (Site 29) at NY 0011 1063). A siding branching just after the main road Serviced No.1 Pit (Site 4) and an old coal pit at Smithfield (Site 12). The *Northern Counties Gazette* in 1878 mentions the Gillfoot Park Tramway was laid.  
**Assessment** Sections of the former railway used to pass within the study area but they have since been removed.

---

**Site number** 4  
**Site** Gillfoot Park Pit No. 1  
**NGR** 300770 511390  
**Site Type** Mine  
**HER number** 14816  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER.



<b>Description</b>	Site of Gillfoot Park No. 1 Pit, owned by the Wyndham Mining Co Ltd, which abandoned it in 1924 and the shaft was filled in when surveyed in 1940. In 1899 it was owned by Gillfoot Park Mining Co, and there were originally six Gillfoot mines, Nos. 1 to 6. This was connected to pit number 4 (Site 6) by the Gillfoot Branch Railway (Site 3), which extended past this mine to an old coal shaft at Smithfield (Site 12).
<b>Assessment</b>	The pit lies well outside the study area and will be unaffected by the works. Sections of the former railway used to pass within the study area but they are no longer present.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>‘Wrays’, west of Smithfield Road, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300177 511296 (centre)
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, cairns?
<b>HER number</b>	None.
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	HER.
<b>Description</b>	This field name is likely to derive from the Norse word ‘ <i>hreysi</i> ’ denoting a cairn or heap of stones (see Armstrong <i>et al</i> 1952, 479) and may therefore denote the presence of a pre-existing burial mound.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site comprises a large area to the south of the north flood storage area, but, given the difference in levels of the two sites, it is unlikely to be affected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Gillfoot Park Pit No. 4</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300500 511200
<b>Site Type</b>	Mine
<b>HER number</b>	14808
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Industrial.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Whitehaven Museum.
<b>Description</b>	Site of Gillfoot Park No. 4 pit, owned by the Wyndham Mining Co Ltd. It was abandoned in 1924 but the shaft was still upon when surveyed in 1940 and the mine was flooded. In 1899 it was owned by Gillfoot Park Mining Co. there were six gillfoot mines numbered 1 to 6. This mine was connected by a railway (Site 3) to Helder Pit (Site 29) and Pit No. 1 (Site 4). A mention of the laying of Gillfoot Park Tramway appears in the <i>Northern Counties Gazette</i> in 1878.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is approximately 97m away from the north-east end of the section of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Rotary Quern find, Smithfield</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300600 511200
<b>Site Type</b>	Findspot (quern).
<b>HER number</b>	4614
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric – Romano-British.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Whitehaven Museum; Oxford Archaeology North 2009, site 34.
<b>Description</b>	A rotary quern found at Smithfield, Egremont, now at the Whitehaven Museum.
<b>Assessment</b>	The findspot is positioned at NGR 300000 511000 on the Cumbria HER, which is close to the new reservoir wall, but described as being located at NGR 300600 511200, which lies approximately 160m north of the midsection of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized. Findspots are not always accurately located so their

significance is sometimes difficult to assess. The find in question, however, is now held at Whitehaven Museum.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>How Bank Farmstead</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300240 511180
<b>Site Type</b>	Farmstead.
<b>HER number</b>	43395
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Donald 1774; Greenwood and Greenwood 1822; Ordnance Survey.
<b>Description</b>	A property named How Bank is shown on Donald's map of 1774, and Greenwood's map of 1822. It is shown on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps as a small, irregular-shaped farmstead. Modern mapping shows the farm still exists though with some alterations.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies approximately 170m south of the north flood storage area and proposed storage embankment and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>'Skin Yard Meadow', Long Croft, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300955 511153
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, tannery?
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.
<b>Description</b>	A field named 'Skin Yard Meadow' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 284 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). This may indicate a tannery somewhere in the vicinity.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site has been extensively built over apart from perhaps the south end, the limits of which are uncertain. It is perhaps 20m away from the proposed storage wall and should be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>'Hunting Butts', off Smithfield Road, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300706 511144
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, Hurting Butts. Presumably a former park area or archery butts
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68, 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd; CAC(W) DWM/533/20 nd.
<b>Description</b>	A field named 'Hunting Butts' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 288 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). This may indicate the area previously formed a park or was used for archery butts. It is also shown and labelled on the undated plan of Long Moor and Green Moor (CAC(W) DWM/533/20 nd)
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is more than 25m to the north-west of the east flood storage area and will be unaffected by the works, besides which it has been extensively built over.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>‘Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella’, Smithfield Road, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300627 511123
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, ‘Great Crowd Alley/Great Crowdella’.
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd; CAC(W) YDX/235/27 1796.
<b>Description</b>	A field named ‘Great Crowd Alley’ is shown on the estate plans of 1796 (CAC(W) YDX/235/27 1796). It is recorded as ‘Great Crowdella’ on the tithe map for Egremont of c1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 316 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68, 1841). The meaning of this is uncertain but it is unusual enough to be make it worthy of notice.
<b>Assessment</b>	The middle section of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized passes through the south end of the site and may be affected by the works. The north end of the field has been extensively built over but the south is not currently developed.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Gillfoot Park Pit No. 6</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300800 511080
<b>Site Type</b>	Mine.
<b>HER number</b>	14875
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Industrial.
<b>Source</b>	HER.
<b>Description</b>	Site of Smithfield Old Coal Shaft. This was at the end of the Gillfoot Branch Railway (Site 3) that served Gillfoot Park No. 1 (Site 4).
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies very close to the north edge of the east flood storage area and may be affected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Whangs Quarry</b>
<b>NGR</b>	299800 511050
<b>Site Type</b>	Quarry.
<b>HER number</b>	11997
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Industrial.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Whitehaven Museum; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.
<b>Description</b>	Site of Whangs Quarry, no longer marked by the Ordnance Survey but shown on the map ‘Survey of the Iron Ore Resources, 1940’ (Whitehaven Museum). The site occupies a ‘Quarry’ shown on the tithe map for Egremont of 1841-1842 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 235 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). The field marked on the tithe map is centred at NGR 299805 511195.
<b>Assessment</b>	This site lies approximately 140m north-west of the new reservoir wall and will not be affected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Falcon Pit</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300960 511040
<b>Site Type</b>	Mine.
<b>HER number</b>	43388
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Industrial.
<b>Source</b>	HER; OA North 2009.
<b>Description</b>	Site of a former pit and associated mineral railway linked to the Gillfoot Branch Railway (Site 3). First shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1898 but not depicted in 1926.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is 70-80m to the east of the proposed storage wall and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>'Quarry', near Ashlea Road, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	299881 511020
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, quarry.
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.
<b>Description</b>	A field named 'Quarry field' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 216 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). This indicates there was a quarry here and may relate to Whangs Quarry (Site 13) to the north.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is probably more than 50m away from the new reservoir wall and has been extensively built over. It will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Roman coin find</b>
<b>NGR</b>	301000 511000
<b>Site Type</b>	Findspot (Roman coin).
<b>HER number</b>	4620
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Romano-British.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Whitehaven Museum.
<b>Description</b>	Findspot of a Roman coin of Antonius Pius.
<b>Assessment</b>	The findspot is recorded as approximately 120m to the east of the proposed storage wall, but findspots are not always accurately located so their significance is sometimes difficult to assess. The find in question, however, is now held at Whitehaven Museum.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Wyndham School, Main Street</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300990 510960
<b>Site Type</b>	<b>School.</b>
<b>HER number</b>	43387
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Modern.
<b>Source</b>	HER; AHP 2009; Capita Symonds 2009; OA North 2009.

---

<b>Description</b>	Extant building labelled School shown for the first time on the Ordnance Survey map of 1926. A desk-based assessment was undertaken in 2008-09 for the proposed replacement of Wyndham School with the new West Lakes Academy (OA North 2009). A historic building appraisal was undertaken in 2009 prior to the proposed demolition of the former infants' school. The school was built in 1904 and became a public library and school library in the 1960s when the new comprehensive school was built. The public library was named after Charles Edmonds who was a former miner and local community leader until his death in 1964. Despite considered being an attractive building and having high local significance, the appraisal concluded that the building was not of sufficient quality to be Listed (AHP 2009). A photographic record was made of the former school in 2009 prior to its demolition (Capita Symonds 2009).
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies immediately to the east of the proposed storage wall and may be affected by the works; however, the former school has been demolished.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>'Orgill Meadow', north of Southey Avenue, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300382 510906
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, 'Orgill Meadow'
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.
<b>Description</b>	A field named 'Orgill Meadow' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c 1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 201 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). This probably relates to Orgill Farmstead (Site 24).
<b>Assessment</b>	This field is more than 60m away from a section of Skirting Beck culvert to be upsized and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Egremont Brewery</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300995 510905
<b>Site Type</b>	Brewery.
<b>HER number</b>	43390
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; OA North 2010; Ordnance Survey.
<b>Description</b>	Site of a building shown on the tithe map of 1842 within a croft named Brewery Croft. It is labelled Brewery on the Ordnance Survey map of 1865 and 1867, and thereafter shown but not labelled on Ordnance Survey maps up to 1926. It may have been demolished when Wyndham School (Site 17) was extended in the 1960s.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site of the former brewery is marked more than 100m to the east of the proposed storage wall, so it should be unaffected by the works, and the building itself may have been demolished in the 1960s.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Grindstone find</b>
<b>NGR</b>	301200 510900
<b>Site Type</b>	Findspot (grindstone).
<b>HER number</b>	4611
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Whitehaven Museum.

**Description** Grindstone. No further details.  
**Assessment** The site was marked at NGR 3010 5100 online but the description records its location as NGR 301200 510900, both of which are outside the study area. Findspots are not always accurately located, however, so their significance is sometimes difficult to assess. The find in question is now held at Whitehaven Museum.

---

**Site number** 21  
**Site** Public Slaughterhouses, Market Street  
**NGR** 300915 510875  
**Site Type** Abbatoir.  
**HER number** 43389  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER; OA North 2010.  
**Description** The buildings shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1849 labelled public slaughterhouses. They were still extant in 1925, before buildings belonging to Wyndham School (Site 17) were built at the site in the 1960s.  
**Assessment** The site is slightly over 20m to the east of the proposed storage wall and should be unaffected by the works. The buildings themselves were probably demolished pre-1960s.

---

**Site number** 22  
**Site** Egremont Auction Mart, Market Street  
**NGR** 300950 510870  
**Site Type** Auction house.  
**HER number** 43391  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Industrial.  
**Source** HER; OA North 2010.  
**Description** Site of a building named Auction Mart on Ordnance Survey maps between 1899 and 1926. It may have been demolished when Wyndham School (Site 17) was expanded in the 1960s. A targeted evaluation excavation was undertaken in 2010 to look for remains of the site, as part of a scheme to replace the former twentieth century Wyndham School with a new school. No remains were found (OA North 2010).  
**Assessment** The site is slightly over 50m to the east of the proposed storage wall and should be unaffected by the works. The buildings themselves were probably demolished pre-1960s.

---

**Site number** 23  
**Site** 'Factory Meadow', west of Main Street, Egremont  
**NGR** 300997 510801  
**Site Type** Place-name, factory  
**HER number** –  
**Statutory Designation** None.  
**Period** Unknown.  
**Source** CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.  
**Description** A field named 'Factory Meadow' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 276 in the accompanying *Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont* (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). This may indicate a factory somewhere in the vicinity.  
**Assessment** The location of the west end of this field is less than 10m to the south-east of a section of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert, but it has already been extensively developed and should be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Orgill Farmstead.</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300300 510750
<b>Site Type</b>	Farmstead.
<b>HER number</b>	43394
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval (Georgian).
<b>Source</b>	HER.
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies approximately 150m east of the section of Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>'Peile Croft', Central Avenue, south of St Bridget's Lane, Egremont</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300654 510734
<b>Site Type</b>	Place-name, 'Peile Croft'?
<b>HER number</b>	–
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd.
<b>Description</b>	A field named 'Peile Croft' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c 1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 230 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841)</i> . This may indicate that a pele tower was once present somewhere in the vicinity.
<b>Assessment</b>	The location of this field is approximately 40m to the south-west of the east flood storage area; it has been extensively built over and will be unaffected by the works.

---

<b>Site number</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Ringingstone Quarry</b>
<b>NGR</b>	299800 510700
<b>Site Type</b>	Quarry.
<b>HER number</b>	11998
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Unknown.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Ordnance Survey.
<b>Description</b>	Site of Ringingstone Quarry, shown on the map 'Survey of Iron Ore Resources, 1940' and marked only as earthworks on the 1933 Ordnance Survey map.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies approximately 220m to the west of the Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized and will be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Egremont Medieval Town</b>
<b>NGR</b>	30100 510700
<b>Site Type</b>	Town.
<b>HER number</b>	40428
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	Conservation Area
<b>Period</b>	Late medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; CCC and EH c2000; Newman 1988; NPA 2003; OSA 2002; OA North 2009; Winchester 1979.
<b>Description</b>	Egremont is itself a feudal seat of power established in the late 12 <sup>th</sup> to early 13 <sup>th</sup> century (CCC and EH c 2000), although Winchester believes there was a pre-urban settlement centred on the castle (see Site 35), prior to the founding of a planned town in 1200 (Winchester 1979). The first references to the town are from land grants and

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privileges to a community of burgesses by Richard de Lucy, Lord of the Barony of Copeland *c* 1200 (CCC and EH *c* 2000). The town was granted a market charter in 1267 and mention of a forfeit of 12d for burgesses not setting out burgage plots in the allocated time suggests the expansion of a rapidly growing town.

The economy of Egremont was based on the processing animal products from nearby farms. The extent of the town was described in the Inquest Post Mortem of John de Multon, whose possessions included a 'Castle, with a plot called 'Applegarth', the park below the castle, various fisheries, 194 acres of demesne land an 47.5 acres of demesne meadow | 82 free tenant holding 138 burgages | 6 waste places called burgages | (a) weekly market and fair, water mill, fulling mill and two smithies' (CCC and EH *c* 2000). The reference to waste places could indicate urban decay had occurred as a result of the deterioration in climate, cross-border raids and the maintenance of retinues by the nobility and high demands from the Crown, famine and sheep murrains all of which occurred by the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century.

During the Cumbrian Towns survey, Winchester identified the medieval core of Egremont, in the vicinity of the castle, as Main Street, Market Place and South Street (Winchester 1979), the town also extended along the main road to St Bees, along Herered Lane (Brewery Lane), Herrie Reed Lane (Bookwell Road) and Haggot End (NPA 2003, 9-10).

Excavations were undertaken on the site of 6-10 Main Street in July and August 1983, in advance of redevelopment, in order to assess the potential survival of medieval structures in the town. Excavations revealed that nineteenth century houses lay directly on a bank of natural gravel and evidence for a pre nineteenth century occupation of the site at 6-10 Main Street was extremely fragmentary. It was suggested that more archaeological deposits may survive beneath older houses in the town where less disturbance has taken place (Newman 1988).

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2002 during groundworks for the construction of an extension to the existing Co-op Supermarket on Main Street within the area of a tarmac car park immediately to the north. The work revealed probable medieval ditches and postholes/pits. A layer containing abundant dressed sandstone blocks, mortar and slate was also identified and interpreted as relating to the demolition of the former Sunday School that was constructed on the site in 1877 (OSA 2002).

An evaluation in 2003 in advance of redevelopment found a cobbled path and pit of unknown date to the west of the Old Cinema (Site **33**), and material from a demolished tannery building (Site **34**) was found inside the cinema in one of the former shops fronting Bookwell Road (NPA 2003).

A desk-based assessment was undertaken in 2008-09 for the proposed replacement of Wyndham School with the new West Lakes Academy. The new academy could potentially affect any surviving below-ground remains of features associated with burgage plots behind Main Street, and properties facing Main Street that were demolished when an entrance to the school was created in 1962-4. Further work was recommended (OA North 2009).

#### Assessment

Main Street passes north/south to the east side of the study area, approximately 150-200m east of the east flood storage area, and continues as South Street beyond Egremont Market Cross (Site **32**). Market Street extends from Main Street to the site of the former Auction Mart (Site **22**) and ends perhaps 80m to the east side of the east flood storage area. The full extent of the medieval town is unknown however and in places where below ground remains relating to it are preserved they may be affected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Stoney Garth / Stoney House Garth, St Bridget's Lane</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300930 510690
<b>Site Type</b>	Bastle house.
<b>HER number</b>	43386
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval (Georgian).



<b>Source</b>	HER; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd; CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841; Winchester 1979.
<b>Description</b>	A burgage property named Stoney Garth in 1784 and Stoney House Garth in 1786 and 1842. It may have been the site of an early 'stone house', a term associated with bastles in the early 17 <sup>th</sup> century in north-east Cumberland. A field named 'Stone House Garth Barn etc' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of c 1841 (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 nd); entry 273 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC(C) DRC/8/68 1841). The field is centred at NGR 300935 510686.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site of the 'bastle house' is approximately 80m south of the proposed storage wall and 60m north-west of the new floodgate and flood defence wall and will be unaffected by the works. The east end of the field named 'Stone House Garth Barn etc' lies within 20m of a section of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert but should also be unaffected by the works. Any bastle that stood on the site is no longer standing?

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Helder Pit</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300230 510650
<b>Site Type</b>	Mine.
<b>HER number</b>	14869
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Ordnance Survey 1924.
<b>Description</b>	Mine complex labelled 'Helder Pit' comprising several buildings and connecting branch railway and shown on Ordnance Survey plan of 1924.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is centred approximately 40m to the east of the central section of Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized and should be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Longbarrow field place name</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300100 510590
<b>Site Type</b>	Long Barrow.
<b>HER number</b>	14797
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Neolithic.
<b>Source</b>	HER.
<b>Description</b>	Name of a field known as 'Longbarrow'. This is mentioned in the sale of the Wyndham Mining Co in 1924. The accompanying map mentions 'Bay Barrow' which may refer to the house at the east end of the field. It was then occupied by John Rothery. It may be significant that it lies near Ringingstone Quarry. This appears to be a corruption of Ringle Stones, a nearby stone circle (SMR 1184). Note also Longbarrow Moss (SMR 12893). A field named 'Long Barrow' is shown on the tithe map for Egremont of 1841-1842 (CAC (C) DRC/8/68, 1841-1842); entry 210 in the accompanying <i>Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Egremont</i> (CAC (C) DRC/8/68, 1841). The field is centred at NGR 300103 510605.
<b>Assessment</b>	The section of Whangs Beck culvert to be upsized will pass through the east end of 'Long Barrow' field marked on the tithe map, however, the site has already seen extensive development. It is improbable that anything remains of a 'barrow' here, but any remaining below ground remains may be affected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Haggettend Hall</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300485 510590
<b>Site Type</b>	Hall house.
<b>HER number</b>	43392
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Ordnance Survey; OA North 2009.
<b>Description</b>	A house and garden named Haggettend Hall is shown on the Egremont tithe map of 1842. It is shown but not named on Ordnance Survey maps from 1867 until 1926 when only the extent of the garden is shown. Modern Ordnance Survey maps show the site is now located within a modern housing development and the surrounding roads have been widened.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is approximately 270m to the north-east of the south flood storage area and will be unaffected by the works. The site is now built over.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Egremont Market Cross</b>
<b>NGR</b>	<b>301030 510890</b>
<b>Site Type</b>	Market cross.
<b>HER number</b>	4447
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Parker 1909, 79-80; Caine 1923, 135.
<b>Description</b>	The market cross at Egremont stood within a few yards of the old boundary between Egremont and Lowside Quarter (NY 0103 1059). The remains now stand at NY 0095 1046 in the grounds of Egremont Castle. A tablet on the cross states 'Remains of the Cross found in the Market Place, Egremont 1922. Supposed original erection 1200'.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site is approximately 60m south of the new floodgate and flood defence wall, approximately 30m north-east of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert, and should be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Old Castle Cinema, Bookwell Road</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300960 510570
<b>Site Type</b>	Cinema.
<b>HER number</b>	40427
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Modern.
<b>Source</b>	HER; NPA 2003; 2011; OA North 2009; Read 1992.
<b>Description</b>	Former cinema and later snooker hall on the site of a 17 <sup>th</sup> century tannery (Site <b>34</b> ). The Old Castle Cinema was a large building, fronted with shops, built in the later 1920s and opened in 1928 by the Egremont Cinema Company, initially showing silent films, but was adapted to show talking pictures. The first film shown was Rio Rita, at prices of 1d on wooden seats and 2d and 3d on upholstered seats at the rear of the cinema (Read 1992, 48). The cinema suffered as audiences declined following the introduction of the television, and officially closed in 1976. The building was used temporarily as a bingo hall before it was converted, initially in the 1980s, into a snooker hall which saw the creation of two level floors above the original sloping surface (NPA 2003, 12). An evaluation in 2003 in advance of redevelopment found a cobbled path and pit of unknown date to the west of the cinema, and material from a demolished tannery building was found inside the cinema in one of the former shops fronting Bookwell Road (NPA 2003, iv).

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Two evaluation trenches were excavated in 2010 for a residential development on the site of the old cinema and found further evidence of the earlier tannery (Site 34). The construction and demolition of the cinema had heavily disturbed the majority of the site however (NPA 2011).

**Assessment** The route of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert runs along the north-east side of the site, so it may be affected by the works.

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**Site number** 34  
**Site** Bookwell Tannery  
**NGR** 300970 510570  
**Site Type** Tannery.  
**HER number** 12341  
**Statutory Designation** None recorded.  
**Period** Post-medieval (Georgian).  
**Source** HER; Ordnance Survey; NPA 2003.  
**Description** The site of a tannery, appearing as a U-shaped building on nineteenth century Ordnance Survey mapping. The largest tannery in the town was built at Bookwell in 1720 by Thomas Nicholson of Bigrigg on land that had been formerly part of the castle grounds (Site 35). It closed in 1911 and was demolished to make way for the building of the Old Castle Cinema (Site 33), visible on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey (NPA 2003, 10). In May 1922, during the demolition of the old tannery on Bookwell Road, 'old stonework' was recovered which had been reused as part of the tannery, but may originally have been part of the original town gate projecting from the castle (NPA 2003, 10).  
 An evaluation in 2003 in advance of redevelopment found a cobbled path and pit of unknown date to the west of the cinema, and material from a demolished tannery building in one of the former shops fronting Bookwell Road (NPA 2003, iv).

**Assessment** The site lies within 20m of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert, approximately 65m to the south of the new floodgate and flood defence wall, and may be affected by the works.

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**Site number** 35  
**Site** Egremont Castle  
**NGR** 300970 510460  
**Site Type** Motte and bailey castle.  
**HER number** 3051  
**Statutory Designation** Scheduled Ancient Monument (UID 34977; List entry no. 1020455); Listed Building Grade I (UID 76123; List entry no. 1137138)  
**Period** Late medieval.  
**Source** HER; Cantor 1983, 20; Clare 1982; Crawford and George 1983, 15; Curwen 1913, 134-7; English Heritage 2014a; 2014b; GSB Prospection 2002; Pevsner 1967, 124; LUAU 1998; OA North 2002; 2004; 2009; NPA 2003; 2004; Anon 1958, 191; Knowles and Jackson *CW* 6, 162  
**Description** North of present castle, remains of an earlier Norman motte which can be seen on Buck's print of 1739. The castle itself founded by William de Meschines 1130-40; west wall and gatehouse earliest surviving work (mid 12<sup>th</sup> century). Sandstone blocks on chamfered plinth. West wall has extensive section of herringbone masonry, retains some embrasures. Keep to north end of mound, with courtyard. All ruinous. Gatehouse refaced 14<sup>th</sup> century, has Norman wok preserved inside, vaulted by a domical rib-vault. Hall block had hall on upper floor. Appears to be first half of 13<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner 1967, 124).  
 According to L Cantor, there was a park at Egremont from 1332 onwards. The name 'Parkfield' at NY 00 99 may suggest its location.  
 A watching brief was undertaken in 1998 during the repair of a revetment wall at the castle on behalf of Copeland District Council as part of an ongoing programme of work to enhance the appearance of the monument, and to increase both its educational and tourism potential. The works involved dismantling two sections of

wall, one at the north-eastern, and a second at the southern end of the castle mound. A total of six architectural fragments were recovered from the southern section of wall, comprising two plinth stones, a section of an arched window head, part of a mullion sill, and a block with a narrow hollow moulding on one edge. It is likely that all these fragments originally came from the castle (LUAU 1998).

A watching brief was carried out by Carlisle Archaeology Ltd from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2000 when a possible section of the castle perimeter wall was demolished. The results were not published (Hopkins).

The Scheduled monument includes the earthworks and the upstanding and buried remains of Egremont Castle, together with its associated castle garth which formed the outer defences of the monument. It began as a Norman motte and bailey castle but later developed into an enclosure castle. It is strategically located on an elevated knoll high above a crossing point of the River Ehen, and consists of an artificially raised earthen mound known as a motte together with an enclosure associated bailey. A broad ditch on the west side separates the motte and bailey from a lower castle garth which runs around the west, north and east sides of the motte and bailey.

Cumbria County Council propose to re-evaluate the historical significance and importance of Egremont Castle (NY 009 105). A programme of archaeological survey, fabric reconsolidation, landscaping, and interpretation had already been conducted at the castle by the former Lancaster University Archaeological Unit in 1997, and a site archive was produced, which is now held at OA North. Accordingly, the County Council commissioned OA North to undertake an archaeological building investigation of the castle, collating and analysing the data within the site archive to produce an account of the castle's fabric and history, together with a phase plan. This work was carried out in February 2002, and involved no new fieldwork or research. The basic sequence of construction at Egremont is comparatively well understood; the layout of the castle suggests an original as an earthwork and timber fortification, perhaps of c 1125, with the castle being rebuilt in stone later in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. No major 13<sup>th</sup> century works have been identified, and the impressive south façade of the great hall is now usually attributed to the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. However, the bailey curtain wall may have been realigned at the north and some time between the major 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> century building episodes. Despite this broad understanding, significant questions remain to be answered. In the main, these concern the extent of the original 12<sup>th</sup> century curtain walls; the relationship of the castle to the town, and in particular any town defences; the disposition of buildings on the motte and within the bailey; and the layout of any outer defences such as barbican towers or palisades, which may have stood beyond the foot of the scarp which falls away from the bailey and motte. In order to address these issues in an appropriate and cost effective manner, a programme of geophysical survey has been recommended (OA North 2002).

In May 1922, during the demolition of the old tannery on Bookwell Road (Site 34), 'old stonework' was recovered which had been re-used as part of the tannery, but may originally been part of the original town gate projecting from the castle (NPA 2003, 10).

A watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of test pits in relation to improvements to an existing sewer immediately to the east of the castle. No significant deposits or features however. All deposits observed were associated with the existing services located within the test pits. A substantial amount of post-medieval pottery was recovered, suggesting that installation of the existing services may have truncated archaeologically significant deposits (OA North 2004).

A watching brief was conducted in November 2004 during the excavation of foundations for a flagpole on the castle motte. No archaeological features were observed, and the deposits of building rubble, slate and sandstone rubble that were seen suggest a high level of disturbance had taken place (NPA 2004).

#### Assessment

The route of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert runs along the edge of the Scheduled Monument area which may be affected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Key Escutcheon Find</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300945 510445
<b>Site Type</b>	Findspot (key escutcheon)
<b>HER number</b>	19535
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Richardson 1999, 31.
<b>Description</b>	see Richardson 1999, 31
<b>Assessment</b>	The findspot is marked at NGR 3000 5100 but the description records its location as NGR 300945 510445, which is approximately 190m to the south of the new floodgate and flood defence wall and 75m east of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert. Findspots are not always accurately located, so their significance is sometimes difficult to assess. The site should be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Greendyke Flax Mill</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300820 510380
<b>Site Type</b>	
<b>HER number</b>	12340
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval
<b>Source</b>	HER; Mannix and Whellan 1847; Bulmer 1883.
<b>Description</b>	Greendyke Flax Mill – the building is still there but not apparently used as a mill. Lewthwaite and Sumpton 1883 Millwrights and Engineers and agricultural implement makers. The 1847 directory lists under tanners – Fletcher, Geo. Greendykes. In the late 1850s it was owned by Thomas Chapman and Co and was a steam powered flax mill.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies approximately 300m to the south-west of the new floodgate and flood defence wall, approximately 210m from the southern end of repairs to Skirting Beck culvert, and will be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Low House / Ashley Grove Farm</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300020 510180
<b>Site Type</b>	Farmstead.
<b>HER number</b>	43393
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Post-medieval (Georgian).
<b>Source</b>	HER; Ordnance Survey; Donald 1774; Greenwood 1822.
<b>Description</b>	A property named Low House is shown on Donald's map of 1774 and Greenwood's map of 1822. It is shown on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps as a long linear farmstead with one building to the rear. Modern Ordnance Survey maps show the farm much expanded and now named Ashley Grove Farm.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site lies approximately 140m to the west of the south flood storage area and will be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Egremont Park</b>
<b>NGR</b>	301000 509500
<b>Site Type</b>	Deer park.
<b>HER number</b>	43697
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.

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<b>Period</b>	Medieval.
<b>Source</b>	HER.
<b>Description</b>	Site of a deer park.
<b>Assessment</b>	The site extends to within approximately 270m of the south-east edge of the south flood storage area. The east end of repairs to Whangs Beck culvert will be within the site's northern limit and it may be unaffected by the works.

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<b>Site number</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Egremont Common</b>
<b>NGR</b>	300000 51000
<b>Site Type</b>	Cairn field and stone circle.
<b>HER number</b>	5341
<b>Statutory Designation</b>	None recorded.
<b>Period</b>	Prehistoric.
<b>Source</b>	HER; Hutchinson 1794, 25.
<b>Description</b>	Cairns and circles reported by Hutchinson in 1794 on Egremont Common. May be same as SMR 1184 and SMR 1198.
<b>Assessment</b>	This site is marked approximately 250m to the west of the south flood storage area. It is possibly unlikely to be unaffected by the works, but its full extent is unknown.

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## APPENDIX 2: LISTED BUILDING INFORMATION

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**Name:** EGREMONT CASTLE

**List entry Number:** 1137138

**Location:** EGREMONT CASTLE, GREEN DYKES, EGREMONT, COPELAND, CUMBRIA

**Grade:** I

**Description:** Mid 12<sup>th</sup> century castle with later additions and alterations, established by William de Meschines *c* 1120. The west wall and gatehouse are the earliest surviving elements (mid 12<sup>th</sup> century). Sandstone blocks on chamfered plinth; the west wall incorporates extensive sections of herringbone masonry and retains some embrasures. The keep, to the north end of the mound and courtyard are all ruinous. The west gateway has a round-headed entrance arch; internally, a column in each corner carries remains of a domical rib-vault. The south wall of the keep was rebuilt mid 13<sup>th</sup> century; the doorway on the left retains the portcullis and draw-bar slots. The castle and its surrounds are a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

**National Grid Reference:** NY0098010474

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