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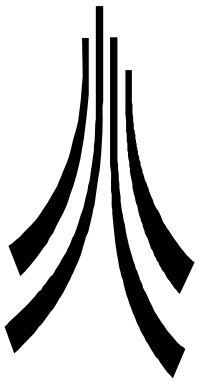

February 1997

GREAT ASBY

Cumbria

Archaeological Assessment Report

Commissioned by:

North West Water Ltd

Great Asby,
Appleby

Cumbria

Archaeological Assessment Report

Checked by Project Manager. ..... Date
Passed for submission to client. ..... Date

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The documentary research was undertaken by Caron Newman and the field survey by Chris Wild. The report was compiled by Caron Newman and Chris Wild, and edited by Jamie Quartermaine (Project Manager) and Rachel Newman (Assistant Director). The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological assessment was carried out in advance of a sewerage scheme in the village of Great Asby in Cumbria (centred on NGR NY 6813). The assessment area comprised the main streets of the village, and three fields at the eastern end, where a sewage treatment works and storm-water outfalls have been proposed. The work was carried out by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit on behalf of North West Water ltd in January 1997. The work comprised a desk-based study, compiling data from the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record and the Cumbria Record Office in Kendal, as well as a rapid field inspection.

Five sites were located in the desk-based study in the area of the village of Great Asby. Within the village centre is a seventeenth century rectory, with a fourteenth century wing (SMR 01750) and a well spring (SMR 03903). The village and its surrounding fields form a hazard area (SMR 06740), within which are the earthwork remains of a farmstead and associated ridge and furrow (SMR 05830). To the north-east of the village is Marble Mill (SMR 15025), which is marked on the OS 1st edition maps (1859) but which may have medieval origins. Place-name evidence indicates that the earliest settlement of Asby may have pre-Conquest, Scandinavian origins. However, the present village of Great Asby is probably a deliberately planted settlement around a green, dating back to the eleventh or twelfth centuries.

The proposed treatment works, in the south-eastern part of the study area, was enclosed in the early nineteenth century from common grazing land. Although it is presently permanent pasture, it has only recently been improved from rough pasture, which involved putting drainage trenches through the area. The field inspection revealed the former course of a stream through the study area and also revealed an earthen bank forming a relict field boundary, and the northern tip of another relict field boundary, located at a butt-joint in the wall.

The north-eastern section of the study area, where there is a proposed effluent and storm-water outfall pipe, revealed a canalised stream with an associated ford, the remains of a possible bridge, and a retaining wall for the stream in the north-eastern corner. The western field of the survey, where there is a proposed outfall, revealed a late twentieth century tip in a small walled enclosure at the southern edge of the study area.

The south-western field of the study area has the potential for sub-surface archaeological remains associated with the village. It is recommended that some trial trenches be undertaken in this area prior to the implementation of the sewerage scheme. At the same time it is recommended that a limited number of trial trenches are excavated within the area of the proposed treatment works, and the associated outfall in order to confirm that the area has little archaeological potential. As the pipe runs through the centre of a medieval village, there is the potential for the discovery of frontages of early structures. It is therefore recommended that a watching brief be undertaken during this element of the programme.

This recommended programme of archaeological works will be subject to the requirements of the County Archaeologist.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) on behalf of North West Water ltd, in advance of a proposed mains sewerage development of pasture land in and around Great Asby, near Appleby, Cumbria (centred on NGR NY 6813). The study area consisted of two fields to the east of the village, a small walled enclosure and an area of pasture behind, situated on the eastern edge of the village, and the main streets, on either side of Asby Beck, running through the village.

1.2 The purpose of the assessment was to collate existing archaeological information from various sources, and to carry out an identification survey to record any surface archaeological remains.

1.3 The desk-based study consisted of a search of existing records held by the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), and the Cumbria County Record Office in Kendal (CRO) as well as available secondary sources. Both published and unpublished sources were examined. Due to time constraints, the field survey was carried out in parallel with the desk-based study. The desk-based survey was undertaken between the 29th January and 1st February 1997 and the identification survey was undertaken on the 31st January 1997.

1.4 This report sets out the results of the work as a gazetteer in conjunction with a methodology statement, a brief text description of desk-based and field results, an assessment of the archaeological potential within the study area, and an evaluation of the impact that the development proposals will have upon the archaeological resource.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A Project Design (*Appendix 2*) was submitted by LUAU, in response to a request from North West Water Ltd, for an archaeological assessment of the proposed development of a mains sewerage system, at Great Asby, near Appleby, Cumbria (centred NGR NY 6760 1355). This was designed to meet the requirements of a verbal Project Brief by the Cumbria County Archaeologist.

2.1.2 The Project Design provided for an initial archaeological assessment involving a desk top survey and identification field survey, the results of which are presented in this report. The work has been carried out entirely in accordance with the Project Design.

2.2 DESK-BASED STUDY

2.2.1 For the purposes of the present assessment the study area was taken to be 1km from the northern end of Great Asby, although the historical background (*Section 4.1*) relates to a much larger area, which includes the parishes of Asby, Crosby Garrett and Crosby Ravensworth.

2.2.2 Existing archaeological information was obtained from the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). Aerial photographic evidence of the study area, held by the SMR, was also examined.

2.2.3 Manuscript maps and selected other documents were studied in the Cumbria Record Offices in Kendal, along with published antiquarian sources. The availability of manuscript maps in the CRO was limited, but included enclosure maps of 1849 (CRO WQR/I 3; WQR/I 2) and tithe maps of 1843 (CRO WDRC/8/205, Parts 1 and 2), of which a tracing was made of the relevant parts. The enclosure maps were examined but did not show any areas of relevance to the assessment. Copies of the first edition Ordnance Survey (25 inches to one mile, Sheet 22:3, 1859) maps of the Great Asby area were also taken (Fig 2).

2.3 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

2.3.1 A field inspection was carried out by LUAU, in accordance with a verbal brief by the County Archaeologist, in order to evaluate the area of proposed development by non-intrusive methods.

2.3.3 The archaeological features were located by systematic ground reconnaissance. The archaeological detail as well as significant topographic detail were mapped to an accuracy of +- 10m, by measurement with respect to the field boundaries.

2.4 GAZETTEER OF SITES

2.4.1 The collated information on the site and its immediate environs has been presented in the form of a gazetteer (*Section 7*) in conjunction with an annotated map at 1:10,000 scale (Fig 3) showing the sites identified from documentary sources and a 1:1,250 map showing the identification survey results (Fig 4). Locations are given as eight-figure National Grid References where possible. A summary description of each site is provided in conjunction with a reference to the source of the information (SMR, cartographic, documentary, field inspection) with references as appropriate. An assessment has been given of the interpretation and archaeological potential of the site. Other sites within and around the village, which were considered to be of background relevance, are mentioned in the text with appropriate SMR references.

2.5 ARCHIVE

2.5.1 A full archive of the desk top survey and field inspection has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The archive will be deposited with the County Record Office (Kendal) and a copy of the report will be given to the SMR. A copy of the archive will also be available for deposition with the National Monuments Record in Swindon.

2.6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

2.6.1 Both Lancaster University and LUAU maintain Safety Policies, the latter based on the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Unit Managers) Health and Safety Manual (1991). In keeping with current Health and Safety at Work Regulations, prior to commencing on-site work, a risk assessment for each activity was completed. Due regard was given to all Health and Safety considerations during all aspects of the project.

3. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.1 LOCATION

3.1.1 The village of Great Asby lies on the south-west side of the Eden valley, in an area of rolling pasture land. To the south, the land rises up onto Asby Winderwath Common and an area of limestone pavement, known as Great Asby Scar.

3.1.2 The village is a linear settlement, based around a central green, on which the church is situated. Asby Beck runs through the centre of the village, along the southern edge of the green and then joins the River Eden.

3.1.3 The assessment area comprises the main streets of the village, and three fields at the north-eastern end of the village where the treatment works, overflow pipe and effluent/stormwater outfall will be sited.

3.2 GEOLOGY

3.2.1 The underlying geology is Dinantian Limestone of the Carboniferous Series (OS Geological Map 1959, Sheet 3; Inst. Geol. Sci. 1980, Sheet 54N 04W, 1:25000 Series).

4. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

4.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1.1 ***Great Asby Environs:*** The area around Great Asby, particularly on the uplands to the south, has a considerable wealth of prehistoric remains (RCHM 1936). There is a considerable number of funerary monuments across the extent of these uplands, particularly round cairns of the Bronze Age; however there is also a long cairn at Rayseat Pike (Crosby Garrett Fell), which is of Neolithic date. The area also includes a number of stone circles, notably that at White Hag, Oddendale and Castlehowe Scar within Crosby Ravensworth parish. The artefactual surveys of Jim Cherry (1987) have identified a substantial wealth of prehistoric lithics from across the Limestone uplands of Great Asby and Crosby Ravensworth fells. Much of this is of Bronze Age date, but a significant amount of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material was found in localised areas, notably Beacon Fell, near Orton Scar.

4.1.2 Later periods are similarly very well represented; there is a particularly large number of enclosed settlements within the parishes of Asby, Crosby Ravensworth and Crosby Garrett (RCHM 1936). A minority of these have a form which is typologically of Iron Age date notably the hillfort at Castle Folds on Great Asby Scar; this is both naturally defended and has a large defensive wall with hut circles set into its internal face. Similarly there is also an Iron Age type of enclosed settlement at Gilts Farm, south of Crosby Ravensworth. The majority of enclosed settlements, however, are of a form typologically ascribed to the Romano-British period, although they may have had Iron Age origins. The most notable is the very large enclosed settlement at Ewe Close (south-west of Crosby Ravensworth), which was excavated by Collingwood and produced Romano-British pottery (Collingwood 1909). As well as this notable example there are at least twelve others within the parishes of Asby, Crosby Garrett and Crosby Ravensworth, including one at Holborn Hill, only 0.8km from Great Asby (RCHM 1936). This density of such settlement is greater than from any other area of north-west England and testifies that this area was relatively heavily occupied during this period. By implication it is likely that the better drained lowlands were also heavily occupied.

4.1.3 ***Asby Parish:*** The study area lies entirely within the village of Great Asby, which is a township within the large parish of Asby, also including the settlement of Little Asby. The settlement has demonstrable medieval origins; the name Asby derives from Old Scandinavian *askr* + *bý*, which means the farmstead or village where the ash trees grow (Mills 1991, 13), and recently a hoard of pre-Conquest metalwork has been discovered in the parish which has added weight to the argument for pre-Conquest activity in this area (R M Newman pers comm).

4.1.4 It appears that the parish was originally one manor, which was subsequently divided into Great and Little Asby. Great Asby was then divided into Asby Winderwath and Coatsford (Nicholson and Burn 1777, 508; Whellan, 1860, 724); Asby Winderwath lay on the north side of the village green, and Asby Coatsford to the south. By the mid-nineteenth century, these three manors were described as townships, which were merely divisions of the parish (Richardson 1989, 35).

4.1.5 Little Asby may have been the original settlement, and was sometimes called Old Asby (*Askby Vetus*) (Nicholson and Burn 1777, 508), although it is not known when the settlement originated. Given the parish name is Old Scandinavian, as well as the discovery of the hoard of pre-Conquest metalwork, it is likely that there was pre-Conquest settlement in the area, although it probably comprised dispersed farmsteads or hamlets, rather than the present nucleated village (Taylor 1983, 125); Professor Rosemary Cramp has suggested that the hoard may imply a pre-Conquest monastic settlement in the area (R M Newman pers comm).

4.1.6 The parish of Asby is first mentioned in documents in the reign of Henry II (1154-1189), when it appears that the parish had already been divided into the three manors (Nicholson and Burn 1777, 508-510). These earliest documents are land grants, in which the lords of the three manors are mentioned as witnesses. Asby Winderwath was held by the De Askeby family, Asby Coatsford (also Cotesford or Coatsforth) by the De Cotesford family, and Little Asby by the D'Engleys (or English) family.

4.1.7 The De Askeby family held the manor of Asby Winderwath, and they retained the manor up until the early fourteenth century (Whellan 1860, 724). The last of the De Askeby family to hold the manor was Robert, a knight of the shire, who held land in Great Asby and Winderwath by Cornage (a rent paid by a tenant based on the number of horned cattle owned; it is thought to originate in pre-Norman tenure (Kapelle 1979)). His daughter Margaret married Hugh de Moresby, into whose family the manor passed in the 1340s (Whellan 1860, 724).

4.1.8 The manor of Asby Coatsford was held by the De Coatsford family up until the second half of the fifteenth century, when John de Cotesford appears to have been the last of his family. The manor passed into the hands of the Musgraves, from whom it was purchased by James Park in 1800, whose son was lord of the manor in 1860 (Whellan 1860, 727), and who lived in Asby Hall.

4.1.9 The parish church of St Peter, situated in the centre of the village green, is of medieval origins, although the present building dates to 1866 (Pevsner 1967, 248). It is first mentioned in 1299, when Robert de Askeby founded a chantry in the church. The patronage of the church, which is a rectory, is with the holder of the manor of Asby Winderwath (Whellan 1860, 725).

4.2 CUMBRIA SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

4.2.1 An examination of the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) revealed five sites in the assessment area (rectory - Site 01; well - Site 02; farmstead and ridge and furrow - Site 03; Great Asby village hazard area - Site 04; Asby Marble Mill Site 05), which are described in the gazetteer (*Section 7*). Four of sites are medieval in origin (Sites 01-04) and the mill (Site 05) is of Post-medieval date. The farmstead and ridge and furrow (Site 03) is to the south of the village and is remote from the proposed sewerage scheme.

4.2.2 The well, known as St Helen's well, is a spring at the north-east end of the village green (Site 02). It is walled around, with steps leading down to it, and originally

had stone benches lining the walls (Nicholson and Burn 1777, 507). The name St Helen is often associated with pagan sites that have been christianised.

4.2.3 The rectory (Site 01) partly dates to the fourteenth century. The earliest part of the building is possibly a pele tower (Pevsner 1967, 248), but is perhaps more likely to be the solar wing of a hall that has now gone. It lies on the south side of the village.

4.2.4 The mill (Site 05) lies to the north-west of the village, and once had a mill pond formed by damming Asby Beck (Tithe Map, WDrc/8/205).

4.3 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

4.3.1 Around the village, and partly within the village hazard area (Site 04), are well-preserved strip fields. These long narrow fields were created by the early enclosure of sub-divided common fields, and preserve the shape of the tenants' land holdings. The strip fields in Great Asby appear to have changed little from the early nineteenth century, when they are depicted on both the OS 1st edition 25 inch to 1 mile and tithe maps. Outside the immediate area of the village, other fields also reflect this pattern of early enclosure. In addition there are larger, more regular field shapes, which are probably the result of later, early nineteenth century enclosure of common grazing land. The proposed treatment works is sited in one of these later enclosed fields which has not changed in layout since the OS 1st edition map (1859). This general field pattern is common to the area of the Eden Valley, which appears to consist principally of extensive areas of piecemeal enclosed common fields with later regular/rectilinear eighteenth to nineteenth century enclosures of open moor and fell side (LUAU 1995, 10).

4.3.2 The field through which the proposed overflow pipe will be situated is marked as a field on the nineteenth century maps, although the tithe map does show a structure in the immediate environs of the field. The small enclosure next to the road is on the OS 1st edition (1859).

4.3.3 The village street pattern appears to be little changed from the early nineteenth century, and is likely to reflect the medieval street pattern. However, it is also likely that the exact route of the streets may have changed slightly, along with the positions of the buildings in their plots since the Medieval period.

4.3.4 Outside the village, to the north-east, is Marble Mill (Site 05). This building is recorded in the SMR (no 15025), and is recorded on the OS 1st edition map (1859). The tithe map (WDRC/8/205 1843) shows what appears to be a mill pond between the mill and the village, formed by damming Asby Beck. The date of the current mill is nineteenth century; however, it is likely to have medieval origins. In the reign of Henry III (1216-1272), a grant of land was made from Robert de Askeby to Adam, son of Hugh de Sourby. It included the right to grind their corn at his mill of 'Winanderwhat' multure free, that is without paying the miller for grinding the corn at the manorial mill (Nicholson and Burn 1777, 508).

4.3.5 The village appears to preserve the medieval pattern of houses, streets and fields. The pattern represents a planned settlement, laid out as a partly-regular double row

of houses laid out around a long narrow green (Roberts 1989, fig. 4.4). This type of planned settlement based on rows is common in the Eden valley (Roberts 1989, 69).

4.4 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

4.4.1 The topographic survey of the proposed development area identified the following features:

4.4.2 ***Eastern field:*** The proposed treatment works will be in the easternmost field. A canalised stream was observed running south, along the eastern edge of the field (Site 06). This had been diverted from its former location 12m to the west (Site 07), where there was a meandering bank 0.40m high on the east of a ditch *c*1m wide, with a bank 0.2m high on the west side. At its junction with the northern field boundary there was a hole in the wall for the water to flow under.

4.4.3 A relict field boundary was also observed (Site 03), aligned approximately north-west/south-east, perpendicular to the present road. It survived to a height of only 0.15m and was *c* 1m wide. It was not observed in the northernmost 12m where the land slopes more steeply. This could possibly be an element of a relict field system; however, from personal communication with the previous farmer, there is also the possibility that it results from recent landscaping. There are also occasional shallow ridges up to 0.4m high and 2m wide, running south from this bank (Sites 09 and 11). These could possibly be remains of ridge and furrow, but again are more likely to be drainage features resulting from the reclamation of the land in recent years.

4.4.4 A shallow hollow-way was observed running south, up the hill from the main gate into the field (Site 10). It survived to a depth of 0.3m, was 2m wide, and extended up the field for *c*20m. It was badly disturbed, containing several small mounds, most probably resultant from the recent infilling of parts of the field.

4.4.5 The northern wall of the field contains a butt joint with a small bank immediately to the south (Site 12). To the west of this joint the wall is similar to that along the eastern boundary of the field, being constructed of limestone, with two courses of through-stones. To the east, however, the wall is of lower quality and contains much sandstone. This wall, which also butts the eastern boundary wall, is of recent construction. The bank (Site 12) immediately to the south of a butt joint in the northern wall appears to be the return of the earlier wall marked on current 1:10,000 mapping. This field boundary has subsequently been removed to create a larger field.

4.4.6 ***Northern field:*** An effluent/stormwater outfall is proposed within this field. The narrow strip of land of the study area contained the continuation of the canalised stream (Site 06) and its banks. The stream followed an approximately straight line, north, through this field, until 20m from Asby Beck, where it turned sharply to the east, and ran *c* 20m until it joins the beck. From *c* 3m east of the bend in the canalised stream, to the junction with the beck, the southern bank was stone revetted up to a height of 0.7m (Site 14).

4.4.7 The canalised stream running north-west is *c* 0.4m wide and was in a ditch *c* 0.4m deep and 2m wide. Approximately 40m from the southern field boundary the remains of a crossing were observed (Site 15). The banks on either side of the ditch had been cut back *c*1.5m to produce a much shallower slope which contained rounded cobbles and occasional larger stone slabs (up to 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5m); two slabs were also observed in the stream at this point. This produced a crossing point approximately 2m wide. Immediately to the north of this, several stone blocks (*c* 0.4 x 0.4 x 0.2m) were observed set within the banks of the stream on either side (Site 16). These could possibly be the remains of the footings of a bridge across the stream, although the alignment is at an angle across the stream.

4.4.8 ***South-western field:*** The south-western study area is the location for the proposed overflow pipe, immediately to the east of the village. It contains an area *c* 15m x 5m which is enclosed within a dry stone wall, immediately to the north of the road. Inspection of the area revealed a shallow depression *c* 1 x 2.5m in the north-eastern corner of the enclosure (Site 17). A drainage hole from this feature through the wall was also revealed. This feature was filled with late twentieth century rubbish, and may be an earlier tip as well.

4.4.9 The field to the north of the south-western study area revealed only a canalised stream, similar to those observed in the eastern study area, which was aligned south-west / north-east, parallel to Asby Beck.

4.4.10 ***Main streets through Great Asby:*** The area of proposed development down the main streets, on either side of Asby Beck, revealed no surface archaeological features. The area is presently covered by metalled roads.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

5.1.1 The original settlement in Asby was said by Nicholson and Burn (1777, 508) to be at Little Asby. However, given that the family retaining the parish name (De Askeby) held Asby Winderwath, that Winderwath was held by Cornage (a pre-Norman rental) and that the patronage of the church was with the holder of the manor of Winderwath, there is a real possibility that Asby Winderwath was the Caput township. There is therefore a possibility that there was a settlement in this locality which pre-dated William Rufus's conquest of the area, though it is most likely to have taken the form of a hamlet or group of farmsteads, rather than a village, although there is also a possibility of an early monastic settlement within the parish (*Section 4.1.5*).

5.1.2 The origins of medieval nucleated settlement in Cumbria are very uncertain, because of the lack of early documented evidence; an early place-name does not necessarily indicate that the original settlement had a nucleated form and it has been argued that there was little nucleated settlement prior to the Norman Conquest (Roberts 1989). It is therefore possible that Great Asby dates only from the twelfth or even the eleventh century. The manorial history, as presented by Nicholson and Burn (1777, 508), of one manor being split into two and then three, appears to be complicated, with little documentary evidence to support it. The feudal manor of Asby would probably have been based on an earlier territorial sub-division but, in the sense of a medieval manor, would only have come into existence after the Norman conquest of the area in 1092, during the reign of William Rufus (Phythian-Adams 1996, 24-25). Immediately prior to this the area had been in the hands of the Scottish kings, to whom it reverted during the Anarchy of Stephen's reign (1133-54). It was only with the accession of Henry II in 1154 that some stability was brought to the area.

5.1.3 The disputes between the Norman and Scottish kings over the area would have made the establishment of new villages an uncertain prospect, although it can be argued that the establishment of military control (the building of castles) and the planting of settlements went hand in hand (Roberts 1989, 64). It would also appear that market centres in Cumbria were being created during the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries (Winchester 1987), encouraging the development of the economy. It is possible that the founding of the planned village, along with the establishment of the three manors, of Asby Winderwath, Asby Coatsford and Little Asby, date to the reign of Henry II.

5.2 SOUTH-WESTERN STUDY AREA AND VILLAGE

5.2.1 There is no available early cartographic evidence to provide an indication of the maximum size of the village. However, the current field pattern, and house plots suggest a well-preserved medieval pattern, and there may be medieval buildings lying close to, or under the edge of, the current course of the village streets. There may also be remains of medieval structures within the fields through which the overflow pipe will pass.

5.2.2 In the south-western study area a small walled enclosure with a depressed feature was revealed in the north-east corner of the field. This area is currently a tip, but may have previously had a similar function. A hole in the base of the wall in the north-east corner allowed drainage into the canalised stream running immediately to the north.

5.3 NORTHERN STUDY AREA

5.3.1 The effluent and stormwater pipe will extend through a field enclosed in the nineteenth century and will outfall to the beck adjacent to Marble Mill. Within the field two canalised streams were observed, and at the beck there were two crossings; a ford and the possible remains of a bridge. There is the potential that there were outfall features from the mill at this point in the beck, although none have been identified.

5.4 SOUTH-EASTERN STUDY AREA (PROPOSED TREATMENT WORKS)

5.4.1 The field in which the treatment works will be sited appears to have been part of the common grazing land up to the early nineteenth century (WDRC/8/205). Many of the undulations noted in the fields are probably natural, resulting from outcrops of the underlying limestone. The field has been recently improved when it was reclaimed from rough / moorland pasture, and it is probable that some of the identified features within this field relate to this episode. In particular Site 09 was probably an area of drainage as the separation between ridges is very wide (*c* 8.5m) and there is a possibility that Site 08, an associated bank, was also related to the drainage.

5.4.2 There is, however, the residual remains of a field boundary (Site 12), which is shown on current 1:10,000 mapping, but which is no longer in use.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 IMPACT

6.1.1 This assessment has highlighted the potential for archaeological remains within and around the study area. Any sub-surface remains would be vulnerable to disturbance caused by the proposed sewerage scheme. In addition other sites, not detectable by documentary study or surface inspection, may exist.

6.1.2 Although the sewerage pipes will be laid along the village streets, thus avoiding current house plots, it is still possible that archaeological remains will be disturbed. The exact routes of the streets often vary through time, only becoming fixed with the use of tarmacadam, and it is possible that there are the remains of earlier buildings which now underlie the roads. The pipeline route also passes close to St Helens Well (Site 02). There are known deserted plots and farmstead sites within the village (Site 03), and others may lie along the village streets.

6.1.3 The tithe map shows a structure in the area of the south-western study area (Section 4.3.2) and there is a possibility that there may be extant sub-surface remains that have not been disturbed by the present tip.

6.1.4 The northern and eastern study areas were enclosed from common rough pasture land and there is a reduced likelihood of finding later sub-surface archaeological remains within the field. However, the general area does have a considerable wealth of prehistoric and Roman remains, which usually survive in unimproved moorland areas and consequently there is a possibility that there could be early remains in this topographic context. The stormwater/effluent pipe will outfall into Asby Beck adjacent to Marble Mill. The mill was fed by a leat from a dammed pool to the south-west of the mill, but there is the potential of an outfall from the mill in the vicinity of the pipe outfall. There is also a former bridge and ford crossing which may be affected by the proposed outfall.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2.1 Current policy dictates that wherever possible identified sites of archaeological importance are preserved *in-situ* as embodied in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* and the *Department of Environment Planning Policy Guidance Note 16*. The present preliminary assessment, being restricted in its scope, was able to establish areas of limited archaeological potential but other sites not detectable by documentary study or surface inspection may exist. It is therefore recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation be undertaken to investigate the archaeological resource and to establish reliably the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

6.2.2 A limited programme of trial trenching is recommended to investigate the areas of greatest potential, particularly the south-western study area. It also serves as an exploratory survey technique to examine areas seemingly devoid of archaeological features, which would include the area of the proposed treatment works (eastern study area). Early archaeological features may survive only as sub-surface features

and consequently the trenching programme should not concentrate solely in areas with identified surface features. The distribution and extent of any trenching programme, however, should be subject to the specific archaeological recommendations of the County Archaeological Officer, whose views should be sought prior to proceeding with any further work on the site.

6.2.3 It is recommended that a watching brief is carried out during the trenching along the village streets, in order to record any structures preserved below the current street surface. Care should also be taken to avoid any disturbance of St Helens Well.

6.2.4 Subject to the results of the recommended evaluation, there may be a requirement, by the County Archaeological Officer, for a further programme of detailed archaeological mitigation recording to anticipate the destruction of the archaeological resource by the sewerage scheme.

7. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number **01**
Site name Great Asby
NGR NY 68050 13140
Site type House, pele?
Period medieval/post-medieval
Source SMR 01750
Description
The Old Rectory, is probably a seventeenth century house, constructed with a fourteenth century wing. The wing may be a pele tower, but is more probably a solar wing for a medieval hall.
Assessment
The site lies to the south of the village green and street, and will not be affected by the proposed sewerage scheme.

Site number **02**
Site name St Helens Well
NGR NY 68170 13280
Site type Well
Period Medieval
Source SMR 03903
Status Listed Grade II
Description
A medicinal well, comprising a spring in a rectangular enclosure surrounded by a wall.
Assessment
The site lies close to the route of the northern sewerage pipe.

Site number **03**
Site name Great Asby
NGR NY 68600 12900
Site type Farmstead, ridge and furrow
Period Medieval/post-medieval
Source SMR 05830
Description
A field under permanent pasture which contains traces of an earlier farmstead and surrounding ridge and furrow.
Assessment
The site lies outside the assessment area.

Site number **04**
Site name Great Asby Village, hazard area
NGR NY 68000 13000
Site type Village
Period Medieval
Source SMR 06740

Description
Medieval village around a long narrow green. An early toft and croft system survives at Great Asby, with fields extending out from the property boundaries and these contain ridge and furrow earthworks.
Assessment
The sewerage scheme will lie partly within the hazard area.

Site number **05**
Site name Asby Marble Mill
NGR NY 68555 13720
Site type Mill
Period Post-medieval
Source SMR 15025
Description
Mill to the north-east of the village, with an associated mill pond shown on the OS 1st edn (1859).
Assessment
The mill lies close to the end of the proposed effluent and stormwater outfall.

Site Number **06**
Type Canalised stream
Period Modern
NGR NY 6865 1360
Source Identification Survey
Description
A canalised stream aligned parallel to the eastern boundary of the eastern field of the study area. The western bank was 0.4m high, the eastern being slightly shallower and only 0.15m high. At the northern end of the field both sides were stone revetted for a distance of *c* 2m, but many of the stones have subsequently been robbed. The stream flows under the northern wall, under the road, into the northern field and then into Asby Beck.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **07**
Type Course of former stream
Period Unknown
NGR NY 6864 1360
Source Identification Survey
Description
The meandering former course of the stream running through the eastern field.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **08**
Type Field boundary
Period Post-medieval?
NGR NY 6860 1358

Source Identification Survey
Description
A low earthen bank surviving to only 0.15m in height and *c* 2m wide, aligned parallel to the modern field boundaries. It may possibly be a relict field boundary; however, the land has only recently been reclaimed from rough moorland pasture, and may represent a drainage feature from this period.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **09**
Type Field system/drainage
Period Post-medieval?
NGR NY 6860 1357
Source Identification Survey
Description
An area of poorly preserved, possible ridge and furrow. The maximum height of the 'ridges' was 0.2m, and the average separation between the 'ridges' was *c* 8.5m. Two ridges, aligned parallel to the present field boundaries, survived for a length of *c* 10m, although these were truncated by modern disturbance. The area has recently been reclaimed from rough pasture and it is perhaps probable that they are drainage features.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **10**
Type Hollow-way
Period Post-medieval? Unknown
NGR NY 6859 1358
Source Identification Survey
Description
A hollow-way aligned north-west / south-east from the main gate in the south-eastern field, surviving for a length of *c* 20m. It survived to a maximum depth of 0.3m and a width of 2m, but was very badly disturbed by the modern infilling of depressions within this field.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **11**
Type Field system
Period Post-medieval? Unknown
NGR NY 6857 1353
Source Identification Survey
Description
An area of poorly preserved, possible ridge and furrow. The maximum height of crowns was 0.2m, the average distance between crowns was *c* 7.5m. Three ridges, aligned parallel to the present field boundaries, survived for a length of between 10m and 20m, although these were truncated by modern disturbance. Indeed, they may actually be modern drainage features. The area has recently been reclaimed from rough pasture and it is perhaps probable that they are drainage features.

Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **12**
Type Bank
Period Post-medieval?
NGR NY 6854 1355
Source Identification Survey
Description
A small bank 0.30m high and 1m wide, immediately to the south of a butt-joint in the northern field boundary wall. It is presumed to be the remains of a return wall running perpendicular to the northern field boundary, and is marked on the current 1:10,000 mapping.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **13**
Type Bank
Period Post-medieval?
NGR NY 6863 1361
Source Identification Survey
Description
A long, low, narrow bank, *c* 15m x 3m x 0.3m aligned parallel to the northern field boundary of the eastern field, and immediately behind it. It is probably debris from the earlier wall, but may also be modern infilling of a lower area of the field.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed treatment works.

Site Number **14**
Type Revetment wall
Period Modern
NGR NY 6860 1372
Source Identification Survey
Description
A revetment wall supporting the southern bank of the canalised stream, immediately to the west of its confluence with Asby Beck. It consisted of cut stones up to 0.4 x 0.4m in a dry stone wall of 0.7m high, and *c* 12m in length.
Assessment
The site is within the area of the proposed effluent/stormwater outfall.
Site Number **15**
Type Ford
Period Modern
NGR NY 6862 1367
Source Identification Survey
Description
The remains of a ford crossing the canalised stream in the centre of the northern field. Parts of the banks on either side of the stream had been removed for a distance of 2m. This area

of stream bank was partially covered with rounded cobbles and stone slabs up to 0.5 x 0.5m. Stone slabs were also observed in the bed of the stream, but the survival of the ford is not particularly good.

Assessment

The site is within the area of the proposed effluent/stormwater outfall.

Site Number **16**
Type Bridge
Period Post medieval / Modern
NGR NY 6862 1373
Source Identification Survey

Description

A concentration of stone blocks up to 0.4 x 0.4 x 0.2m set into the banks of the canalised stream, immediately to the north of Site 15. There are between five and six blocks on either side which are aligned at a slight angle across the stream. These are possibly the remains of bridge footings for a stream crossing.

Assessment

The site is within the area of the proposed effluent/stormwater outfall.

Site Number **17**
Type Tip
Period Modern / Unknown
NGR NY 6835 1342
Source Identification Survey

Description

A shallow, rectangular feature (2.5 x 1.0 x 0.3m), in the north-east corner of a walled enclosure in the western end of the study area. The feature was able to drain into the canalised stream immediately to the north of the wall via a specially built hole that appears contemporary with the wall. The feature is currently used as a rubbish tip, although it is unclear as to the original purpose of this feature. The site may originally have served as the village tip, as it is on the very edge of the village.

Assessment

The site is within the area of the proposed overflow pipe.

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APPENDIX 1
PROJECT DESIGN

Lancaster University Archaeological Unit

December 1996

GREAT ASBY
Near APPLEBY,

CUMBRIA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr Roy Rhodes, of North West Water Limited, for an archaeological assessment in advance of a sewerage scheme at Great Asby, near Appleby in Cumbria.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological assessment is required in advance of a sewerage scheme in Great Asby, near Appleby, Cumbria. The development will involve the laying of sewerage through the main streets of the village and the construction of a treatment works on a site to the east of the village. Within the area of the proposed treatment works are a series of earthworks, which may be archaeologically significant but could potentially also be of natural origin. The County Archaeologist has therefore recommended that an archaeological assessment be undertaken to establish the archaeological potential of the area.

1.2 The Lancaster University Archaeological Unit has considerable experience of the assessment and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects during the past 15 years. Evaluations and assessment have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. LUAU has the professional expertise and resource to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. LUAU and all its members of staff operate subject to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to provide an accurate archaeological assessment of the designated area, within its broader context. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

2.2 ***Desk Top Survey***
To accrue an organised body of data to inform the field inspection.

2.3 ***Identification Survey***
An identification survey to record the character of the extant earthworks within the study area and provide an assessment of the archaeological significance of the earthwork remains.

2.3 ***Assessment Report***
A written assessment report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. It will advise on the requirements for further evaluation or recording measures as necessary.

3. METHODS STATEMENT

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

3.2 DESK TOP SURVEY

3.2.1 The following will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of source material. The level of such work will be dictated by the timescale of the project.

3.2.2 ***Documentary and cartographic material:*** This work will rapidly address the full range of potential sources of information. It will include an appraisal of the Cumbria Sites and

Monuments Record, as well as appropriate sections of County histories, early maps, and such primary documentation (tithe and estate plans etc.) as may be reasonably available. Particular attention will be paid to field and place names recorded on early cartographic sources as these often provide important evidence of archaeological activity. Any photographic material lodged in either the County Sites and Monuments Record or the County Record Offices will also be studied. Published documentary sources will also be examined and assessed. This work will involve visits to the County Record Office in Carlisle.

3.2.3 ***Aerial photography:*** A survey of the extant air photographic cover will be undertaken. This may indicate the range and survival of archaeological and structural features in the designated area, and if appropriate coverage is available, allow an assessment of the rate and progress of erosion of archaeological features. It will also facilitate the rapid recognition and plotting of archaeological features including those no longer visible at ground level. Identified features will be accurately plotted at 1:10,000. Aerial photographic work may entail liaison with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments (England), although, within the timescale available, it is unlikely that prints will be forthcoming from this body for inclusion in this report.

3.2.4 ***Physical environment:*** A rapid desk-based compilation of geological (both solid and drift), pedological, topographical and palaeoenvironmental information will be undertaken. This will not only set the archaeological features in context but also serves to provide predictive data, that will increase the efficiency of the field inspection.

3.3 FIELD INSPECTION

3.3.1 ***Access:*** Liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through North West Water Limited.

3.3.2 It is proposed to undertake a level 1 survey (*Appendix 1*) of the study area. This is a rapid survey undertaken alongside a desk top study as part of a site assessment. It is an initial site inspection which helps the local planning authority to consider fully the archaeological implications of a development and also serves as the basis for undertaking and planning further archaeological work on the site. It represents the minimum standard of record and is appropriate to exploratory survey aimed at the discovery of previously unrecorded sites. Its aim is to record the existence, location and extent of any such site. The emphasis for the recording is on the written description which should record type and period and would not normally exceed *c*50 words. The extent of a site is only defined for sites greater than 50m in size and smaller sites are shown with a cross. The sites will be located by pacing with respect to field boundaries and will achieve coordinates to an accuracy of +- 10m. The reconnaissance will be undertaken in a systematic fashion, walking on approximately 30m wide transects.

3.3.3 A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously. An early surface inspection such as this is highly recommended, as such work can frequently double the amount of archaeological information for an area. This fieldwork will result in the production of plans at a scale of 1:2,500, recording the location of each of the sites listed in the gazetteer. All archaeological information collected in the course of field inspection will be recorded in standardised form, and will include accurate national grid references. This will form the basis of a gazetteer, to be submitted as part of the report.

3.3.4 LUAU provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1991) and risk assessments are now being implemented for all projects.

3.4 ASSESSMENT REPORT

3.4.1 ***Archive:*** The results of Stages 3.2-3.3 will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. It will include summary processing and analysis of any features and finds recovered during fieldwork. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.

3.4.2 This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Central Archaeology Service format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCii files (as appropriate), and a synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and the report) will be deposited with the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record. A copy of the archive will also be available for deposition in the National Archaeological Record in London. LUAU practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic, and plastic media) with the appropriate County Record Office, and a full copy of the record archive, should any material be recovered, with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples, at this stage from surface collections) with an appropriate museum.

3.4.3 ***Collation of data:*** The data generated by 3.2 and 3.3 (above) will be collated and analysed in order to provide an assessment of the nature and significance of the known surface and subsurface remains within the designated area. It will also serve as a guide to the archaeological potential of the area to be investigated, and the basis for the formulation of any detailed field programme and associated sampling strategy, should these be required in the future.

3.4.4 ***Assessment Report:*** One bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the Client, and a further copy submitted to the Cumbria County Archaeologist. The report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed above and will include a full index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project, together with appropriate illustrations, including a map and gazetteer of known or suspected sites identified within or immediately adjacent to the study area. It will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which the data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work, but not examined in detail. It will include an assessment of the overall stratigraphy of the trenches, together with appropriate illustrations, including detailed plans and sections indicating the locations of archaeological features. Any finds recovered from the excavations will be assessed with reference to other local material and any particular or unusual features of the assemblage will be highlighted and the potential of the site for palaeoenvironmental analysis will be considered. The report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work, but not examined in detail.

3.4.5 This report will identify areas of defined archaeology, an assessment and statement of the actual and potential archaeological significance of any features within the broader context of regional and national archaeological priorities will be made. Illustrative material will include a location map, section drawings, and plans if appropriate; it can be tailored to the specific requests of the client (eg particular scales etc), subject to discussion. The report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on 3.5" disk (IBM compatible format).

3.4.6 ***Proposals:*** The report will make a clear statement of the likely archaeological implications of the intended development. It will also make recommendations for any further evaluation of the identified archaeological potential deemed necessary or desirable for individual sites. It will seek

to achieve, as a first option, the preservation *in situ* of all significant archaeological features, and possible strategies for the mitigation of the development, including design modifications, will be considered. Where conservation is neither possible, nor practical, it may be appropriate to recommend a further stage of more intensive archaeological work in order to mitigate the effects of development.

3.4.7 ***Confidentiality:*** The assessment report is designed as a document for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and this project design, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

4. PROJECT MONITORING

4.1 **NORTH WEST WATER LIMITED**

4.1.1 LUAU will consult with North West Water Limited regarding access to land within the study area. This consultation will include, if required, the attendance of a representative of the client at any meetings convened with the Cumbria County Archaeologist, or his representative to discuss progress or the report.

4.2 **CUMBRIA SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD**

4.2.1 Any proposed changes to the project brief or the project design will be agreed with the Cumbria County Archaeologist in coordination with the client. LUAU will arrange a preliminary meeting, if required, and the Cumbria SMR will be informed of the commencement of the project in writing.

5. WORK TIMETABLE

The phases of work will comprise:

5.1 ***Desk Top Study***
A two day period is required to collate all the available data.

5.2 ***Field Inspection***
A one day period is required for the identification survey.

5.3 ***Prepare Assessment Report***
A two day period would be required to complete this element.

5.4 LUAU can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client. LUAU would be able to submit the report to the client within four weeks of awarding the contract.

6. OUTLINE RESOURCES

The following resource base will be necessary to achieve the proposals detailed above.

6.1 ***Desk Top Study***
2 man-days Project Officer

6.2 ***Field Survey***
1 man-day Project Supervisor
1 man-day Project Assistant

6.3 ***Assessment Report***
2 man-days Project Officer

6.4 The project will be under the direct line management of **Jamie Quartermaine, BA, Surv Dip, MIFA** (Unit Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

ILLUSTRATIONS

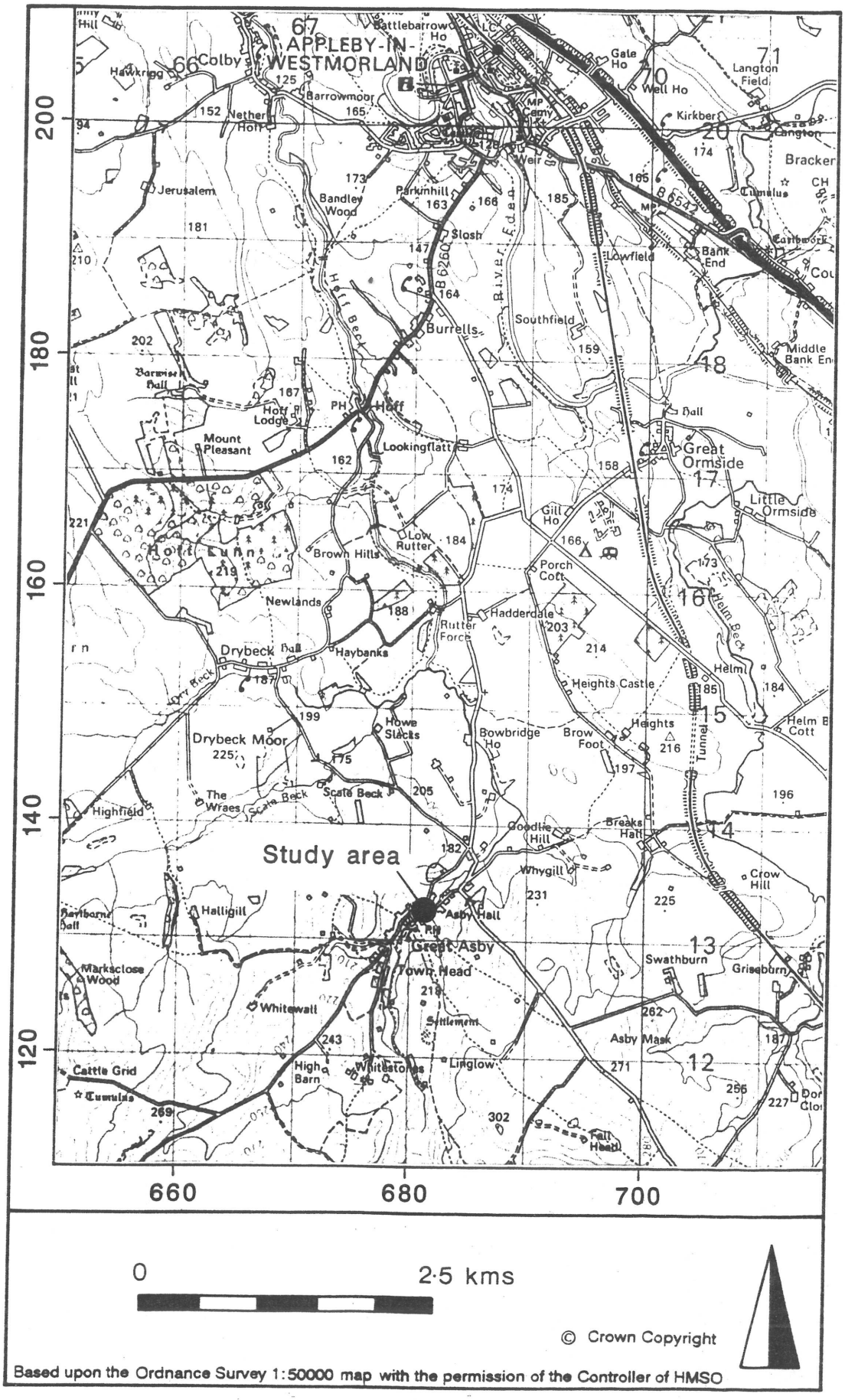

Fig.1 Site location map

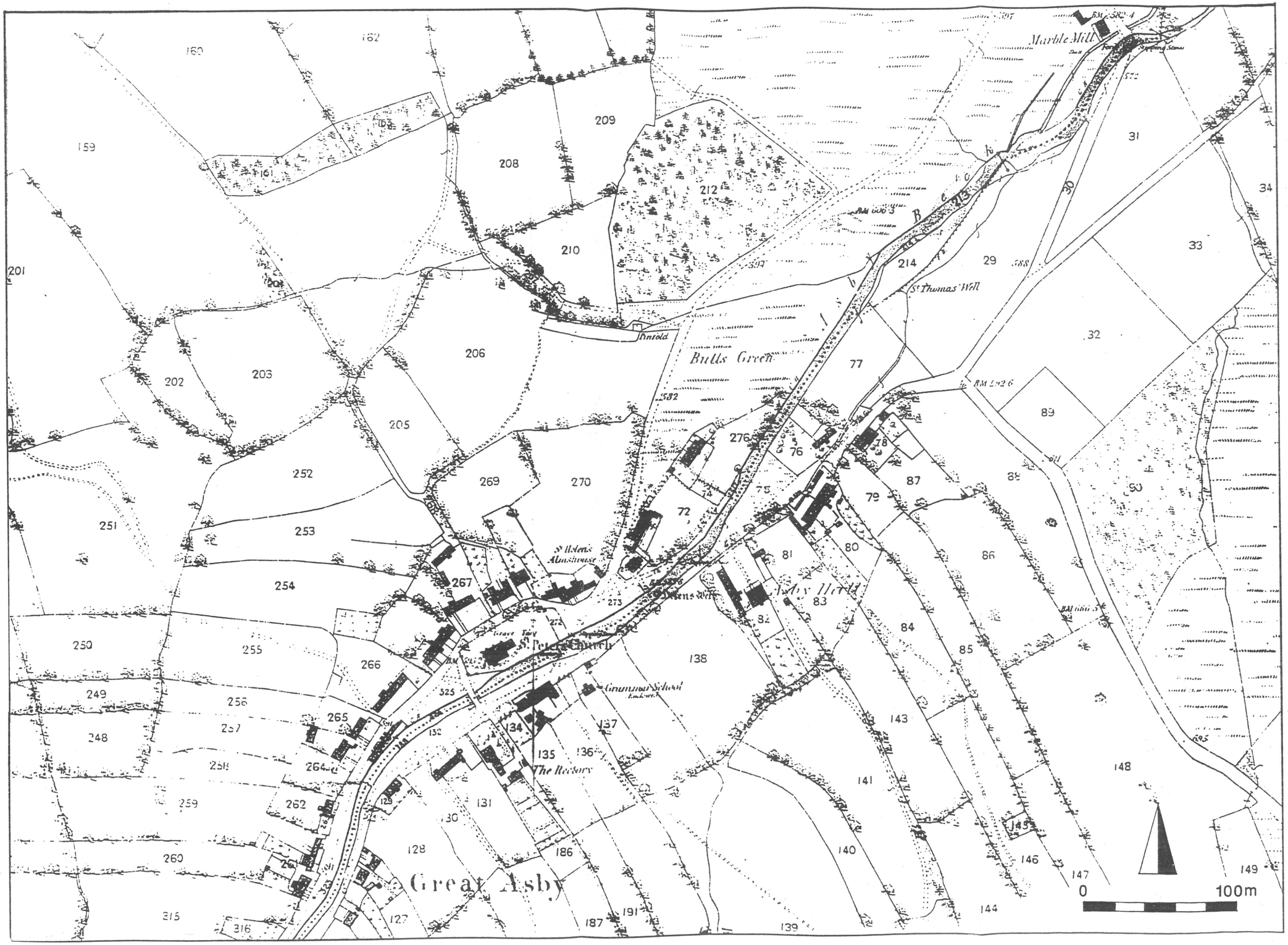

Fig.2 OS Ist edition map of Great Asby (1859)

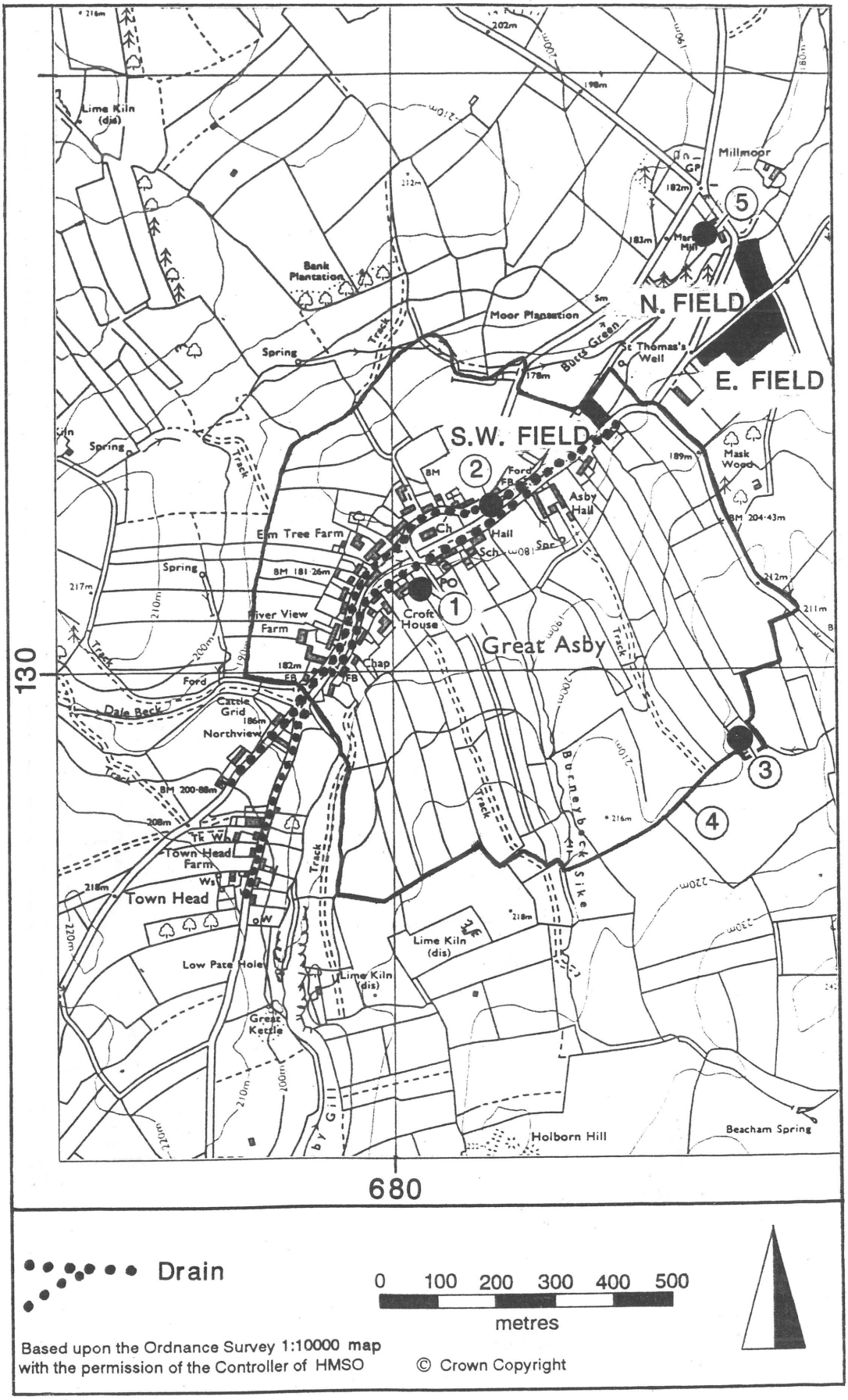

Fig.3 Documentary study area map

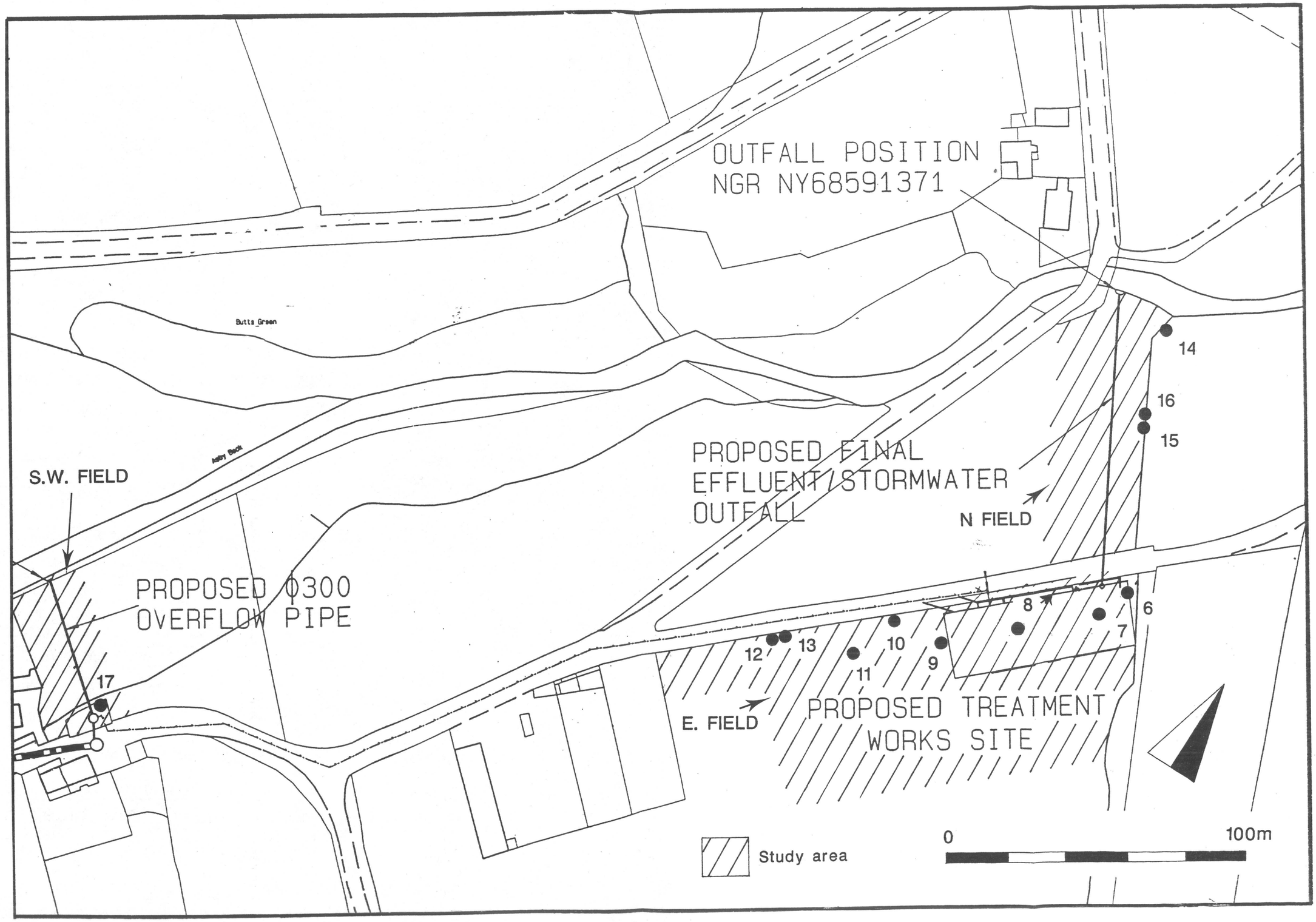

Fig.4 Identification survey study area map