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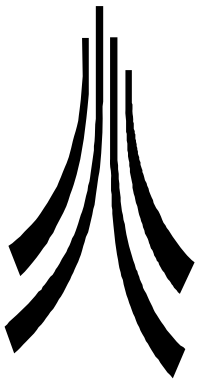

**April 1997**

# LAND AT MELKINTHORPE

# NR PENRITH

# Cumbria

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

Commissioned by:

**Penrith Farmer's and Kidd's plc**

# Land at Melkinthorpe
# Nr Penrith
# Cumbria

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## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Thanks are due to Richard Hall and the staff of the Cumbria Record Offices in Kendal and Carlisle, to Mike Daniells (County Archaeologist) and Philip Holdsworth of Cumbria County Council, and finally to Will Clark who proved indispensable when operating the mechanical excavator.

The documentary research and the trial trenching was undertaken by Dave Hodgkinson, the field survey by Andrew Croft, and Graham Mottershead assisted both elements of fieldwork. The report was compiled by Dave Hodgkinson and edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Rachel Newman. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on pasture land adjacent to The Farm, Melkinthorpe, near Penrith, Cumbria (NY 6395 2335 centred) to inform a planning application for residential development on the site. The work was carried out by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) on behalf of Penrith Farmers' and Kidd's plc.

Prior to the evaluation there was no archaeological information available for the development site; however, it is situated at the southern end of a probable planned, medieval nucleated settlement, which appeared to have shrunken from its former extent. A programme of evaluation was therefore recommended by the County Archaeologist to establish if the area of the proposed development had any archaeological potential. LUAU prepared a project design for this evaluation *(Appendix 2)*, in accordance with a verbal brief from the County Archaeologist.

The evaluation comprised a desk-based study, compiling data from the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record and Cumbria Record Office, followed by a topographic survey of the upstanding earthworks and a programme of targeted trial trenching.

The desk-based study suggested the establishment of a planned settlement at Melkinthorpe from the twelfth-century onwards with a seemingly continuous presence throughout the medieval period; however, the documentary evidence is particularly limited for the medieval period. Although the village has been traced back to the twelfth century there does not appear to be any surviving structure earlier than the seventeenth century, a period which saw considerable rebuilding and construction in Cumbria. Earthworks had previously been identified throughout the village and within the study area particularly, in the course of a survey of planned villages in Cumbria (Roberts 1993).

The study area is presently permanent pasture, but the survey identified features associated with arable activity. A large, stone kerbed, circular platform (Site 08), immediately adjacent to the barn, was identified as a horse engine (gin circle) for a threshing floor by its characteristic form and from discussions with local residents. There was also evidence of arable activity in the form of possible lynchet features in the centre of the field. A further earthen mound was present in the north-eastern corner of the study area.

The trenching programme investigated all of the earthwork features identified during the field survey. The circular horse engine comprised a stone kerb infilled with a large amount of river cobbles and walling stone and included some nineteenth century pottery. There was a cobbled surface within the bounds of the kerb, comprising closely packed rounded river cobbles set upon the natural subsoil. Another possible cobble spread was identified around the exterior of the kerb.

A lynchet-type feature (Site 09) was possibly the line of a relict boundary and may have been formed by the banking of material through ploughing; however, this could not be confirmed by the trial trenching. At the base of the lynchet bank was a linear spread of river cobbles and this was possibly clearance stone associated with the boundary. The cobbles were overlain by material containing medieval pottery, but this was possibly not *in situ.*

A mound in the far western corner of the field was formed by the collapse of a dry stone wall which had been set within a shallow construction trench. The wall was of similar construction

type to the adjacent dry-stone wall and was probably the remains of an enclosure within the corner of the field.

The archaeological resource, identified during the evaluation, was consistent with post-medieval agricultural activity set within a medieval planned settlement. The surface features have now been recorded at sufficient detail to mitigate their destruction. The identified sub-surface resource was not of sufficient archaeological importance to warrant further full archaeological mitigative measures and it is recommended, therefore, that no further archaeological work needs to be undertaken on the site in advance of the proposed development.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) on behalf of Penrith Farmers' and Kidd's plc to inform a planning application in advance of the sale of the property at Melkinthorpe, near Penrith, Cumbria (centred NY 5553 2550).

1.2 The purpose of the evaluation was to collate existing archaeological information from various sources, and to carry out a field survey and trial excavation to identify any surface or sub-surface archaeological remains.

1.3 The desk top study was carried out in advance of the field survey and trial excavations. All the documentary work was undertaken between 8th and 10th April 1997 and the fieldwork was undertaken on the 9th and 10th April 1997.

1.4 This report sets out the results of the work as a gazetteer in conjunction with a methodology statement, a textual description of the desk-based and field results, 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 for an archaeological evaluation of the proposed development of pasture land adjacent to The Farm, Melkinthorpe, Cumbria (centred NGR NY 5553 2550). This was designed to meet the requirements of a verbal brief by the Cumbria County Archaeologist.

2.1.2 The Project Design provided for an initial archaeological assessment involving a desk top study and a topographic field survey, followed by the excavation of targeted trial trenches, the results being presented in the present written report. The work has been carried out entirely in accordance with the project design.

## 2.2 DESK TOP SURVEY

2.2.1 Existing archaeological information was obtained from the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (CSMR). Copies of geological and soil maps were obtained from Lancaster University Library. Cumbria Record Office (CRO), Kendal, supplied copies of cartographic information and some appropriate published antiquarian sources (Nicholson and Burn 1777 and Whellan 1860). The village of Melkinthorpe has been studied by Roberts (1993) as part of a larger study of Westmorland villages; however, there is very little published historical documentation for the village as a whole.

2.2.2 The former Cumbria County Archaeologist, Mr T Clare, now of the Department of Biological and Earth Sciences, John Moores University, Liverpool, is currently studying some of the medieval villages of Cumbria (Clare 1996), and in part reviewing the 'archaeological hazard area' surveys of Mr P Turnbull (*c*1985).

2.2.3 ***Cartographic Sources:*** The primary cartographic sources were the 1863 Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition 6": 1 mile (1:10,560), second (1898) and third (1916) editions of the 1:2,500 series (the first edition of the 1:2,500 series is missing from the CRO (Kendal) collection). Manuscript maps and selected documents were studied in the Kendal and Carlisle branches of the Cumbria Record Office (CRO). Whilst most former Westmorland CRO material is housed in Kendal, Melkinthorpe was part of the customary tenancy of the Lowther family, Earls of Lonsdale, whose collections for the whole of Cumbria are housed in Carlisle. The availability of manuscript maps was limited to a tithe map of 1837 (CRO Kendal WDRC/8/64). The enclosure award was not consulted as the area of land to be enclosed was situated away from the village. Two estate maps dating from 1847 and 1875 in the Lowther collection were identified but could not be examined within the available timescale as advance notice had to be given prior to viewing.

2.2.4 Although the Lowther collection contains some records relating to Melkinthorpe, such as Court Rolls, these were housed in the Carlisle Record Office and were not inspected. The scope of the documents in the Lowther collection would appear to have greater relevance to the social history of the village, as there are no cartographic sources other than those outlined above.

2.2.5 ***Aerial Photography:*** There are no aerial photographs of the study area within the CSMR. Ordnance Survey (1968) 1:2,500 vertical coverage in the Cumbria County Council offices, Kendal, is currently inaccessible. Vertical and oblique cover-searches of the NMR's Aerial Photography collections have been requested, but this information cannot be included in the present report as there is currently a four week waiting list for this service.

## 2.3 FIELD SURVEY

2.3.1 A field survey was carried out in accordance with a verbal brief by the County Archaeologist in order to evaluate the area of proposed development. Any sites of archaeological interest identified by the survey were then examined by the subsequent programme of trial trenching.

2.3.2 A Level 2 topographic survey (LUAU 1993) was undertaken by LUAU of the study area. This involved the generation of hachured interpretative drawings of the earthworks, and defined the extent of all surface archaeological features, in relation to the main topographic elements. It was produced in conjunction with both an objective and an interpretative description of individual features, and all these elements have been included in the survey gazetteer (*Section 7.2*). This level of survey can be of sufficient detail to serve as mitigation of earthwork sites of limited archaeological significance.

2.3.3 The archaeological features were located by systematic ground reconnaissance. The archaeological detail, as well as significant topographic detail, was surveyed using a total station and data-logger. The digital survey data were transferred into a CAD system (FastCAD). The archaeological detail was drawn up in the field with respect to field plots of the survey data and these edits were then drawn up onto the raw survey data within the CAD system. The archaeological digital data were subsequently superimposed with base digital topographic data digitised from the appropriate Ordnance Survey base.

## 2.4 TRIAL TRENCHING

2.4.1 A programme of trial excavation was formulated in consultation with the County Archaeologist, and it was intended that this would target features of suspected archaeological significance which were visible as earthworks identified from the surface survey. The County Archaeologist requested that the trenches investigate an area of approximately 3.5% of the study area, which was to be achieved through the excavation of two trenches each measuring 30m in length. In the event a total of three trenches was excavated, each measuring between 20-30m by 1.80m; on average the trenches were 0.25m - 0.35m deep. All the trenches were located to examine surface features.

2.4.2 The excavation was initially undertaken by a mechanical excavator (a JCB 3CX) fitted with a 1.8m toothless ditching bucket, and was followed by manual excavation for the purposes of examining archaeological detail. Excavation was undertaken to

the depth of natural subsoils in all trenches. The trenches were then mechanically backfilled.

2.4.3 Turf, topsoil and subsoil were separated during the excavation and replaced in reverse order to ensure that the reinstatement was to as high a standard as possible.

2.4.4 All excavation was carried out stratigraphically, whether by machine or by hand, and recorded in the appropriate manner. The recording methods employed by LUAU accord with those recommended by English Heritage's Central Archaeology Service (CAS). Recording was in the form of *pro forma* Trench Sheets for each trench, which recorded the orientation, length, and depth of machining, and described the nature of the topsoil, subsoil (where applicable), and geological deposits. Where potential features were observed they were manually sampled with a full textual, drawn, and photographic record being maintained. Any finds recovered were retained and recorded by either the trench number or, where appropriate, by the context number of the deposit from which they were recovered.

2.4.5 The positions of the trenches were recorded using the Elta 3 Total Station and were later plotted onto the completed topographical survey plan.

## 2.5 GAZETTEER OF SITES

2.5.1 The collated information on the site and its *immediate* environs has been presented in the form of a gazetteer in conjunction with an annotated map at 1:10,000 scale showing the locations of the sites. 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, and trial excavation) 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.

## 2.6 ARCHIVE

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

## 2.7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

2.7.1 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, with service information having been gained from the client regarding services. However, it is LUAU standard practice to scan the positions of all trenches for underground cables using a U-scan meter. No services were revealed during the course of the evaluation programme.

# 3. TOPOGRAPHIC AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

## 3.1 LOCATION

3.1.1 The site lies at the south-east end of the medieval founded village of Melkinthorpe, which is on the edge of the Eden valley, some 6km south-east of Penrith and 4km east of Lowther. Melkinthorpe is one of the three townships of Lowther parish, the others being Hackthorpe and Whale (Whellan 1860). The study area is bounded on its southern and western side by the main village street and between The Farm in the north and Back Lane on its western side.

## 3.2 GEOLOGY

3.2.1 The study area lies *c*50m from the north bank of the River Leith, a tributary of the River Eden. The river valley cuts through typical stagnogley soils of the Clifton Association [711n] derived from reddish till drift geology (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1983). The solid geology below Melkinthorpe comprises Lower Permian sandstones, the Penrith Sandstone (Inst Geol Sci 1980; Arthurton *et al* 1978, 135-9, 186-8, and 302-5).

## 3.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.3.1 ***Prehistoric and Roman:*** Two pre-medieval sites are recorded in the CSMR in relatively close proximity to the Melkinthorpe site. The first of these is a lynchet field system, located at Burnbank, which is possibly prehistoric but is perhaps more likely to be of medieval date (Site 04: NGR NY 5530 2520). A second crop mark site, a potential Roman road (Site 05: NGR NY 5600 2559), is *c*1km north-east of Melkinthorpe at Brownhow. A further prehistoric feature is CSMR 10000, located at NY 5530 2480 (it is not incorporated within the gazetteer as it is outside the documentary study area). It has been interpreted as a series of cultivation terraces, but is more likely to be of natural origin.

3.3.2 ***Medieval:*** Melkinthorpe does not appear in *Domesday Book*, since it does not cover this part of Cumbria and the first reference to the name of *Melcanetorp* is in 1150, with variants of the name present from 1195 onwards (Smith 1967, 183). The name in all its variants means 'Melkan's hamlet' and is relatively unusual as it contains a personal name element which may be either Irish, as in Maelchon, old Irish Maelcian or Old Welsh Malican (Smith 1967, xxxix and 183) rather than Norse personal names which are more common in the north-west of England.

3.3.3 The layout of the village is generally indicative of planned nucleated settlement, which typically date to the immediate post-Conquest period. Such settlements have been thought to be deliberate plantations by landlords as a result of the widespread destruction caused by the 'Harrying of the North' (1069-70) and were intended to attract free tenants to the area (Taylor 1983, 134). Roberts, in his description of the village, notes the basic pattern of a north-west/south-east axial street, mirrored to the north-east by a secondary lane, Back Lane. The land to the rear (north-east) of Back Lane forms a rectangular furlong, which retains evidence of ox-ploughing in the

arateral, reversed 'S', configuration of the extant field boundaries (Roberts 1993, 131). There is also evidence, in the form of earthworks, for the village having extended further to the north-west. The village itself is recorded on the CSMR as a shrunken medieval village (Site 01) and there are unclassified earthworks at the western edge (Site 03), which may also relate to the shrinkage of the settlement.

3.3.4 Although the topographical form of Melkinthorpe was possibly established by the late eleventh century, documentary evidence for the village starts from the middle of the twelfth century and is largely intermittent from that period onwards. The nature of the documentary sources indicate that the manor of Melkinthorpe was relatively poor when compared to the other manors in Lowther parish. In 1415, the parish paid a 1/15th of the tithe as subsidy to the king to finance the French campaigns; Lowther was valued at 13s 4d, Quale (Whale) at 17s, Hackthorpe at 18s and Melkinthorpe at 15s (Curwen 1932, 333). This low evaluation continued into the nineteenth century when Whellan valued the rateable value of the parish as £4,400 18s 3d, of which Melkinthorpe was rated at £364 2s 5d, Hackthorpe £1,939 10s and Whale £ 481 4s 6d (Whellan 1860).

3.3.5 Although there is little evidence for the nature of the settlement, daily life was not without incident. In 1378 John de Whitefield, in plea to the Manor court, claimed that a number of people '*with force and arms broke into the close of the said at Melkinthorpe and his trees and underwood lately growing there they cut down and his corn also growing there they mowed down and all the said trees and underwood, corn and goods and chattels they found there they took and carried away to the value of 20 marks*' (Curwen 1932, 332).

3.3.6 There are no known structural remains from the medieval period within the village. Melkinthorpe Hall (Site 02) was standing from the sixteenth century and had been described as a 'little low mean looking building' (quoted by Curwen 1932, 329); it was still inhabited in the 1860s; however, the hall has now been demolished with only a fine barn remaining (*ibid*, 330). The RCHME (1936) inspection of the village noted only a limited number of buildings of interest (11-17), the oldest of which appear to date to the seventeenth century and contain some panelled doors and corbelled fireplaces. From the seventeenth century the extent of the village was similar to that at present. The Hearth Tax Roll of 1669-1672 identified a total of eleven houses with a single hearth and a further six houses which were exempt (Curwen 1932, 333). By the time of the Window Tax, exacted between 1766 and 1825, a total of 16 were recorded as having up to seven windows, and hence were charged the minimum tax of three shillings. Only one house contained seven windows, that of John Graham (Lows 1995); the location of this house was unspecified.

3.3.7 By the mid nineteenth century, the cartographic evidence illustrates that the development of the settlement was static; there was little change taking place within the village layout from 1837 onwards (WDRC/8/64). From the cartographic evidence it is apparent that the study area had been open space, possibly a paddock, and was termed on the Tithe Award as plot 72, a *Garth* belonging to Thomas Furnass, which comprised 2 rods 20 perches and was valued at 1s 6d.

# 4. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

## 4.1 DESK TOP STUDY

4.1.1 ***Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record:*** An examination of the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (CSMR) revealed only five sites in the immediate vicinity of the documentary study area (taken as being a 1km radius from the centre of the development site). These sites are listed in the gazetteer (*Section 7.1*). Of these documentary sites only one is specifically relevant to the present study, the 'archaeological hazard area' for the village (Site 01). No sites described specifically in the CSMR were found within the area of the proposed development. Other sites outside this study radius on the CSMR databases include possibly late prehistoric, and Romano-British sites and are mentioned in the text (*Section 3.3.1*). There is therefore a possibility that unsuspected archaeological sites or unassociated finds of these periods could be discovered in the development area.

4.1.2 The 'archaeological hazard area' (CSMR 5195) for Melkinthorpe village is based on the limits of apparently early plot boundaries. An internal Cumbria County Council report (*Medieval Villages in Eden District* (Turnbull *c*1985)) defines three classes of earthwork visible in villages in the District. These are: Class 1, poorly defined earthworks; Class 2, boundary features and cultivation; and Class 3, house platforms, other structures, fishponds, and possibly pre-medieval features. Seven areas of earthworks, one of Class 1, one of Class 2, and five of Class 3 occur in Melkinthorpe; those in the development site are designated as Class 3.

4.1.3 ***Documentary and Cartographic Evidence:*** The desk-based study suggested an eleventh/twelfth century date for the topographic form of the village and its continued occupation from that time on, but showed that the village was poorly documented in the written and cartographic record. Although a number of manuscript sources were studied, in addition to the published histories of Westmorland, no specific mention was found of the development site.

## 4.2 FIELD SURVEY

4.2.1 The topographic survey examined the extent of the plot to the south-east of The Farm, at the south-eastern end of Melkinthorpe village. A number of earthworks survive within the plot which demonstrate that the area has not been intensively improved within the recent past. Four features were identified, however, which are each insular in character, there being no indications of any relationships between the features.

4.2.2 ***Sub-circular platform (Site 06):*** At the south-eastern corner of the plot is a small (*c* 9m diameter), sub-circular platform which extends out from the existing boundary wall. The shape is slightly irregular and relatively well-defined to the west, but has been disturbed by vehicular traffic on its eastern side, as it is adjacent to the gated entrance to the plot. The site is clearly of artificial origin and was potentially a platform for a small structure.

4.2.3 ***Sinuous Break of Slope (Site 07):*** At the northern end of the plot is an irregular, sinuously shaped, prominent break of slope, which is up to 0.4m in height. It is well-defined and has a fairly uniform height. The irregular and erratic shape could potentially reflect a natural origin.

4.2.4 ***Horse Engine (Gin Circle) for a Threshing Floor (Site 08):*** On the south-eastern side of the long barn of The Farm is a well-defined, horse-shoe-shaped platform butted against the barn wall; it is edged by substantial, dressed kerb stones. It has a relatively flat upper surface and is approximately 9m in diameter. There is a square aperture in the barn wall, at ground level adjacent to the centre of the platform. The structure has been confirmed as a horse engine (or gin circle) by elderly local residents of the village and its form broadly corresponds with other documented examples of horse engines. The aperture in the wall would have provided access for the drive shaft from the horse engine and the threshing floor would have been inside the barn. The low aperture indicates that it was a 'Sweep' type of horse engine, whereby the drive shaft from the engine was at ground level and the horses stepped over it. This type of horse engine typically had a working diameter of between 7.3m and 7.9m, and the extent of the overall structure would have been *c* 8-9m which accords well with the observed diameter of the Melkinthorpe example. The Sweep engine was introduced in the middle of the nineteenth century (invented in 1841) and was one of the more common types of horse engine in Cumbria (Brunskill 1982, 55-6). Horse engines were commonly enclosed by a rectangular or semi-circular house, but there is no evidence of an outline of a structure on the barn wall and although there are dressed stones around the perimeter of this example, these are more likely to have been a kerb for the platform than foundation. It is probable, therefore, that this engine was never enclosed within a structure.

4.2.5 ***Terraced Bank (Site 09):*** Running through the field centre, from the southernmost boundary of the field, is a slightly irregular bank with a lynchet-like profile; it is orientated north/south. This is fairly ill-defined and is not prominent, being only 0.25m in height. The function of the feature is somewhat uncertain, but it could potentially be the line of a relict boundary.

## 4.3 TRIAL TRENCHING

4.3.1 ***Trench 1***: This trench was excavated to investigate two features: the circular kerbed mound (Site 08) which was adjacent to the barn and the bank/lynchet (Site 09) in the centre of the plot. The trench, excavated on an east/west alignment, was originally to have been 30m in length, but the close proximity of overhead power lines limited the trench length to 23m. Naturally occurring deposits, a reddish brown coarse sandstone gravel in a coarse sandy clay matrix, were identified at a depth of approximately 0.31m below the ground surface. These were overlain by a deposit of very clean, brown silty clay which was on average 0.06m in depth and completely sealed the natural gravels below. This deposit was relatively stone free, contained no artefactual evidence, and was possibly also a natural subsoil. In the western end of the trench, within the area defined by the stone kerbed feature (Site 08), the silty clay was directly below the stones of the large kerb. The kerb had evidently been laid flat onto the brown silty clay layer and was not held within a construction cut. Although the kerb stones were of a substantial size (approximately 0.45m x 0.20m x 0.20m), upon

excavation, they were easily removed and left no trace within the section. The kerb delineated a series of deposits within the trench; to the north-west of the kerb was a deposit of very mixed loam, containing rubble, including wall stones, nineteenth century pottery and ceramic land drains. The deposit was 0.28m deep at its maximum and provided the infill and mound for the kerbed structure. To the south-east of the kerb, also set upon the brown silty clay, was a deposit of well-laid river pebbles which formed a cambered surface on the exterior of the kerb. The surface was contained within a deposit of dark grey sandy loam, and measured 1.20m in width; the surface was 0.08m in depth.

4.3.2 Located centrally within the trench, 15.9m from the western end of the trench and cutting through the silty clay deposit, was a large linear feature. Upon excavation it was observed to be 1.8m in width and had an irregular profile, the western edge sloped at an angle of 45° and the eastern edge, by contrast, was almost vertical. It was filled by a very mixed deposit of large rounded cobbles (*c* 0.15m in diameter), within a dark greyish brown loam deposit; it appeared in plan as an alignment. The full depth of this deposit was never established as the feature was identified by a local resident as the soakaway for a septic tank constructed approximately 20 years previously.

4.3.3 The profile of the lynchet-type bank (Site 09) showed up in the section, but did not have a sub-surface presence. However, at its base, to the west and at a distance of 19.8m from the western end of the trench, was an area of large rounded cobbles (approximately 0.20m in diameter) which was 1.24m in width and was set within the silty clay deposit. Although the cobbles appeared as a very rough alignment, a section through the cobble deposit did not reveal a construction cut and the feature had no evident form; it was possibly waste stone deposited against the possible boundary line (Site 09). Two sherds of medieval pottery were retrieved from above this deposit when cleaning. There were two fabric types, one a fully reduced, green-glazed ware from a jug dating from the fifteenth century onwards; the other was an oxidised fabric with splashes of glaze from an unidentified vessel, which was possibly contemporary with the other fabric.

4.3.4 All of the features were overlain by a topsoil deposit of dark grey-brown sandy loam, which varied in depth from 0.12m in the north-west to 0.25m in the south east.

4.3.5 ***Trench 2:*** This trench was excavated in the south-eastern corner to investigate the possible platform feature (Site 06). It was excavated on a north-east/south-west axis and measured 14m in length. Naturally occurring sandstone gravels and silty clay was established at a depth of 0.25m throughout the trench. In the north-eastern corner a well-constructed wall of roughly dressed limestone and sandstone was revealed in an approximate north/south alignment. The wall was set within a shallow construction trench which had a uniform, gently sloping sided and flat-based profile. The construction trench measured 0.58m in width and was no more than 0.08m deep. The wall stones were locally derived and were rectangular, measuring 0.40m x 0.20m x 0.10m and had been dressed to create roughly flat faces. The wall was largely obscured by a deposit of stone overburden or collapse comprising similarly locally derived stone. It was this deposit, which measured approximately 4.5m in length, that created the platform, visible as a surface earthwork (Site 06). No other features were observed within this trench. The stone dump was overlain by the grey

brown sandy loam topsoil. There were no associated artefacts which could inform the chronology of the feature.

4.3.6 ***Trench 3:*** This trench was excavated in the far southern corner to investigate Site 07, the sinuous break of slope identified as part of the topographical survey. The trench measured 15m in length and was excavated on a north-west/south-east axis. Naturally occurring river gravels were established at a depth of 0.40m and comprised a loose deposit of orange sandstone gravels, which contained the occasional small boulder. This was directly below a deposit of reddish brown, silty clay, which contained 10% small cobbles (average diameter 0.08m) and was 0.20m in depth. This deposit was sealed by a 0.17m deep dark greyish brown sandy loam topsoil. No features were revealed in this trench.

# 5. DISCUSSION

5.1 The medieval pottery found within the topsoil deposits, was probably not *in situ* but does at least demonstrate some early activity at this end of the village, even if this is only night soiling of fields. For the most part, however, the evaluation has identified extant features characteristic of post-medieval agricultural activity. The horse engine (Site 08), which was typologically dated to the mid nineteenth century, was seen to have contained an abundance of pottery dated to the late nineteenth century. The absence of any internal mechanism for the gin circle, such as post housing, suggests that the machinery was removed and then the feature was deliberately backfilled. The presence of a threshing floor in a now predominantly pastoral agricultural area indicates that there was an arable economy at the time of its construction.

5.2 The wall identified within Trench 2 is also likely to be of post-medieval date as it is of almost identical construction to the surrounding field walls. According to local residents the access was moved from the south-west corner of the plot, adjacent to the main road, to its present location when the septic tank was constructed. This wall, which is aligned perpendicular to the present field wall, is likely therefore to be a small enclosure wall, possibly for a fold. with associated collapse forming the surface 'platform'.

5.3 The cobble deposit at the eastern end of Trench 1 appears at the base of the lynchet profiled bank (Site 09). The lack of a construction cut associated with the cobbles and their location at the base of the slope may suggest that the cobbles had come to be deposited along the line of the former boundary and the presence of medieval pottery within the topsoil above the cobble spread may be as a result of solifluxion.

## 5.4 VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

5.4.1 The general layout of the village of Melkinthorpe is typical of a medieval planned, nucleated settlement. These settlements have been tentatively dated as belonging to the early post-Conquest period, and are a particular feature from the twelfth century onwards in Cumbria (when documentary sources become more common). Although the documentary search did not reveal any information for the founding of the village, it established that there was a settlement called *Melcanetorp* from at least the mid twelfth century. Previous research into the Melkinthorpe village plan had identified a possible layout focused on a village green, which is now only visible as an earthwork on the south-western side of the main street, and also earthworks to the north-west and west. The existence of these earthworks had lead to the theory that the present village has shrunk from its former, larger extent. Similarly, the previous identification of earthworks within the development area had also lead to the assumption that the village had shrunk from an original larger size, with shrinkage particularly apparent at the south-eastern end (Roberts 1993). However, the absence of dated medieval structures within the development area, apart from the possible lynchet (Site 09), suggests that the plot was possibly always an open field or paddock. Indeed the volume of large, rounded, undamaged boulders and the unabraded nature of the medieval pottery in the topsoil would suggest that the field has not had intensive arable use. Although it is probable that the village has shrunk

from its former north-western extent, the evaluation does not demonstrate shrinkage from the south-eastern end of the village.

# 6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## 6.1 IMPACT

6.1.1 The proposal to develop the study area for housing will inevitably involve extensive groundworks for the provision of services and for the excavation of foundations and would thus have a profound impact on any archaeological remains within the extent of the study area.

6.1.2 There is a potential for medieval or early post-medieval remains within the main core of the village of Melkinthorpe. However, despite systematic trenching, the evaluation has only identified archaeological features of a relatively late post-medieval date within the extent of the study area. There is, however, evidence for a medieval presence on the site in the form of ceramic artefacts which demonstrate medieval activity at the south-eastern end of the village.

6.1.3 The evaluation has indicated that the development groundworks are unlikely to disturb or damage any significant buried archaeological deposits; however, the use of the study area as a development site will adversely affect the preservation of the formal planned layout of the village. Both Clare and Roberts have argued that the preservation of the original layout of the villages is an important part of the preservation of the archaeological landscape. The alteration of many medieval village plans by the process of 'pecuniation', the infilling of formerly vacant, and originally open plots, affects the original character of the former village (Roberts 1993, 141; Clare 1996).

## 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*. Our concern must be to protect and preserve archaeological sites wherever possible, and only where this is not feasible are destructive techniques of record advocated. Our aim is to recommend the appropriate action which will achieve recording objectively, without the waste of resources.

6.2.2 The Level 2 form of survey (LUAU 1996) provided for a basic record of surface features, and is typically undertaken as part of an evaluation (ACAO 1993). It can serve as a mitigation measure for sites of limited archaeological significance with poor surface survival and which are under threat. The earthworks identified by the present programme fall within this category and it can therefore be considered that an adequate mitigative record of the surface features has now been undertaken.

5.3.3 The evaluation of the development area at the southern end of the village of Melkinthorpe identified archaeological features, in the form of a post-medieval gin circle, a buried wall and an anomalous stone spread. Furthermore, whilst the majority of the dating evidence retrieved as a result of the trial trenching programme was of a relatively modern date, a small number of medieval sherds was identified during the course of the fieldwork. Whilst the identification of a medieval presence within the

village is of importance for the dating of this type of planned village, the artefactual evidence is insufficient to justify recommending any further archaeological work.

# 7. GAZETTEER OF SITES

## 7.1 DOCUMENTARY SURVEY

**Site number** **01**
**Site name** Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 6395 2335
**Site type** Shrunken village
**Period** Medieval
**Source** CSMR 5195, Roberts 1993
**Description:** A possibly eleventh/twelfth century deliberately planned rural settlement. The site consists of a single main road, with a subsidiary to the east, employed as a back lane. The village would appear to have formerly had a central green, now only recognisable as an earthwork. It is similar to other planned villages in the Eden valley.
**Assessment:** The development site is within the Site 01 hazard area. It is of moderate to high archaeological importance.

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**Site number** **02**
**Site name** Melkinthorpe Hall
**NGR** NY 5550 2490
**Site type** Hall (site of)
**Period** Post Medieval
**Source** CSMR 2829; Curwen 1932, Nicholson and Burn 1771
**Description:** The site of Melkinthorpe Hall, reputedly constructed in the sixteenth century, then described as a 'low mean looking building'. It was still inhabited in the 1860s, but now only a fine barn survives.
**Assessment:** The site will not be affected by the proposed development.

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**Site number** **03**
**Site name** Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 5538, 2500
**Site type** Unclassified earthworks
**Period** Unknown
**Source** CSMR 5194
**Description:** A series of unclassified earthworks at the north-western end of the village of Melkinthorpe. These are possibly earthwork remains of the north-western extension of the village.
**Assessment:** The site will not be affected by the proposed development.

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**Site number** **04**
**Site name** Burnbank
**NGR** NY 5530, 2450
**Site type** Lynchets
**Period** Unknown

**Source** CSMR 5176
**Description:** A series of unclassified earthwork features which may be lynchets.
**Assessment:** The site will not be affected by the proposed development.

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**Site number** **05**
**Site name** Brownhow
**NGR** NY 5600, 5259
**Site type** Roman Road
**Period** Roman
**Source** CSMR 2838
**Description:** The line of a possible Roman road, located to the north of Melkinthorpe.
**Assessment:** The site will not be affected by the proposed development.

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## 7.2 FIELD SURVEY

**Site Number** **06**
**Site Name** The Farm, Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 55777, 24097
**Type** Earthwork
**Period** Post-medieval?
**Source** Site survey
**Description:** A small, raised earthfast platform with reasonably well-defined edges. The eastern side has been disturbed by access through the adjacent gate. The site measures 9.5m x 8.5m and stands to a height of 0.3m. The site appears to respect the wall boundary.
**Assessment:** The site will be affected by the proposed development. It is of low archaeological importance.

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**Site Number** **07**
**Site Name** The Farm, Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 55757, 24120
**Type** Earthworks
**Period** Medieval or post-medieval?
**Source** Site survey
**Description:** A series of prominent and well-defined earthen slopes. It has an irregular sinuous linear shape; it measures 23m x 11m and stands to 0.4m in height. It may be the remains of small-scale stone extraction; however, its irregular form may also indicate a natural origin.
**Assessment:** The site will be affected by the proposed development. It is of low archaeological importance.

**Site Number** **08**
**Site Name** The Farm, Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 55729, 24110
**Type** Threshing Floor/Horse Engine

**Period** Post-medieval
**Source** Site survey
**Description:** A well preserved and reasonably well-defined post-medieval horse engine (gin circle) which is *c* 9m in diameter; it is built immediately adjacent to a large post-medieval barn. An aperture in the barn wall indicates the location of the drive shaft that would have been driven by the capstan mounted in the centre of the circle. The site's edge is defined by a series of prominent stones and stands to 0.3m in height. The eastern side has suffered some disturbance and is presently partially covered by silage.
**Assessment:** The site will be affected by the proposed development. It is of moderate archaeological importance.

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**Site Number** **09**
**Site Name** The Farm, Melkinthorpe
**NGR** NY 55743, 24092
**Type** Bank
**Period** Post-medieval ?
**Source** Site survey
**Description:** A vague and ill-defined earthen bank/break of slope running across the site. It is roughly 20m long and stands to 0.25m high; it has a slight lynchet-like profile. It could mark the edge of some constructed feature but equally could reflect the line of a former field boundary. The northern end of the site has been disturbed by recent vehicular activity and hence a full examination was not possible.
**Assessment:** The site will be affected by the proposed development. It is of low archaeological importance.

# 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

## 8.1 PRIMARY SOURCES

### 8.1.1 *Cumbria Record Office, Kendal*

WDRC/8/64 Tithe Award for Lowther Parish, including Melkinthorpe, Hackthorpe and Whale

### 8.1.2 *Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle*

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Turnbull P, nd (*c*1985?) *Medieval villages in Eden District*, Unpubl rep, Cumbria County Council

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# APPENDIX 1
# TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

**Trench Number** **01**
**Alignment** North-west/south-east
**Length** 23m
**Description**
Located to investigate Site 08, a late nineteenth century gin circle for threshing machinery in the adjacent barn. It was found to consist of a limestone circular kerb, with an infilled mound and an encircling cobble surface. No trace of internal machine housing was identified. A large linear cut feature, said to be the soakaway for the recently excavated septic tank. A linear spread of rounded boulders was located at the base of Site 09, the lynchet bank. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from above this feature. It has been interpreted as clearance stone associated with the bank.

**Trench Number** **02**
**Alignment** North-east/south-west
**Length** 14m
**Description**
Located to investigate Site 06. It identified a north/south dry stone wall, set within a shallow construction cut. The mound was formed due to a significant amount of overlying tumble from the wall. No other features were identified in this trench.

**Trench Number** **03**
**Alignment** North-west/south-east
**Length** 15m
**Description**
This investigated the nature of the sinuous break (Site 07). No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

# APPENDIX 2
# PROJECT DESIGN

**Lancaster University Archaeological Unit**

**January 1997**

## LAND AT MELKINTHORPE

## Nr PENRITH

## CUMBRIA

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

***Proposals***

*The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr W J Bashall, of Penrith Farmers' and Kidd's plc, for an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed housing development at Melkinthorpe, nr Penrith in Cumbria.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological evaluation is required as a planning requirement in advance of a housing development at Melkinthorpe, nr Penrith. The development site is at the south-eastern end of the village, which is first documented in 1150. There are enclosed field strips to the north-east of the village which have reverse 'S' arateral curves, which reflect former medieval ridge and furrow, and there is extant ridge and furrow to the north and west of the village (Roberts 1993). Within the locality of the site are a series of earthworks, which could potentially be the relict elements of an earlier phase of the villages development.

1.2 The area of the site has considerable archaeological potential. Two kilometres to the west, near Low Moor, is one of the largest Neolithic long cairns in Northern England and to the north near Eamont Bridge are two Neolithic Henges (King Arthur's Round Table and Mayburgh). The area has a considerable number of Iron Age / Romano-British settlements, notably the Iron Age defended settlement at Castlesteads, near Lowther, at Lowther Park, and also one at Yanwath Wood (RCHM(E) 1936). At Brougham, to the north, is the Roman fort of *Brocavum*. There is an early medieval settlement sites at Fremington (Oliver *et al* 1996) to the north of Melkinthorpe and one kilometre to the east of this is a similar, although undated, site at Whinfell (LUAU 1996). The County Archaeologist has therefore recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken to assess the archaeological potential and sub-surface survival of the affected study area.

1.3 The Lancaster University Archaeological Unit has considerable experience of the evaluation and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects during the past 15 years. Evaluations 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 evaluation 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 ***Field Survey***

A topographic 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.

2.4 ***Trial Trenching Programme***

A limited programme of trial excavations, as recommended by the County Archaeologist, will be undertaken to establish the nature, extent, chronology, and preservation of any archaeological deposits encountered. Suitable samples recovered will be assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential.

2.5 ***Evaluation Report***

A written evaluation report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. It will advise on the mitigation measures necessary to protect and/or record (to appropriate levels) identified archaeological features and deposits, including any appropriate further evaluation, excavation, and recording strategies.

## 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 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 Kendal.

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), and topographical 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 investigation.

*3.2.5* ***Collation of data:*** The data generated by 3.2.1-3.2.4 (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.

### 3.3 FIELD SURVEY

3.3.1 ***Access:*** Liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through Penrith Farmers' & Kidd's plc.

3.3.2 It is proposed to undertake a level 2 survey (see LUAU survey levels, Appendix 1) of the study area. The survey will involve the detailed mapping of all surface features within the survey area, but will only survey selective topographic detail. Although the survey data will include altitude information this will not be used for the production of the level 2 survey.

3.3.3 Survey control will be established over the site by closed traverse and internally will be accurate to +-15mm; the control network will be located with respect to field boundaries.

3.3.4 The surface features will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a data logger, the accuracy of detail generation will be appropriate for a 1:500 output. The digital data is transferred onto a portable computer for manipulation and transfer to other digital or hard mediums.

Film plots will be output via a plotter. The archaeological detail is drawn up in the field as a dimensioned drawing on the plots with respect to survey markers. Some topographic detail is also surveyed if it is archaeologically significant or is in the vicinity of archaeological features. The survey drawings will be generated within a CAD system and can be output at any scale. The survey would be plotted as wet ink drawings on stable polyester film sheets, using RCHM(E) draughting conventions and line thicknesses appropriate for reproduction and reduction.

3.3.5 In conjunction with the archaeological survey a photographic archive will be generated, which will record significant features and general landscapes.

## 3.4 TRIAL TRENCHING

3.4.1 ***Targeted trenching:*** This programme of trenching will establish the presence or absence of any previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, will then briefly test their date, nature, and quality of preservation. Excavation will normally be limited to the upper surface of significant archaeological deposits, unless further work is regarded by ourselves and the County Archaeologist as essential in order to complete the full evaluation. This element of the trial trenching is invaluable in order to assess those parts, within the proposed study area, where there is a potential for archaeological deposits to survive which are not visible on the surface. This also reduces the possibility of the discovery of any important archaeological features within those areas during groundworks, so as to minimise the possibility of any disruption at that late stage.

3.4.2 Trial trenching will be required to target features of suspected archaeological significance which are visible as earthworks or linear features identified from the surface survey. It is anticipated that the trenching will examine 5% of the study area, which will involve the excavation of two 30m x 2m trenches or four eight 15m x 2m trenches. The precise locations of the trenches would be determined in discussions with the client and County Archaeologist at the outset of the project.

3.4.3 ***Methodology:*** To maximise the speed and efficiency of the operation the removal of overburden will be undertaken by machine (with a standard five or six foot toothless ditching bucket), although in areas where ephemeral remains are encountered elements may be hand dug.

3.4.4 All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Trenches will be accurately located with regard to surrounding features, by use of a total station survey instrument or Global Positioning Equipment as appropriate.

3.4.5 ***Recording:*** All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

3.4.6 Results of the field investigation will be recorded using a system, adapted from that used by Central Archaeology Service of English Heritage. The archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20, and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration. Samples will be collected for technological, pedological, palaeoenvironmental and chronological analysis as appropriate, but it is only intended to process such material for assessment at this stage. LUAU employs artefact and palaeoecology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

## 3.5 EVALUATION REPORT

3.5.1 ***Archive:*** The results of Stages 3.1-4 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.

3.5.2 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, 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. 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.

3.5.3 ***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.

3.5.4 This report will identify areas of defined archaeology, the location of trenches, and whether the results of the sampling were positive or negative. An assessment and statement of the actual and potential archaeological significance of the site 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).

3.5.5 ***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 resource 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.

3.5.6 ***Confidentiality:*** The evaluation 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.

## 3.6 OTHER MATTERS

3.6.1 ***Health and Safety:*** Full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the excavation of the trenches, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. 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 implemented for all projects. As a matter of course the Unit uses a U-Scan device prior to any excavation to test for services. It is assumed that the client will provide any available information regarding services within the study area, if available.

3.6.2 ***Reinstatement:*** Land disturbed as a result of this work will be reinstated to the Client's satisfaction, although LUAU as a matter of course replaces material in a stratigraphic manner and relays the surface, if possible. It is presumed that the Client will have responsibility for site security. LUAU would take responsibility for temporary fencing arrangements to exclude livestock or any other farming activities. In addition, any deep sections of open trench would be fenced off to prevent any accidents occurring to LUAU/client staff.

4. PROJECT MONITORING

4.1 ***Penrith Farmer's & Kidd's plc:*** LUAU will consult with Penrith Farmer's & Kidd's plc 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:*** 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 would comprise:

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

5.2 ***Field Survey***
Topographic survey for one day will be required.

5.3 ***Trial Trenching Programme***
One day will be required to undertake the trenching.

5.4 ***Prepare evaluation report***

A three day period would be required to complete this element.

5.5 LUAU can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client.

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

5.1 ***Desk Top Study***
2 man-days external contractor

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

5.3 ***Trial Trenching programme***
1 man-day Project Supervisor
1 man-day Project Assistant

5.4 ***Evaluation Report***
2 man-days Project Supervisor

5.5 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. The external contractor

will be **Caron Newman BA,** who has considerable experience of desk-top studies for planning assessments and evaluations.

# ILLUSTRATIONS

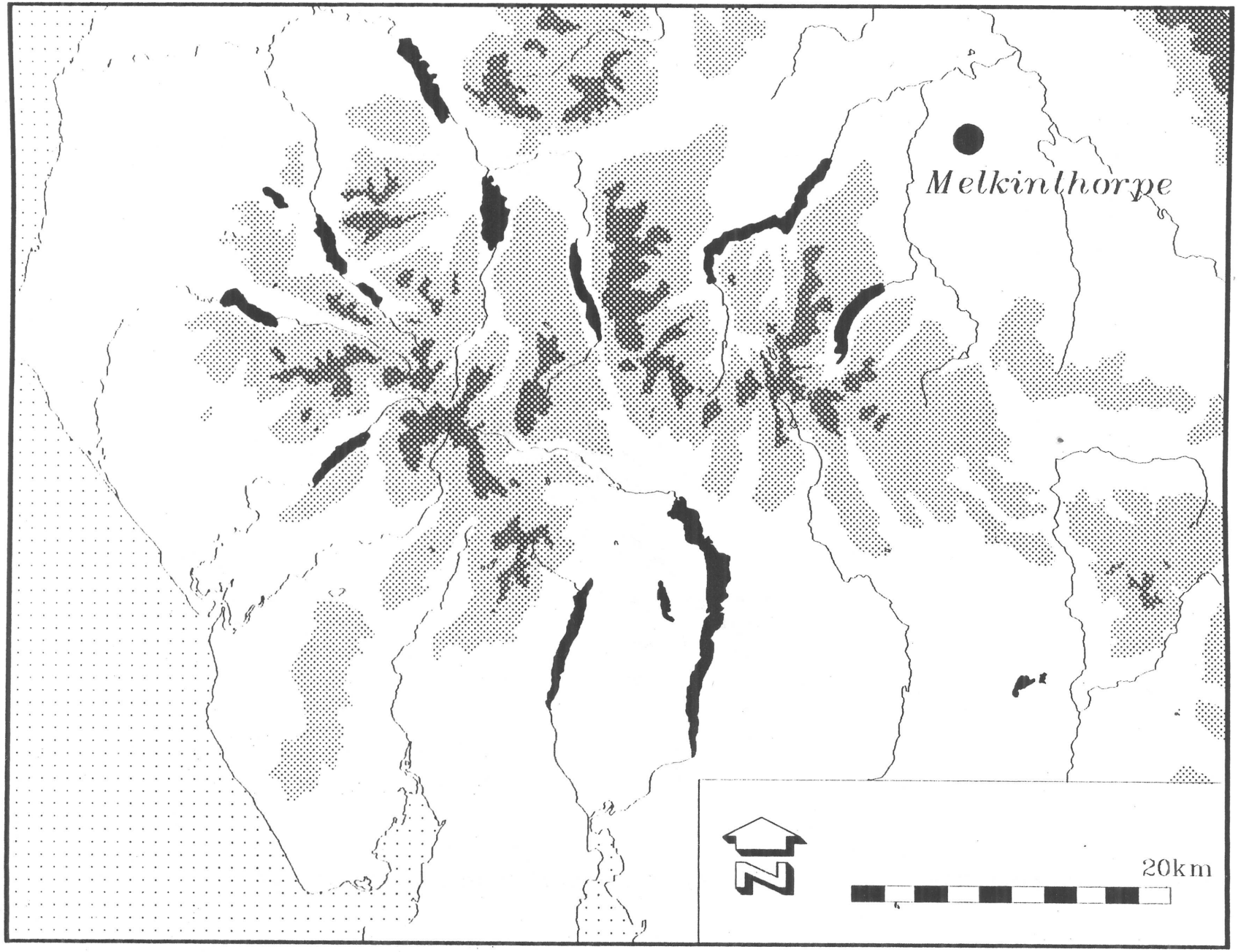


Fig 1 Melkinthorpe Location Plan

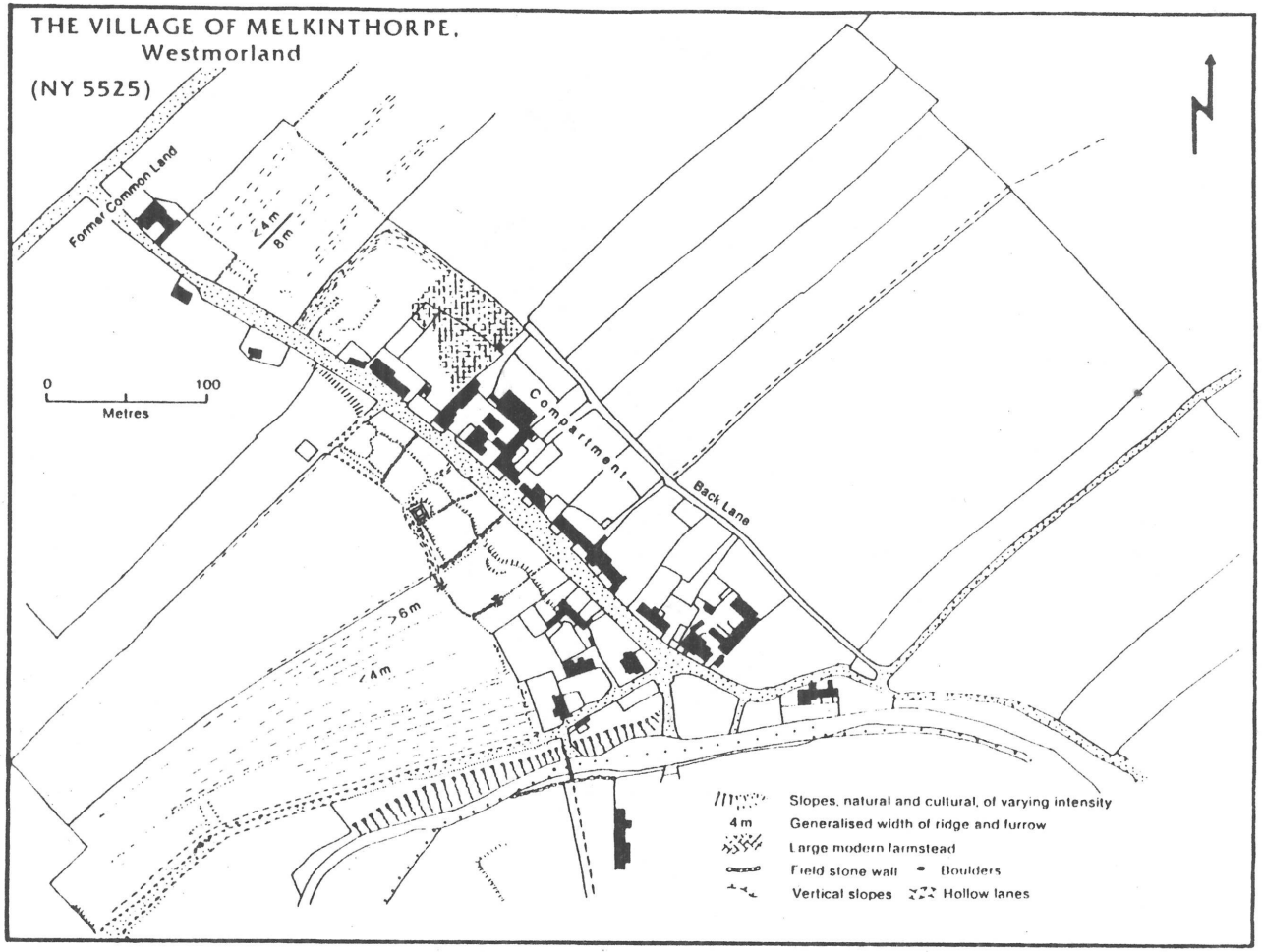


**Fig 2 Melkinthorpe Village Relict Landscape (after Roberts 1993,132)**

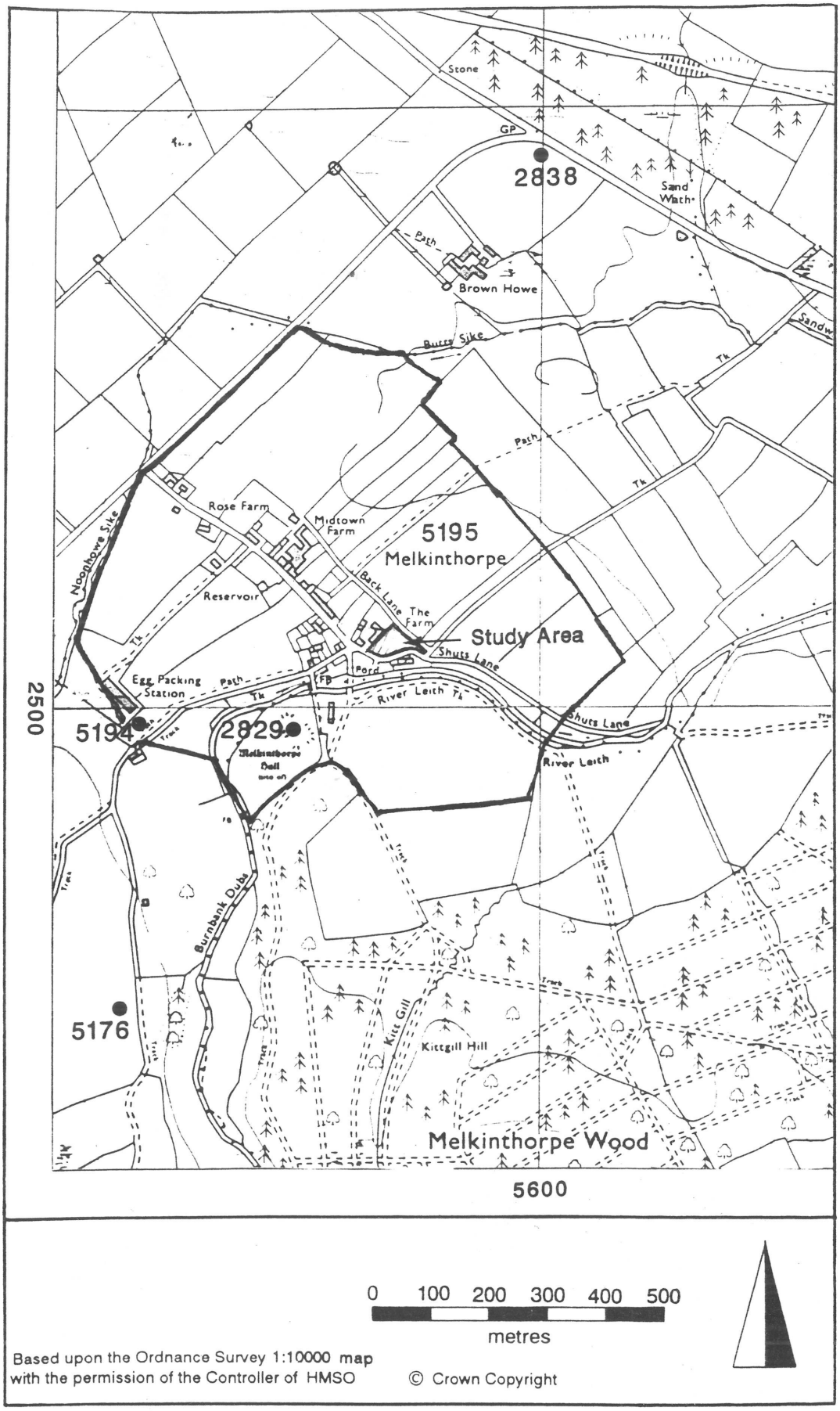


Fig 3 Melkinthorpe Site Plan, based on 1:10,000 OS map

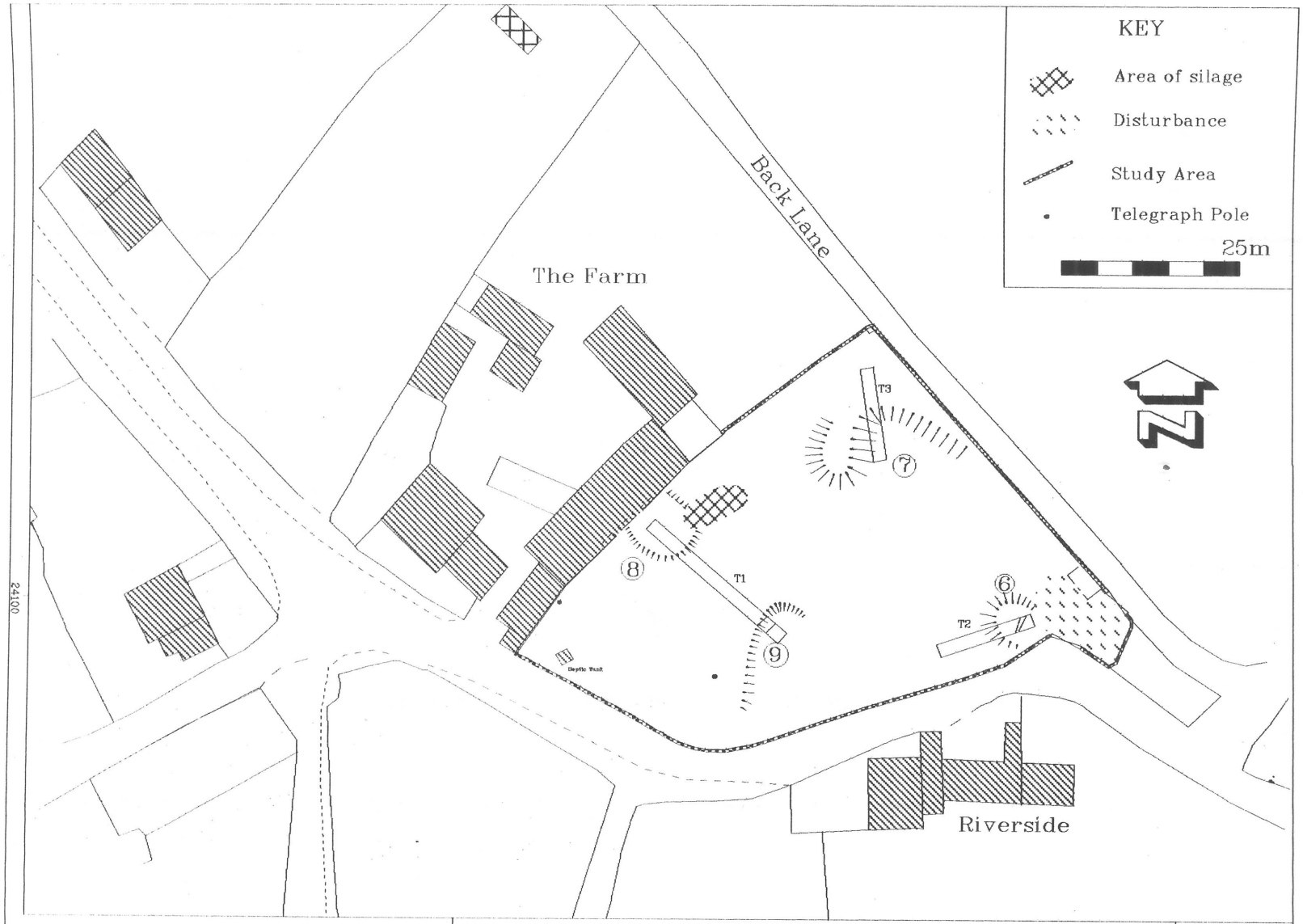


Fig 4 Site Survey and Trench Location plan

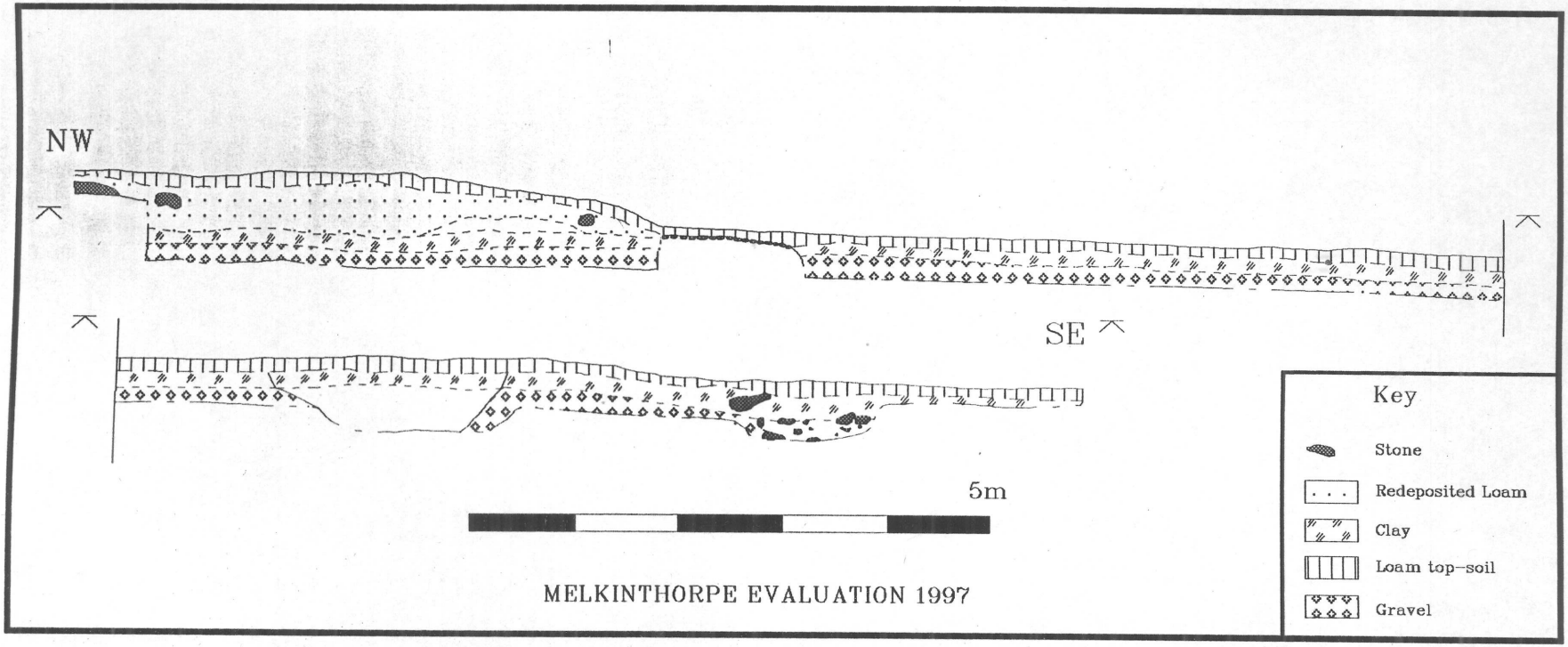


Fig 5 TRENCH 1 SECTION