

October 2000

STRIBERS BANK
WINDFARM
CUMBRIA

Assessment Report

Stribers Bank Wind Farm
Cumbria

Archaeological Assessment Report

Report no 2000-2001/019/AUA8050

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SUMMARY

An archaeological assessment was undertaken in March 1999 of the proposed wind farm at Stribers Bank, to the south of Backbarrow, Cumbria (centred at NGR SD 360 815) (Fig 1) by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), on behalf of Dulas Ltd. A further phase of field walking was undertaken in September 2000, in order to examine the proposed access tracks.

The desk-based study established that this upland area was the subject of parliamentary enclosure, in the late eighteenth / early nineteenth centuries, and prior to this the area was open common. The desk-based study identified a number of sites around the edges of the study boundary, including a barkpeeler's hut and a charcoal pitstead, but only one site was documented within the study area, a gravel pit (Site 05).

The identification survey identified 14 sites across the study area, including a small cultivated plot and four putative clearance cairns. Although these features are inherently undatable, there is a possibility that they had a prehistoric origin. There is also the possibility that there are further archaeological features below ground.

Only a tentative layout of the proposed turbines was available, but the proposed position of turbine 2 will be only 52m away from an area of cleared ground (Site 09) and only 55m away from a pair of putative clearance cairns (Site 20). The access track to turbine 3 will pass only 8m away from Site 20, and only 10m away from a section of relict wall (Site 19).

It is recommended that the layout of the turbines, roads, and power cables be designed so as to respect the identified archaeological resource. In particular the access track to turbine 2 should be adjusted to increase the separation between it and Sites 19 and 20. Evaluation trenching should be undertaken to examine the potential for below ground archaeological features within the area of each turbine and an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during the topsoil strip for the linear communication systems.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LUAU would like to thank Peter Newland and Ruth Whitehouse of Dulas Ltd for their assistance and for enabling access to the sites. LUAU is grateful to Bette Hopkins of Cumbria County Council for providing Sites and Monuments Record information and access to aerial photography collections. LUAU would also like to thank Chris Chandler of the National Monuments Record, Swindon (archaeology) and the staff of the Cumbria Record Offices at Kendal and Barrow.

Thanks are also due to the landowners, Allan and Anthony Riley, who permitted access to their land.

The documentary research was undertaken by Caron Newman, of the Egerton Lea Consultancy, and the field survey by Chris Scurfield, assisted by Neil Wearing. The second phase of survey was by Dan Ellsworth. The report was written by Caron Newman and Chris Scurfield and edited by Jamie Quartermaine (Project Manager) and Rachel Newman (Deputy Director). The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 An archaeological assessment has been undertaken of the proposed wind farm at Stribers Bank, to the south of Backbarrow, Cumbria (centred at NGR SD 360 815) (Fig 1) by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), on behalf of Dulas Ltd. The assessment was undertaken in March 1999, and examined 0.5sqkm of moorland comprising Stribers and Speel Bank Allotments. A further site visit was undertaken in August 2000 in order to investigate the proposed positions of the access tracks.
- 1.1.2 The assessment was undertaken to identify the archaeological resource within the impact study area and involved a desk-based study combined with an identification field survey. The archaeological assessment utilised information contained in the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), maintained by Cumbria County Council, and it also examined published and unpublished records held by the Cumbria County Record Offices in Barrow (CROB) and Kendal (CROK).
- 1.1.3 The identification survey involved a systematic examination of the ground surface of the study area by field walking. The results of both elements of the survey were augmented within the project gazetteer (*Appendix 2*).
- 1.1.4 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short report which outlines the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area, and an evaluation of the impact of the proposed development. This is complemented by a gazetteer of sites, both new to the record and formerly known, and a bibliography.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 1*) was submitted in January 1999 by LUAU in response to a request from Dulas Ltd, for an archaeological assessment in advance of the construction of a proposed wind farm at Stribers Bank, Cumbria.
- 2.1.2 The project design provided for an archaeological assessment involving a desk-based study, a rapid identification survey, and written report, which interpret the data discovered during the project and assess the implications of the development. The assessment has been carried out in accordance with the project design.

2.2 DESK-BASED SURVEY

- 2.2.1 Existing archaeological information was obtained from the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). Manuscript maps and selected other documents were studied in the CROB and the CROK, along with published antiquarian sources. The quantity of manuscript maps in both Kendal and Barrow Record Offices was very small and was limited to the OS 1st edition map of Cartmel (6 inches to one mile, OS 1850, CROB) and the enclosure map of 1809 (CROK WPR 89/Z3). There was little relevant evidence contained in original documents in either Record Office, but a list of the documents which were consulted is given at the end of this report (*Section 7*).

2.3 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

- 2.3.1 A systematic surface inspection of the Stribers Bank area was undertaken to ensure complete coverage of the ground. The majority of the study area was open pasture, but also included a small area of plantation; the ground was walked on 30m transects to identify earthworks and extant surface features. The archaeological detail, as well as significant topographical detail, was mapped to an accuracy of +/- 0.5m, using differential Global Positioning System (GPS) techniques, which use electronic distance measurements along radio frequencies to satellites to enable a fix in Latitude and Longitude, which were subsequently converted mathematically to OS National Grid.

2.4 GAZETTEER OF SITES

- 2.4.1 All of the information concerning archaeological sites in the affected area has been collated into a gazetteer (*Appendix 2*), which provides details of their location, origin, and character. 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 and an assessment has been given of the interpretation and archaeological potential of the site. The sites have been marked onto a digital map showing their positions (Fig 2). Other sites beyond the extent of the study area, 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 study and the field inspection has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The archive will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office (Kendal) with a copy to the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record and a copy will be available for deposition at the National Monuments Record.

3. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The Cartmel peninsula is a well-defined piece of land, with the southern part lying between the estuaries of the Rivers Kent and Leven. The northern part is characterised by a 'mountainous ridge', which is known as Cartmel Fell, at the northern and highest end (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 254). This area was always noted as distinct from the southern part of the peninsula, being defined by '*towering mountains, spotted with tracts of moorland and heath, [which] constitute a scene of much grandeur and sublimity*' (Britton 1807, 77). The area was also described as being perpetually diversified between warm and fertile valleys and barren hills (Baines 1870, 675).
- 3.1.2 The assessment area is in the north-western, upland part of the modern parish of Lower Allithwaite. It is situated on the central ridge, and comprises an irregularly-shaped area lying across three large enclosed parcels of land, two of which comprise rough-pasture and one of which is under conifer plantation. The highest part of the assessment area is in the field known as Stribers Allotment, at 188m, and the next highest is in Speel Bank Allotment at 185m. The northern side of the assessment area is partially bounded by a road, with the western edge defined by the top of a steep slope down to the mosses of the Leven estuary. The surrounding land is a mixture of rough upland grazing and woodland. The area is one of rocky outcrops and poor grazing, characterised by a number of mosses and small tarns, with poor natural drainage (OS 1:25,000 Pathfinder 626 1987).
- 3.1.3 The underlying geology is part of the Ludlow series of Silurian rock, which comprises Bannisdale Slates and Coniston Grits (CROB Z1680, 1963; Moseley 1978, ix).

4. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

4.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1.1 **Place names:** the assessment area lies in the modern parish of Lower Allithwaite, but was situated within the historic parish of Cartmel. Cartmel was part of the pre-1974 county of Lancashire, in the area known as Lancashire-over-Sands. The origins of the name Cartmel are not entirely certain. The earliest reference to Cartmel is that in AD 685 King Egfrith of Northumbria made a grant of lands which included Cartmel and all its British inhabitants to St Cuthbert (Birch 1885). Domesday refers to it as *Cherchebi*, meaning Churchtown, and this name occurs in later periods when referring to Cartmel vill (Ekwall 1922, 196). The second element of the Cartmel name is generally thought to have come from the Old Norse *melr*, meaning sandbank. It is thought that the first part of the name comes from the Old English *ceart* or Old Norse *kart*, both of which mean rough or rocky. Therefore, the name would mean ‘a sandbank by rough or rocky ground’ (Ekwall 1922, 195; Mills 1991, 68). However, an alternative but less likely interpretation is that the first element derives from the Old Norse *kerti*, meaning candle or link, possibly indicating that the site was a link or beacon across the sands (Wyld 1911, 86).
- 4.1.2 Cartmel parish was divided up into seven townships, and the assessment area lies within the township of Upper Holker (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 254, 276-8), a name which has Anglo-Scandinavian origins, derived from *holr* - hollow - plus *kjarr* - marsh -, meaning marsh in a hollow (Ekwall 1922, 197; Mills 1991, 175). The origin of the name Stribers, which applies to part of the land within the assessment area, is not known, although it occurs in documents, as *Stribus*, in 1576 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 277 n 11) and 1665 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 274 n 57), and three buildings are marked as Stribers on the OS map of 1850. Speel Bank, which lies to the south and gives its name to one of the fields within the assessment area, is a Middle English name, from *spile* – play or sport – and *bank* – hill (Ekwall 1922, 198), and probably refers to a former hunting ground.
- 4.1.3 **Manorial History:** Holker was originally called Walton, forming one of three divisions of the parish of Cartmel, when it was a manor worth six ploughlands (Baines 1870, 684; Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 256. 277) held by Earl Tostig as part of his lordship of Hougan (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 254) in 1065. One ploughland was held by a family called Walton, who retained the land until 1342 when it was transferred to the Priory (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 277). The whole territory of Cartmel was granted to William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke in 1186, who then gave it to the church for the foundation of the Augustinian priory at Cartmel (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 254). Cartmel remained with the priory until after the Reformation, when it was annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster, and then subdivided among a number of yeoman families, and a few of higher rank (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 255). The land, however, still remained in the possession of the Duchy, and thus also the Crown as is shown by a document, dated 11th October 1641, which grants the manor of Cartmel in fee-farm, including land in *Howlker*, from the Crown to seven principal landowners (CROB Z280). A fee-farm was a perpetual rent for the estate (Richardson 1989, 50).
- 4.1.4 **Enclosure:** the land covered by the assessment area appears to have been unenclosed held in common until the Inclosure Act of 1796 (CROK WPR 89/Z3), which appears to be the first document which is directly relevant. By the mid-eighteenth century, encroachments on the commons had become a ‘burning question’ (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 255), however, it was to be another 51 years before the Inclosure Act was passed, and it was not until 1809 that it was completed (CROK WPR 89/Z3). Cartmel had a large amount of common land, as much

as 8-9000 acres, including mosses as well as upland pasture (Stockdale 1872, 326). Drainage across most of this common land, including the area of Speel Bank, was either poor or non-existent, and the main water courses, including that at Stribers, were superficial and neglected (Stockdale 1872, 328). The poor drainage, plus the very rocky land on the higher slopes, meant that much of the commons was infertile and suited only for limited pasture (Dickinson 1980, 64). Stock was generally left free to roam and the pasture tended to be bare and overstocked (Dickinson 1980, 64; Stockdale 1872, 326).

- 4.1.5 The impetus for the enclosure of the commons came from the principal landholders, such as Lord Frederick Cavendish, TM Machell and James Stockdale, who initially contributed £200 each, with Stockdale providing further advances (Dickinson 1980, 64). By 1801, the Commissioners had agreed to divide the allotments amongst the seven townships, although this resulted in some of the allotments being made to one township within the boundaries of another (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 256). This can be seen on the OS 1st edition map (1850) where an allotment to the immediate south of Stribers was allocated to Lower Holker. James Stockdale was a principal purchaser of the former common land, paying a total of £2,100 10s 0d (Dickinson 1980, 65). Amongst his purchases was land measuring 98 acres 2 rods and 33 perches at Speelbank, for £375 (Stockdale 1872, 338, 341), known as the Great Allotment (CROK WPR 89/Z3), plus the neighbouring plot, called Speel Bank Allotment, measuring 48 acres 0 rods and 31 perches. A third plot, called Stribers Allotment, measuring 117 acres 1 rod and 28 perches, and lying to the west of Speel Bank Allotment, was purchased by the Lords of Lindale, who were the heirs to Christopher Rawlinson, and who owned the Cark Hall estate (Stockdale 1872, 475). These allotments all lie partly within the assessment area.

4.2 SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

- 4.2.1 There are seven archaeological sites recorded on the Cumbria SMR in the vicinity of the assessment area, only one of which actually lies within the area itself. These are listed in detail in the gazetteer (*Appendix 2*). Two sites are undatable; the first of these is to the north of the assessment area, on Grassgarth Heights, where the OS 1st edition map of 1850 marks the presence of ruins (Site 1). The second is the site of earthworks (Site 2), some way to the north-west of the assessment area, which are recorded within the SMR as being of possible 'Viking-Age'.
- 4.2.2 On the northern boundary of the assessment area are three sites recorded on the SMR. The first is an undated barkpeeler's hut (Site 3) and the second is a charcoal pitstead (Site 4), both of which are associated with the woodland to the north. The third site is a gravel pit (Site 5), marked on the OS 1st edition map of 1850 (*Section 4.3.11*); a second gravel pit (Site 6) is situated to the west of the assessment area, and is first recorded on the OS 1st edition map (1850). To the south, the OS 1st edition map (1850) records the 'old limekilns' (Site 7).

4.3 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY (FIG 2)

- 4.3.1 The study area spans the three allotments (Stribers, Speel Bank and Great Allotments) which are defined by well maintained drystone walls. No documented boundaries predated these fields, which were a product of parliamentary enclosure in 1809 (*Section 4.1.4*).
- 4.3.2 Thirteen further sites were identified by the field survey, of which five were related to or post-dated the establishment of the enclosure field system (Sites 05, 08, 10, 11, and 15) and one site was of natural origin (Site 13). Only one site was previously recorded within the SMR (Site 05).

- 4.3.3 **Pre-Enclosure Features:** located on south-west sloping land on the Speel Bank Allotment was an area of cleared land (Site 09) which was c40 x 30m in size. It was edged by an earthfast, irregular stone bank comprising medium stones and large boulders. Internally the ground was relatively smooth and had no protruding stones, which would suggest that it had been improved. The site was slightly terraced into the slope and the external banks had lynchet-like profiles, thus there is the possibility that the plot has been subject to cultivation, although, there was no evidence of any ridge and furrow within it. The site has no inherently datable features, but similar sites have been found within both prehistoric and medieval contexts (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming).
- 4.3.4 Four cairns (Sites 14, 16 and 20) were identified in the study area; two (Sites 14 and 16) were located on the western and northern slopes of Stribers Allotment, both above the 152m contour. The larger of the two (Site 14) was 4.6-5.1m in diameter and over 0.5m in height. It had a very impressive aspect towards the south-west overlooking the Leven estuary and there is a possibility that it had a funerary function. It had a central depression, which could be a product of antiquarian investigation. Site 16 is smaller and, although not directly associated with any similar adjacent monuments, was possibly a result of clearance. A further pair of cairns was identified on the southern side of Stribers Bank, and comprised two mounds of loose stone which were potentially clearance cairns (Site 20).
- 4.3.5 One short section of walling was identified (Site 19), which had no association with the enclosure field system and was likely to pre-date it. It is only c6m long, extending out from an outcrop, and was probably related to a small area of what appears to be cleared ground to its immediate east. There was a further lynchet bank on the northern side of Speel Bank Allotment, which may be associated with an area of improved ground to the east adjacent to the outcrop (Site 18). This reflects the line of a boundary which has no association with the enclosure field system and was evidently enhanced as a result of cultivation, hence the lynchet profile. This would suggest that the area has been subject to intensive agricultural exploitation, albeit localised, at some stage prior to the establishment of the enclosure field system.
- 4.3.6 A hollow-way (Site 12) was observed on the north-west-facing slopes of Stribers Allotment and is marked by a single erosion scar, resultant from the movement of livestock on and off the common. It is clearly marked on the OS 1st edition map (1850) but then eventually fell into disuse. It linked the two tracks marked on the current OS 1:10,000 map (1973), although the south-eastern trackway truncated the hollow-way; the trackway clearly had been in use and improved subsequent to the abandonment of the hollow-way. The course of both the hollow-way and the wheeled trackway imply a route from 'Grassgarth Farm' on to and across the common land. Within Speel Bank Allotment, two tracks were identified that are shown on the modern OS 1:10,000 map, and one is shown as a path, extending past Sites 19 and 20. This path incorporates sections of linear hollow, which would suggest that it has been in use for an extended period, sufficient to cause this degree of erosion.
- 4.3.7 **Later Features:** associated with the enclosure walls was a sheep fold (Site 08) located in the south-west corner of the Great Allotment below Speel Bank. The two walls of the sheep fold abut the enclosure walls and were constructed to the same specification suggesting that although the sheep fold post-dated the enclosure walls, it was probably broadly contemporary. Incorporated into the north-west-facing wall of the sheep fold was a small alcove which probably served as a store.
- 4.3.8 There was no trace of the sheep pen that is depicted on the current OS 1:10,000 map as being at the mid point of the enclosure walls between Stribers and Speel Bank allotment (SD 81550 35900) and which was immediately adjacent to blocked gateway, Site 11.

- 4.3.9 Site 10 is a medium-sized zone of agricultural tipping comprising mainly rubble material, representing the reclamation of the south-western edge of 'Outley Mosses' for the hard standing currently denoted by cattle feeders. The site straddles the boundary of the study area and is remote from the proposed turbines.
- 4.3.10 The gateway (Site 11) through the Speel Bank/Stribers allotment boundary which served the north/south trackway marked on the current 1:10,000 OS map has been blocked. Instead, a more recent trackway has been adopted, linking Speel Allotment with the road which roughly follows the course of the south-west tributary of the 'Outley Mosses' and links the tip site (Site 10) road to the north. The blocking of the gateway appears to have been carried out quite recently since it incorporates unweathered cement mortar. The gateway blocking incorporates a stile to provide pedestrian access as part of the 'Cumbrian Coastal Way'.
- 4.3.11 Site 15 is located *c*10m to the north-east of Site 14 on Stribers Allotment and comprises a modern four-post structure which is netted in chicken wire and has a 100mm gap across the top. The rectangular base is marked by a line of stones and the internal space is occupied by a variety of sheep bones. The structure served to trap large birds such as crows which threaten lambs in the spring.
- 4.3.12 There is a small gravel quarry (Site 05) (SMR 16326) which has been cut into the north-facing slope and is a product of at least two phases of extraction. It is now turf covered and has been truncated by the modern road.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 5.1 There is little documentary evidence for significant archaeological activity within or close to the assessment area. In general it was open common land until the early nineteenth century and was used only as poor-quality grazing land. The majority of the sites relate to the enclosure of the land or clearly post-date it. However, there is a small number of sites that would appear to pre-date the enclosure and four of these are potentially of prehistoric origin (Sites 09, 14, 16, and 20). In addition, there are two areas of cleared ground, with either an associated lynchet (Site 18) or wall (Site 19), which may potentially be of medieval date. The presence of plots of cleared ground and clearance cairns reflect an attempt to improve an area of marginal upland. Such activity is normally associated with the Bronze Age or Medieval periods and is very prevalent on the marginal uplands of the Lake District, usually below the 300m contour. Typically such sites would be directly associated with other similar clearance features, and the scattered nature of the identified monuments may potentially be an indication that there are further features or archaeological deposits obscured beneath the areas of upland blanket peats.
- 5.2 The site of the barkpeeler's hut (Site 03) and the site of the charcoal pitstead (Site 04) lie to the north of the assessment area, within woodland known as High Stribers Wood (OS 1st edition map (1850)). Holker was traditionally a well-wooded area (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 276), serving a number of industries including the provision of charcoal for the iron furnace at Backbarrow (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 277). There were certainly woods at *Stribus* in the seventeenth century, as they were mentioned in the will of Robert Rawlinson in 1665 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 274).

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 IMPACT

- 6.1.1 This assessment has highlighted the archaeological resource within and around the study area at Stribers Bank. Fourteen sites with surface expressions have been identified by field walking and only one of these was previously identified from documentary sources within the development boundary. In general the archaeological material has the potential to be of local importance, comprising typical examples of post-medieval agricultural features and also gravel quarrying. There is, however, a limited number of sites that are potentially of pre-enclosure date and may be of greater archaeological significance (*Section 4.3.3*).
- 6.1.2 The generalised impact of the construction of the turbines can be assessed, albeit in broad terms. The individual turbines will have a relatively small footprint, but it is anticipated that the site preparation and clearance of the ground cover will involve disturbance of the ground over an area of about 16-20m diameter. The proposed turbine configuration for Stribers Bank will potentially have some impact upon the identified archaeological resource. Turbine 2 is relatively close to the cleared plot - Site 09 - and the putative clearance cairns - Site 20. Turbines 1 and 3, however, are remote from any identified archaeological features.
- 6.1.3 In addition to the turbines, the greatest overall ground disturbance will result from the construction of access roads, which will link the turbines. Similarly the excavation of trenches for power cables may have a direct impact upon archaeological monuments. The proposed configuration of the access track to turbine 3 will be adjacent to two sites (19 and 20), and the construction of the track may have a direct impact upon the identified resource.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 It is strongly recommended that, as the first option, the monuments identified by the present assessment be preserved *in situ*. The code of conduct for the Institute of Field Archaeologists states that members should seek to achieve as the first option, the preservation of archaeology *in situ*, and only if this is neither possible nor practical then is it appropriate in some cases to undertake further work to mitigate the effect of development. Defined below are a series of options for mitigating and evaluating the archaeological resource in advance of and during the proposed development.
- 6.2.2 **Avoidance Options:** the size of the area, coupled with a relatively low density turbine distribution, provides for a considerable latitude in the siting of individual turbines and roads. It is therefore considered that the most expedient and economic conservation option for the archaeology of the area is avoidance. For the most part the sites are individual entities and therefore avoidance of the individual monument is an adequate solution. In these instances turbine and road construction should be at least 30m away from the edge of an identified monument to ensure that both the monument and its topographic context are undisturbed. With industrial groups or archaeological landscapes, however, each individual monument is only one element of an interrelated complex, and any construction within the group will damage the contextual and topographic relationships that define the broad archaeological landscape. It is therefore necessary that each monument group is treated as a whole rather than a collection of independent entities.
- 6.2.3 Turbine 2 presents a limited threat to the identified sites, being c50m from both Site 09 and 20. The access track to Turbine 2, however, is immediately adjacent to both Sites 19 and 20

and consequently presents a higher threat. It is recommended that the route be altered to afford a greater separation from these sites.

- 6.2.4 **Mitigation Survey:** if any sites are affected by the final design of roads or turbine construction, they should be surveyed in detail, to create a record of their current extent and features as mitigation for their eventual destruction. In conjunction with this cartographic recording an oblique photographic record of the site should be generated.
- 6.2.5 **Evaluation:** there is the potential for surviving below ground archaeological features, particularly associated with Sites 09, 18 and 20 and it is therefore recommended that the turbine footprints be evaluated by trial trenching. This would be necessary to establish the nature, extent, date and detailed character of any sites or buried features. It is possible that this work may demonstrate the need for further recording and should thus be discussed with the county archaeological curator. If further evaluation is required this should be conducted in sufficient time to allow for final recording of sites of particular significance prior to construction.
- 6.2.6 **Watching Brief:** the survey has demonstrated that there is the potential for prehistoric sub-surface sites within the extent of the study area and it is recommended that a watching brief be undertaken during any topsoil stripping for the construction of the turbines and roads.

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7.1.2 *Kendal Record Office (CROK)*

WPR 89/Z3, 1809 Plan of the ancient Inclosures in the Division of Upper Holker and part of the Allotments Within the Parish of Cartmel, T Hornor, 6½ inches to 1 mile

7.2 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

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APPENDIX 1
PROJECT DESIGN

JANUARY 1999

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Archaeological
Unit

STRIBERS BANK WIND FARM SITE,
nr BACKBARROW

CUMBRIA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Dulas, for an archaeological assessment of a proposed wind farm site at Stribers Bank near Backbarrow, Cumbria.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The construction of a wind farm at Stribers Bank, Cumbria, is proposed and LUAU have been requested by Dulas to submit a project proposal for an archaeological assessment of the site to inform an Environmental Impact Assessment.
- 1.2 From a brief appraisal of the SMR it is evident that there is limited quarrying and lime working in the vicinity, and an earthwork enclosure 300m to the south-east of the study area, but otherwise relatively few known sites. However, archaeological survey work undertaken in the area has shown that this type of Cumbrian upland landscape often contains a very rich archaeological resource. The apparent dearth of documented sites reflects the fact that no strategic archaeological survey has been undertaken in this area. There is consequently a need for the proposed study to assess the true potential of the area.
- 1.3 **Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU):** LUAU has considerable experience of the assessment of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects during the past 18 years. Assessments and evaluations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. In particular LUAU has much experience of undertaking assessments for windfarm schemes and has considerable knowledge of the Cumbrian uplands having undertaken extensive surveys of over 250sqkm of these uplands within the last fifteen years. 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 in accordance with a request from Dulas to provide an accurate archaeological assessment of the designated area. The principal purpose of the assessment is to collate existing information about the archaeology of the site, to determine the significance of the identified archaeological resource, to assess the impact of the proposed development upon the identified archaeological resource and to provide recommendations for any further archaeological investigation. 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 identification survey.
- 2.3 **Identification Survey:** to record the character of the extant earthworks within the study area and provide an assessment of the archaeological significance of any earthwork remains.
- 2.4 **Assessment Report:** a written assessment report will be generated for the site, which will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. This 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 time scale 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 Records, as well as appropriate

sections of County histories, early maps, and such primary documentation (title 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 Records 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 Offices in Kendal, and potentially also the Barrow Public Library.

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 plotted at 1:10,000. Aerial photographic work may entail liaison with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments (England), although, within the time scale 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 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

3.3.1 **Access:** liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through Dulas.

3.3.2 It is proposed to undertake an LUAU 'level 1' survey (*Appendix 1*) of the study area, which covers an extent of c0.5sqkm. This is a rapid survey undertaken alongside a desk top study as part of a site assessment. It is an initial site inspection intended to consider fully the archaeological implications of a development; it 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 will record type and period and would not normally exceed c50 words. The extent of a site is defined for sites or features greater than 50m in size and smaller sites are shown with a cross.

3.3.3 The reconnaissance will be undertaken in a systematic fashion, walking on approximately 30m wide transects, within the extent of the defined study area. It is proposed to use Global Positioning System (GPS) techniques to locate and record the features. GPS instrumentation uses electronic distance measurement along radio frequencies to satellites to enable a positional fix in latitude and longitude which can be converted mathematically to OS National Grid. The use of GPS techniques has proved to be an essential and extremely cost effective means of locating monuments, and can achieve accuracies of better than +/- 1m.

3.3.4 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: 2500 or any other appropriate scale required, 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.

3.3.5 LUAU provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997) 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, as appropriate. 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 the report will be submitted to the Client, and a further copy submitted to the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record Office. 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 maps and gazetteers 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. 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 The 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, which 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. They will also make recommendations for any further evaluation of the identified archaeological potential deemed necessary or desirable for individual sites. They 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; they are 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.

3.5 **PROJECT MONITORING**

- 3.5.1 LUAU will liaise with the Cumbria County Archaeologist prior to implementing the archaeological works, but there is no allowance made in the costings (defined below) for pre-works meetings with the county archaeologist.

4. **WORK TIMETABLE**

The phases of work will comprise:

4.1 ***Desk Top Study***

A three day period is required to collate all the available data.

4.2 ***Field Inspection***

A one day period is required for the identification survey.

4.3 ***Prepare Assessment Report***

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

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

5. **OUTLINE RESOURCES**

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

5.1 ***Desk Top Study***

3 man-days external consultant

5.2 ***Field Survey***

1 man-day Project Supervisor

1 man-day Project Assistant

5.3 ***Assessment Report***

1.5 man-days Project Supervisor

1 man day Illustrator

- 5.4 The project will be under the management of **Jamie Quartermaine, BA, Surv Dip, MIFA** (Unit Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. All Unit staff are experienced, qualified archaeologists, each with several years professional expertise.

APPENDIX 2 SITE GAZETTEER

Site number 01
Site name Grassgarth Ruins
NGR SD 35640 82380
Site type Site of ruins
Period Unknown
Source OS 1st edition map (1850)
SMR No. 16327

Description

Site of ruins on Grassgarth Heights.

Assessment

The site lies to the north of the assessment area.

Site number 02
Site name Mungeon Farm
NGR SD 362 830
Site type Earthwork settlement
Period Early medieval ?
SMR No. 4294

Description

Alleged settlement site, possibly of 'Viking origin', as suggested by the SMR records. However, the owners believe the earthworks to be connected with field drainage.

Assessment

The site lies to the north of the assessment area.

Site number 03
Site name High Stribers Wood, Grassgarth Heights
NGR SD 3560 8202
Site type Site of hut
Period Post medieval
Source M.Davies Shiel map 1990
SMR No. 30123

Description

Site of a barkpeelers hut.

Assessment

The site lies to the immediate north of the assessment area.

Site number 04
Site name High Stribers Wood, Grassgarth Heights
NGR SD 3564 8207
Site type Charcoal Pitstead
Period Post-medieval

Source M.Davies Shiel map 1990

SMR No. 30124

Description

Site of a charcoal pitstead.

Assessment

The site lies to the immediate north of the assessment area.

Site number 05

Site name Grassgarth gravel pit

NGR SD 35663 82002

Period Post-medieval

Site type Former gravel pit

Source OS 1st edition map, sheet 12, 1850; OS mapping of 1973; identification survey 1999

SMR No. 16326

Description

A gravel pit which cuts into banking to its south and is truncated by the modern road to its north. The widest remaining section is 9.0m across, along the course of the road, and is aligned roughly east/west. It runs 7.0m south from the road into the banking and there is a re-cut of 4m along the eastern end.

Assessment

The site lies within the northern boundary of the assessment area.

Site number 06

Site name Stribers gravel pit

NGR SD 3540 8174

Site type Site of gravel pit

Period Post-medieval

Source OS 1st edition map, sheet 12, 1850

SMR No. 16324

Description

Gravel Pit.

Assessment

The site lies outside the assessment area.

Site number 07

Site name Stribers lime kilns

NGR SD 35340 81020

Site type Lime kilns

Period Post-medieval

Source OS 1st edition map, sheet 12, 1850

SMR No. 16323

Description

Site of three old lime kilns.

Assessment

The site lies outside the assessment area, to the south.

Site number 08
Site name Speel Bank
NGR SD 35944 81143
Site type Sheep Fold
Period Nineteenth century
Source OS 1st edition map, sheet 12, 1850; OS 1:10,000 map 1973 SD 38 SE; Identification Survey 1999

Description

This is a rectangular structure, located in the south-west corner of the allotment boundaries, and is on an undulating slope. It is of drystone construction and in a good state of preservation, consisting of seven courses of sub-angular/rounded stones ranging from 0.30m x 0.18m to 0.10m x 0.70m. Including cap stones, the structure stands to 1.5m in height, and encloses an area 7m x 7m square. In the southern corner of the fold, its wall butts the allotment wall, and in the northern corner the fold wall stops short of the west allotment wall by 1.6m to create an entrance. The north-west-facing wall of the structure houses a small 'alcove' defined by upper and lower stone lintels of 0.55m length, creating a recessed area, within the wall, of 0.35m x 0.23m. The structure post-dates the allotment boundary and is described as a sheep fold on the current OS map.

Assessment

The site is within the study area.

Site number 09
Site name Speel Bank Allotment
NGR SD 35812 81209
Site type Agricultural Plot
Period Prehistoric / Medieval ?
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

The site comprises an area of smooth largely stone-free ground edged by a terrace edge to the south-south-west, west and east, and is located immediately between two areas of crag outcropping. It is a sub-circular area of cleared land (30 x 40m). The boundaries of the plot are defined by stone banks, comprising partially earthfast boulders ranging between 0.45m and 0.70m in height. This is a small, and apparently isolated, agricultural plot, which has been improved and the stone material has been deposited around the edge of the farmed ground. It has no context or association with the allotment enclosures, and almost certainly pre-dates the enclosure. Examples of such plots have been found within both prehistoric and medieval settlements and it is probable that it dates from one of these two periods.

Assessment

The site is within the study area.

Site number 10
Site name Speel Bank Allotment
NGR SD 36072 81749
Site type Tip
Period Modern
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

An extensive area of modern tipping, straddling the study area with Outley Mosses to the north.

Assessment

The site is within the study area.

Site number 11
Site name Speel Bank Allotment
NGR SD 35894 81558
Site type Gateway
Period Nineteenth century
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

The site of an earlier gateway through the allotment boundary wall, now defined by the in-fill of dry stone walling to match the style of the boundary wall, which shows a distinct difference in colour. The in-filled area stands to 1.7m high and is 3.7m wide and consists of fourteen courses of walling. The site of the gate is now on the route of the 'Cumbrian Coastal Way' public footpath, and as such the in-fill contains a stile comprising three stone slabs (1.20m in length) which protrude on both sides of the wall, creating staggered steps rising from south to north. The steps are set with modern concrete, as are the capping stones over the top of the wall. The gate was rebuilt at least once after its original construction, as shown by the presence of the stone gatepost lying in the field nearby, and a later steel gatepost, set in concrete, still standing and marking the northern extent of the in-fill.

Assessment

The site is within the area of study.

Site number 12
Site name Stribers Allotment
NGR SD 35805 81904 (at north) to SD 35906 81818 (at south).
Site type Hollow-way
Period Post-medieval
Source OS 1st edition map, sheet 12 (1850); Identification Survey 1999

Description

A hollow-way, surviving as a sinuous linear depression cutting into the slope by up to 1.0m depth and up to 2.25m wide. The course is now interrupted by a modern trackway but appears to run towards the current farm house at Grassgarth. It is located to the north of Stribers Allotment.

Assessment

The site is within the area of study.

Site number 13
Site name Stribers Allotment
NGR SD 35882 81569
Site type Natural Feature
Period -
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

A boulder with five dished facets roughly running north/south. Although these have a superficial similarity to cup and ring marks, there are similarly marked boulders found in rock outcrops in the vicinity and indicating that they have a natural geological origin.

Assessment

The site is within the study area.

Site number 14
Site name Stribers Allotment.
NGR SD 75606 81478
Site type Cairn
Period Prehistoric ?
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

A cairn located at the base of the slope of a coll / upland basin with a good aspect to the south-west over the Leven estuary. It is a well defined sub-circular mound, c0.5m high, with a diameter ranging from 4.60m to 5.10m and has a distinct central depression. The outer area of the cairn is now earthfast. The size and prominence of the cairn are sufficient for it to be a funerary monument, although it would be a fairly small example. The central depression could potentially reflect antiquarian disturbance, which would suggest that others have also interpreted it as a funerary monument. It could also be a clearance mound, but the lack of association with other similar mounds, or an area of cleared ground, would argue against such an interpretation.

Assessment

The site is within the study area.

Site number 15
Site name Stribers Allotment
NGR SD 35619 81489
Site type Bird Trap ?
Period Twentieth century
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

A structure with rectangular foundation walls, comprising a single course of stone boulders rising to approximately 0.20m above present ground level (1.60m wide and 2.40m long). Each corner holds a wooden post (1.73m high) and there are wooden cross-pieces sitting at a height of 1.10m and approximately 0.15m wide, connecting the posts along the two longest sides. These in turn are cross-braced from the top of the posts to almost their centre points, and linked widthways by a bisecting strut. This forms a 'pitched roof' sloping in towards the centre of the structure leaving a central gap (c 0.10m wide). The entire frame is enclosed in wire mesh and held together with round headed 6" nails. The structure contained five sheep crania and various bones, representing juvenile and adult sheep. It was probably intended to trap crows.

Assessment

The site is within the area of study.

Site number 16
Site name Stribers Allotment
NGR SD 35665 81750
Site type Cairn
Period Prehistoric ?
Source Identification Survey 1999

Description

A cairn of similar form to Site 07, composed of sub-angular/ rounded boulders of up to 0.40m x 0.30m. The outer area is earthfast and it is smaller than Site 07 (3.5m in diameter). It may possibly have been a clearance cairn.

Assessment:

The site is within the study area.

Site number 17
Site name Speel Bank Allotment
NGR SD 36047 81645
Site type Ruined building
Period Medieval/Post-Medieval
Source Identification survey 2000

Description

A section of ruined drystone wall, forming a rough L-shape with a separate, even more ruinous section 1m to the north. The L-shape is 7m x 3m, 0.6m high and each wall is 1.5m thick. The separate section is linear, 2m long, 0.4m high and 1m wide.

Assessment

The site is within the study area but outside the area which will be affected by the access road or the turbine.

Site number 18
Site name Speel Bank Allotment
NGR SD 36039 81593
Site type Lynchet
Period Medieval/Post-Medieval
Source Identification survey 2000

Description

A large lynchet truncated by the track to the west and disappearing into a rocky outcrop to the east. It is 0.8m high, 3m wide and 11m long. It is made up of at least 45% medium to large angular boulders and is orientated east/west.

Assessment

The site is within the study area but will not be affected by the construction of the proposed access roads or turbines.

Site number 19
Site name Speel Bank
NGR SD 35884 81324
Site type Wall
Period Medieval/Post-Medieval
Source Identification survey 2000

Description

A ruined wall running north/south. It is 6m long, 1.2m wide, standing 0.4m high. It emerges from the outcrop to the south and was possibly truncated by the tracks to the north. It may be associated with an area of improved ground immediately to the east, along the outcrop. It is made up of small-large sub-angular boulders with some modern tipping.

Assessment

The site is within the study area and is adjacent to the proposed access track for turbine 2.

Site number 20
Site name Speel Bank
NGR SD 35832 81294
Site type Clearance cairns
Period Medieval/Post-Medieval
Source Identification survey 2000

Description

An area of clearance comprising two rough cairns along the outcrop. It comprises loose spreads of sub-angular stones with associated areas of cleared pasture.

Assessment

The site is within the study area and is adjacent to the proposed access track for turbine 2.

ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig 1 Stribers Bank wind farms site location plan
- Fig 2 OS 1st edition 1;10650 map of the study area
- Fig 3 Stribers Bank site plan

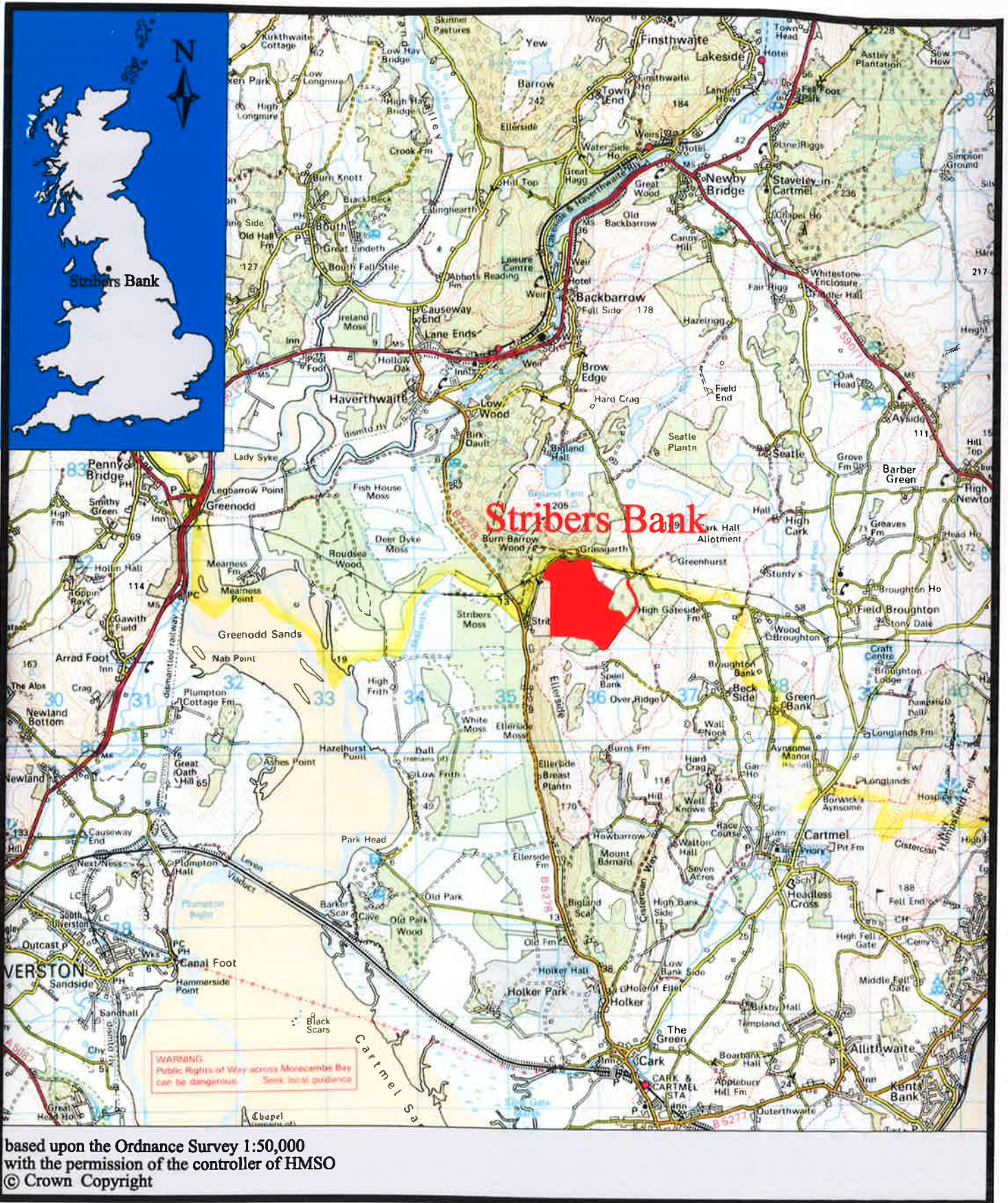


Fig 1: Stribers Bank, Cumbria Location Map



Fig 2 OS First Edition Map (1850) of the study area

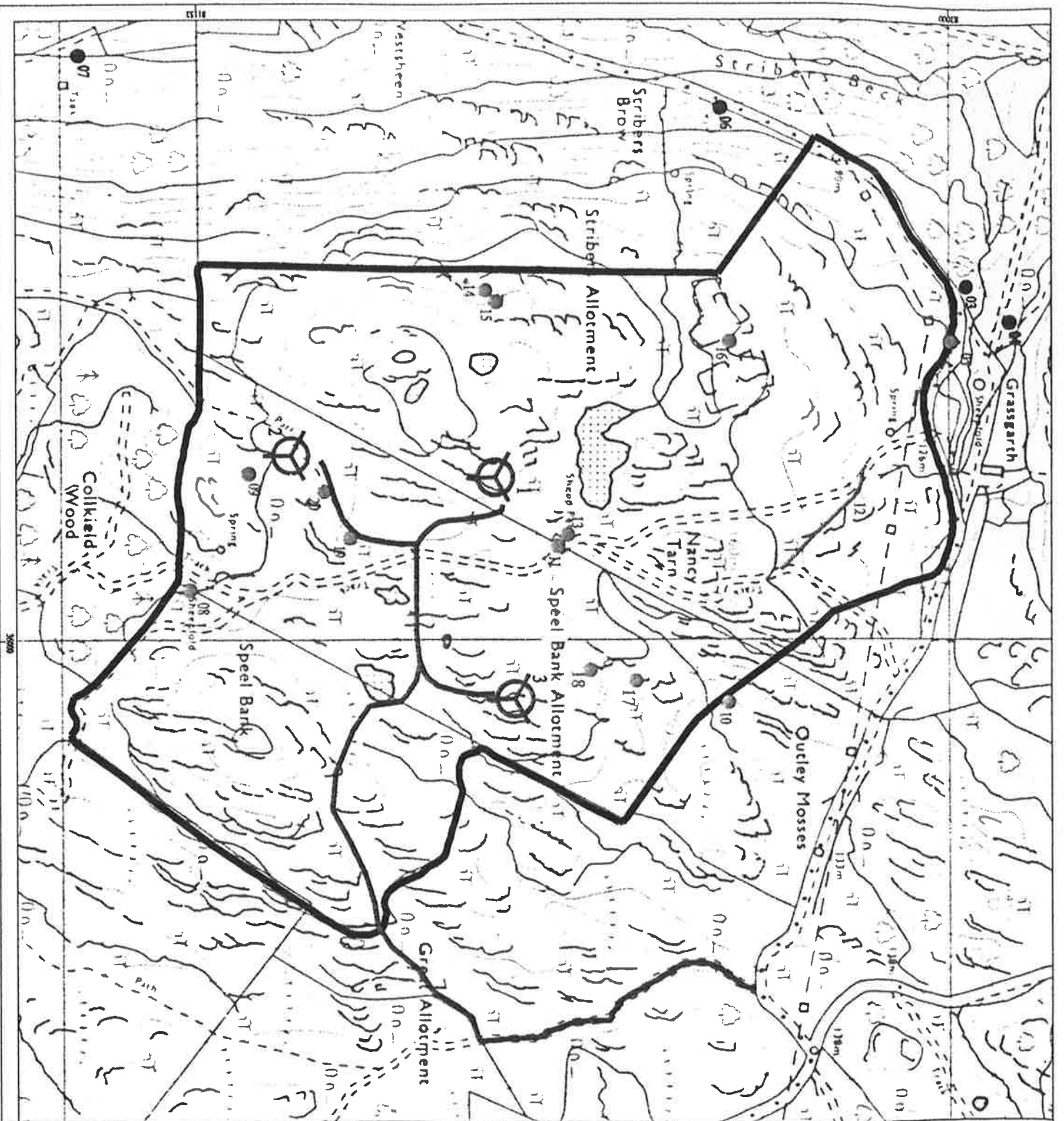


Figure 3: Stribers Bank Site Plan

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PROJECT:
**STRIBERS BANK
 WIND FARM**
 Cumbria

DRAWING NO:
 Fig2.dwg



DRAWN BY: MT and DE
 DATE: Sept. 2000

NOTES:
 Sites 01 and 02 are not shown on this map



- KEY
- Proposed turbine location
 - Study area
 - SAR sites
 - Identification survey sites
 - Route of access road

TITLE:
 General site plan

COMMISSIONED BY:
DULAS LTD

PLATES

- Plate 1 Site 08 - Sheep fold (looking south-east)
- Plate 2 Site 09 - Agricultural Plot (looking south-west)
- Plate 3 Site 10 - Area of recent tipping
- Plate 4 Site 11 - Blocked gateway (looking west)
- Plate 5 Site 12 - Hollow-way (looking north-west)
- Plate 6 Site 13 - Natural hollow erosion marks
- Plate 7 Site 14 - Circular Cairn (looking north-east)
- Plate 8 Site 05 - Gravel Quarry (looking west)
- Plate 9 Site 17 - Ruined Building (looking south-west)
- Plate 10 Site 19 - Section of relict wall (looking north-west)



Plate 1: Site 08 Sheep Fold (looking south-east)



Plate 2: Site 09 Agricultural Plot (looking south-west)



Plate 3: Site 10 area of recent tipping



Plate 4: Site 11 Blocked gateway (looking west)



Plate 5 Site 12 Hollow way (looking north-west)



Plate 6: Site 13 natural hollow erosion marks



Plate 7: Site 14 Circular Cairn (looking north-east)



Plate 8: Site 05 Gravel quarry (looking west)



Plate 9 Site 17, Ruined Building – looking south-west



Plate 10 Site 19, Section of relict wall – looking north-west