



# **ABBOTS WOOD FURNESS ABBEY, BARROW-IN- FURNESS, CUMBRIA**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Oxford Archaeology North**



**March 2007**

**Capita Symonds**

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OA North Job No: L9753

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## SUMMARY

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In 2006 Capita Symonds submitted proposals for a development at Abbots Wood, Furness Abbey (SM 13572), Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria (SD 219 720; planning reference 6/06/9004). The scheme was to involve the construction of a small carpark off Manor Road, just to the south-west of South Lodge, and the repairing of existing footpaths within Abbots Wood. As the development lies within the Furness Abbey Scheduled Area, English Heritage requested that all groundworks within the scheduled area should be subject to archaeological monitoring. Following submission of a project design which was approved by English Heritage, Oxford Archaeology North was commissioned by Capita Symonds to undertake the watching brief during September 2006.

The monitored excavation area for the disabled carpark was approximately 23m east/west by 6m, encroaching upon Abbots Wood to the north by 4m. The groundworks involved the removal of the southern boundary wall, together with the topsoil and subsoil down to a depth of 0.3m below the existing road surface, revealing the intermittent remains of a south-east aligned levelled drystone wall. No dating evidence was associated with this wall, although the fact that it incorporated several pieces of worked red sandstone, most likely to have derived from the post-dissolution robbing of the abbey structure itself, dates it to the post-medieval period. The wall may have been a boundary feature between the grounds of South Lodge and Abbots Wood.

Renovation of the footpaths running through the Scheduled Area within Abbots Wood involved the scraping off of recent vegetation and detritus from the path surfaces. No archaeological features, finds or horizons were observed during monitoring of this process.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Steve Kyle of Capita Symonds for commissioning the project, and are grateful to Andrew Davidson of English Heritage for his advice and assistance during the project

The watching brief was undertaken and reported on by Steve Clarke. The illustrations were produced by Mark Tidmarsh, and Rebekka Pressler examined the finds. The project was managed by Stephen Rowland, who also edited the report.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 In 2006 Capita Symonds submitted proposals for a development at Abbots Wood, Furness Abbey, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria (SD 219 720; planning reference 6/06/9004; Fig 1). The scheme involved the construction of a small carpark off Manor Road, just to the south-west of South Lodge, and the repairing of existing footpaths within Abbots Wood, to the north-east of the ruined abbey. Much of the proposed development site lay within the Furness Abbey Scheduled Area (SM 13572) and, accordingly, English Heritage requested that all groundworks within the scheduled area should be subject to an archaeological watching brief in order to monitor and record the presence of any archaeological remains. Following submission of a project design (*Appendix 1*), Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by Capita Symonds to undertake the watching brief during September 2006.

### 1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 Furness Abbey lies in a small but steep-sided valley in a rural setting on the north-east edge of the town of Barrow-in-Furness. Abbots Wood, and the present development area, is situated on the east side of the valley, separated from the ruins of the abbey by the Lancaster to Barrow railway. The watching brief area for the disabled carpark was located 10m to the immediate west of South Lodge and comprised a roughly trapezoid area 23m x 5m within the arc of the existing Abbots Wood footpath and bounded to the south by an existing wall along Manor Road (Fig 2). This part of the development site sloped downwards from north to south at approximately 30 degrees. The monitored footpath curved for approximately 250m through the scheduled area within Abbots Wood.

1.2.2 The Furness Peninsula of Cumbria is largely dominated by undulating fells, within which a pastoral landscape with substantial woodlands has developed. The southern limit of the county is defined by the broad expanse of Morecambe Bay and the surrounding limestone lowlands (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). The underlying solid geology of the area consists of Silurian Ludlow greywackes (Coniston Grits) and banded mudstones and siltstones (Countryside Commission 1998). The glacial drift geology is overlain by typical brown earths of the Eardiston 1 association, as categorised by Ordnance Survey (1983).

### 1.3 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1.3.1 **Introduction:** the following section is not intended to be an exhaustive survey of the history and archaeology of the immediate area, but seeks merely to provide an overview of those elements necessary to contextualise the present programme of fieldwork.

1.3.2 Although there is an expanding body of data pertaining to prehistoric activity on the Furness Peninsula, very little is known of later prehistoric, Roman and

early medieval settlement in the area, and it is not until the later medieval period that a more complete understanding of human activity within the vicinity of the development site can be gained. Barrow is not mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Faull and Stinson 1986), although, in common with many settlements in the North West, this may relate to the Scottish annexation of parts of Cumbria in the wake of the Norman invasion. The fact that the nearby township of Dalton is listed as falling within the lands of Tostig, Earl of Northumbria and unfaithful brother to Harold Godwinson, indicates the potential for early medieval settlement (Ross 1884, 192). After the Norman Conquest the area, as with much of the North West, was acquired by Roger of Poitou but, subsequent to his later defection, was forfeited to the Crown.

- 1.3.3 Furness Abbey was established as a Savignac House in *c* 1124 by Stephen, then Count of Mortain and, from 1135, King Stephen. Only 13 monasteries following the French order of Savigny (founded *c* 1090) were established in Britain, and Furness was the earliest monastic house in the region (Pevsner 1969, 16) and continued as ‘the largest, richest and most important of the Lancashire houses’ (*ibid*).
- 1.3.4 The site was typical of those chosen for medieval monastic foundations of the more eremitical sects, being in a quiet and secluded valley ‘protected from marauders by the wooded fells of High Furness, with its difficult roads, dense woods, and the lake of Windermere, on the west by Morecambe Bay and its dangerous sands; on the east by the Duddon sands, and on the south by the sea and some outlying islands’ (Ross 1884, 192). The valley had a constant water supply convenient for fishponds and mills, and was well-positioned amongst abundant sources of red sandstone, iron and lead ore ‘obtainable by very slight labour’ (*ibid*), and plentiful timber.
- 1.3.5 When the Savignac order merged with the Cistercians in 1147, the Furness house was already partially built. The Cistercians adapted the site, incorporating all of the components usual in their foundations, but with some distinctive variations and a slightly unorthodox alignment dictated by the shape of the valley, the situation of the Mill Beck, and nearby springs.
- 1.3.6 At the time of its dissolution in 1537, a survey described ‘divers granges, fields, meadows, mills, fisheries, within the manor’ and ‘orchards, mill, and certain closes adjoining [the abbey]’ (West 1774, 100). By 1549, the abbey and various parts of its land were leased to John Preston of Preston Patrick. The Prestons were known to be recusants from at least the early seventeenth century and, in 1674 the then owner, Sir Thomas, became a Jesuit. The estate was forfeited in the early eighteenth century, and descended through another branch of the family to the Cavendish family who placed the ruins in the guardianship of the state in 1923 (Haigh 1969).

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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 The English Heritage-approved project design (*Appendix 1*) was adhered to in full throughout the programme, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

### 2.2 WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.2.1 Close liaison was maintained between OA North staff and the site contractors during the watching brief. The groundworks were carried out by a mechanical excavator using a 0.8m toothless bucket. The programme of field observation accurately recorded the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features. This work comprised observation during the groundworks, the examination of any horizons exposed, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features, horizons and any artefacts found during the excavations.
- 2.2.2 The recording comprised a full description and preliminary classification of revealed features or structures on OA North *pro-forma* sheets, and their accurate location in plan. In addition, an indexed photographic record in colour slide and monochrome formats was compiled.

### 2.3 ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*), and with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the County Record Office, Barrow, on completion of the project, and a copy of this report will be submitted to the Cumbria Historic Environment Record, Kendal.



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### 3. FIELDWORK RESULTS

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#### 3.1 CARPARK AREA

- 3.1.1 Detailed context descriptions are presented in *Appendix 2*. Prior to the watching brief, the proposed area for the disabled carpark was cleared of all vegetation (Plate 1). Under archaeological observation topsoil **100**, 0.2m to 0.3m in depth, and subsoil **101**, up to 1m thick, were removed down to the upper surface of natural boulder clay, **107** (Plate 2). The limit of the proposed carpark was delimited by a footing trench for a trapezoid northern boundary wall, which measured 0.5m wide and approximately 0.6m in depth.
- 3.1.2 At a depth of 0.3m below the road level, two sections of an interrupted south-west/north-east aligned wall, **102** (4.35m long; Plate 3) and **103** (2.05m long; Plate 4), were revealed. This wall, surviving as a single course, was constructed of unmortared St Bees sandstone, roughly faced on the north side, and appeared to have been built directly on the surface of the natural boulder clay. Adjacent to wall **103**, two pieces of dressed sandstone were recovered, **108** and **109** (Plate 5).
- 3.1.3 On the south side of the boundary wall a narrow strip of ground, 1.1m wide by 23m long, was excavated between the existing southern boundary wall and Manor Road, to a depth of 0.3m below the level of the road. A soakaway, 1.5m by 1.1m, was excavated to a depth of 1.5m at the west end of this strip (Fig 2). The east-facing section of the soakaway (Plate 6) revealed that beneath successive layers of tarmac, **104** (0.5m thick), fine limestone chippings, **105** (0.1m thick), a 0.4m thick layer of compacted limestone chippings, **106**, was laid on the natural boulder clay, **107**, indicating that this area, had previously been truncated. No other features of archaeological interest were found.

#### 3.2 FOOTPATHS

- 3.2.1 The groundworks associated with those footpaths within the scheduled area were of very limited scope: no archaeological remains were observed during the shallow scraping of fairly modern deposits and surfaces (Plate 7).

#### 3.3 FINDS

- 3.3.1 In total, six objects were recovered during the watching brief, all from the topsoil and subsoil; their distribution is tabulated below. The finds from topsoil **100** were both glass bottles from the first half of the twentieth century. Those from subsoil **101** comprised a sherd of flowerpot rim and a fragment of rim from a chimney pot dating from the nineteenth or early twentieth century. The pieces of dressed sandstone, **108** and **109**, although never adjoining, appeared to be elements of a fairly small archway, as suggested by their fairly steep curvature. Both pieces bore clear tooling marks, had a square-moulded margin, and **109** appeared to have a possible mason's mark

Context	Pottery	Glass	CBM	Stone	Total
<i>100</i>		2			2
<i>101</i>	1		1		2
<i>108</i>				1	1
<i>109</i>				1	1
<b>Total</b>	1	2	1	2	6

*Table 1: Distribution of the finds*

3.3.2 Overall, the small finds provide little useful information to our understanding of the site. Given the roadside location and the topsoil context it is likely the bottles derive from casual disposal, whilst the chimney and flowerpot could derive from the nearby South Lodge. The two pieces of architectural stone are of greater interest: they are likely to have been re-used from the Abbey post-dissolution as part of the wall represented by *102/103*, and then discarded, perhaps because of their shape, when that wall was leveled.

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## 4. DISCUSSION

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### 4.1 CONCLUSION

4.1.1 Although post-medieval archaeological features were found during the watching brief in the form of sandstone wall **102/103**, the significance of these remains is hard to judge, given the lack of any closely-associated dating evidence. The individual blocks of this wall are quite large and, like loose blocks **108** and **109**, are likely to have derived from the Abbey after it was dissolved. However, the fact that the wall was only a single block thick and of drystone construction, would suggest that it was originally neither particularly tall nor substantial, but was likely to have continued to the north-east, in the direction of South Lodge, and perhaps to the south-west, where it has since been truncated by the modern route of Manor Road. It is possible that the wall represents a boundary between Abbots Wood and the grounds of South Lodge that extended into the formerly-wooded area: the thick subsoil horizon across this area would certainly suggest that the area had formerly been wooded at least up to the line of what is now Manor Road.

### 4.2 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

4.2.1 The present scheme of construction has had a limited impact on the archaeological resource, although it has been able to identify the potential for survival of further buried archaeological remains within the vicinity. However, the fact that the thick subsoil horizon would suggest that the area had formerly been quite heavily wooded, most likely as part of Abbots Wood itself, may suggest that all but the deepest negative archaeological features are likely to have been greatly reduced through bioturbation.

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## 5. REFERENCES

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### 5.1 SECONDARY SOURCES

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Countryside Commission, 1998 *Countryside Character, Volume 2: North West*, Cheltenham

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Hodgkinson, D (ed), 2000 *The Lowland Wetlands of Cumbria*, North West Wetlands Survey, **6**, Lancaster

Ordnance Survey 1983, Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983 *Soils of Northern England*, Sheet **1**, 1:250000

Pevsner, N, 1967 *Buildings of England: Cumberland and Westmorland*, London

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## 6. ILLUSTRATIONS

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### 8.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Location map

Figure 2: Plan of carpark watching brief area

### 8.2 PLATES

Plate 1: General shot of the area on the north side of the boundary wall

Plate 2: South-facing section for proposed wall foundation

Plate 3: South-west end of sandstone wall **102**

Plate 4: North-east end of sandstone wall, **103**

Plate 5: Dressed stone **108** and **109**, found adjacent to **103**

Plate 6: East-facing section of soakaway

Plate 7: General shot of path after old surface removed

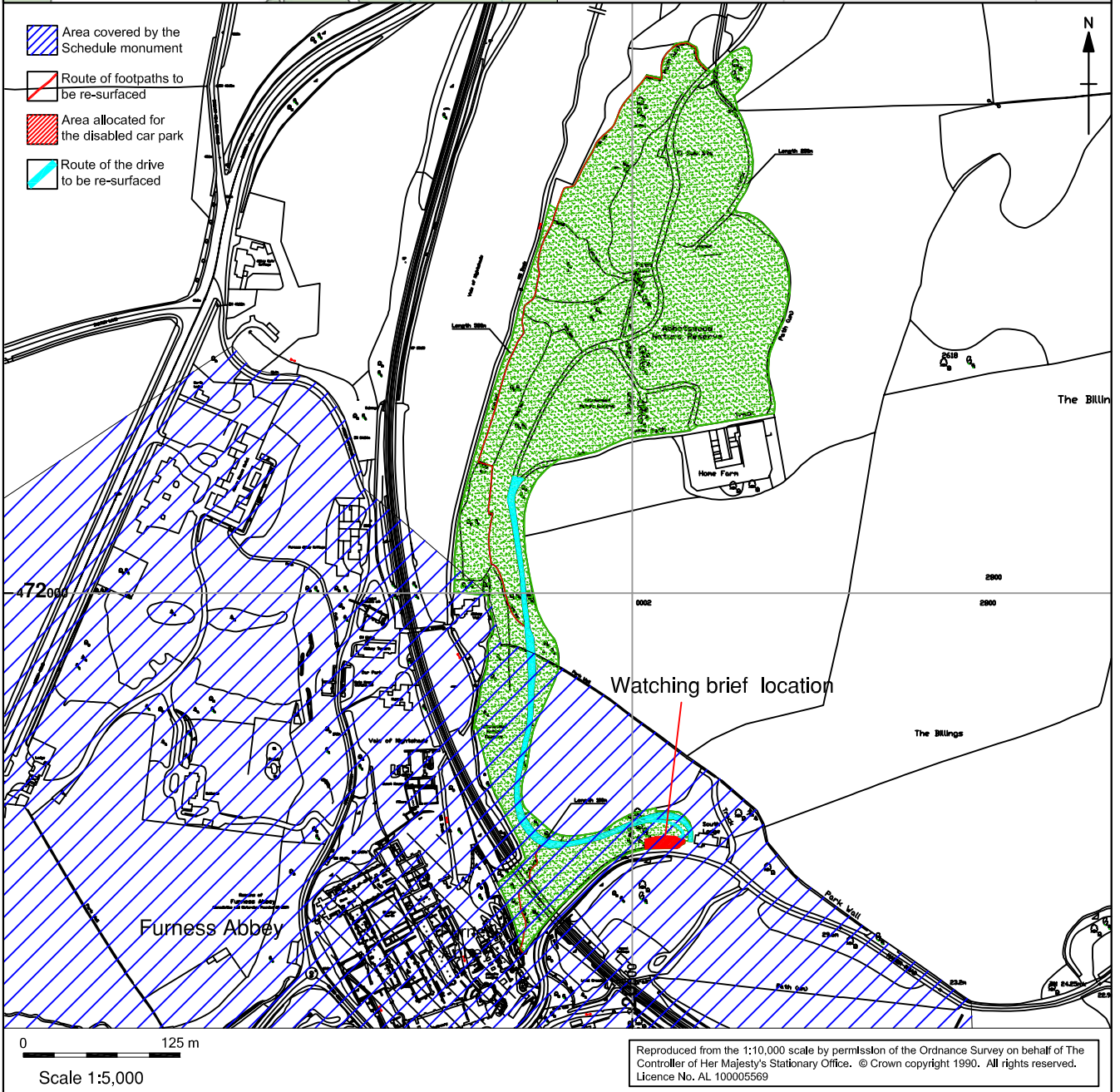


Figure 1: Site Location

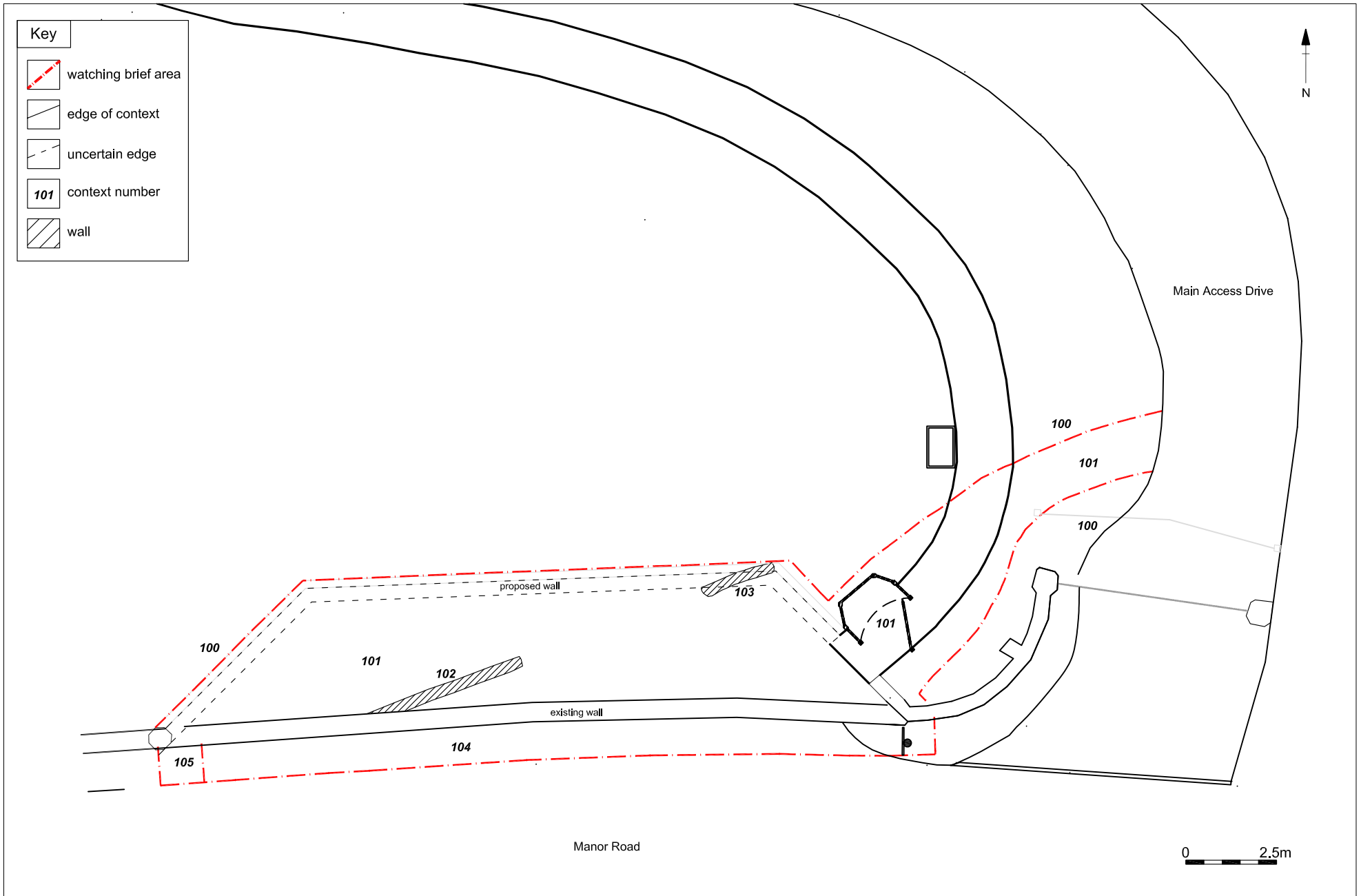


Figure 2: Plan of watching brief area





Plate 1: General shot of area on the north side of the boundary wall

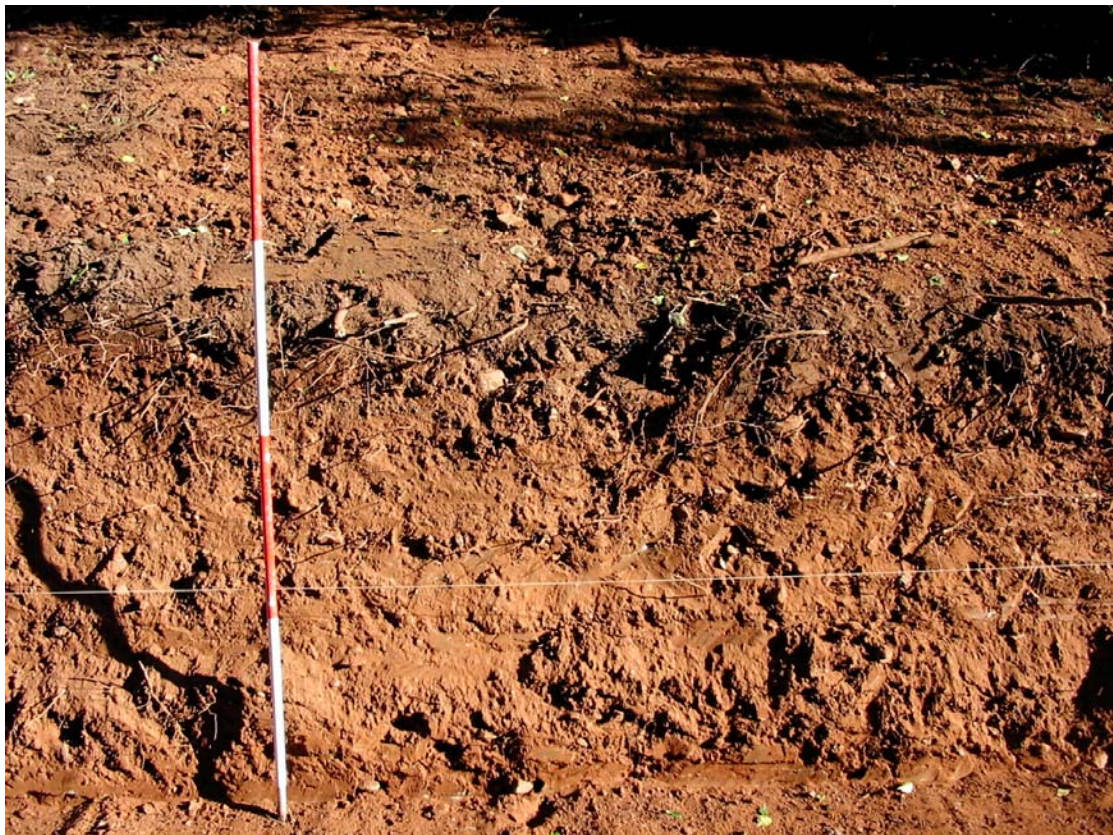


Plate 2: South-facing section for proposed wall foundation





Plate 3: General shot of Sandstone wall *102*



Plate 4: North-east end of sandstone wall *103*





Plate 5: Dressed stone *108* and *109*, found adjacent to wall *103*



Plate 6: East-facing section of soakaway



Plate 7: General shot of path after old surface removed



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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

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**PROPOSED  
CARPARK  
CONSTRUCTION  
AND FOOTPATH  
RESURFACING,  
ABBOTT'S  
WOOD, FURNESS  
ABBEY,  
BARROW-IN-  
FURNESS,  
CUMBRIA**

**Watching Brief Draft  
Project Design**

**Oxford Archaeology North**



May 2006

**Capita Symonds**

OA North Tender No: t2758

NGR: SD 219 720

Planning Application No: 6/06/9004

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Capita Symonds (hereafter 'the Client'), has requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals for a watching brief to be undertaken during, groundworks associated with a programme of development within Abbott's Wood, Furness Abbey, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria (Grid reference SD 219 720; Planning Reference 6/06/9004). The development lies within the Furness Abbey Scheduled Monument, and therefore, English Heritage (EH) requested that all ground disturbing activities associated with the development should be the subject of a programme of archaeological monitoring. The current scheme comprises two parts; firstly, it is proposed that a small carpark will be built off Manor Road, close to the South Lodge; secondly, existing footpaths within Abbott's Wood will be repaired. The construction of the carpark will involved the removal of an existing wall and its reconstruction within newly-excavated footings. Across the area of the carpark, the existing ground surface will be reduced by 400mm. The upgrading of the footpaths will involve the removal of 50mm-100mm of material from the existing footpath surfaces before these are then built-up with new materials. The following document represents a project design to carry out a scheme of archaeological monitoring on the above programme of groundworks.

### 1.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 Although separated from the main Abbey complex to the west by the Barrow to Dalton railway line, the proposed development site lies within the 30ha Furness Abbey Scheduled Area as defined by the extant Park Wall. The Abbey originated as a Savignac house in the early twelfth century, but, by 1148 the community had been forcibly absorbed by the Cistercians, eventually becoming the most influential religious house in the north-west and the second richest in England (Coppack 1998). Between 1150 and 1500, various elements of the complex were either rebuilt or newly-constructed, before, in 1537, the abbey was dissolved and partially demolished (*ibid*). Although the proposed development appears not to affect any known surviving structures, it is possible that groundworks associated with the development will encounter the buried remains of ancillary structures or features. Also of interest on the eastern side of the site and transected by the modern railway line, are a series of earthworks thought to be associated with management of the abbey's water supply (*ibid*).

### 1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.3.1 OA North has considerable experience of excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 25 years. Evaluations, desk-based assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is an **Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17**, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to record the archaeological deposits affected by the proposed development of the site, in order to determine their extent, nature and significance. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

2.2 **Archaeological Watching Brief:** to undertake a programme of observation and recording during any ground disturbance to determine the presence, quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site.

2.3 **Report and Archive:** a report will be produced for the Client within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork. A site archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (1991) and in

accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990).

### 3 METHOD STATEMENT

#### 3.1 WATCHING BRIEF

- 3.1.1 **Methodology:** a programme of field observation will accurately record the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits within the whole area of the proposed ground disturbance. This work will comprise observation during all ground reduction and excavations for the proposed development, the systematic examination of any subsoil horizons exposed during the course of the groundworks, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, and any artefacts, identified during observation.
- 3.1.2 The watching brief will cover the whole of the area to be disturbed by the development including, topsoil and subsoil stripping, the removal of any peat deposits and any other groundworks which would expose the natural drift geology.
- 3.1.3 Putative archaeological features and/or deposits identified during the observation of groundworks, together with the immediate vicinity of any such features, will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions and, where appropriate, sections will be studied and drawn. Any such features will be sample excavated (ie. selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal).
- 3.1.4 During this phase of work, recording will comprise a full description and preliminary classification of features or materials revealed, and their accurate location (either on plan and/or section, and as grid co-ordinates where appropriate). Features will be planned accurately at appropriate scales and annotated on to a large-scale plan provided by the Client. A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously.
- 3.1.5 A plan will be produced of the areas of groundworks showing the location and extent of the ground disturbance and one or more dimensioned sections will be produced.
- 3.1.6 **Treatment of finds:** all finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines.
- 3.1.7 **Treasure:** any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.
- 3.1.8 All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained on advice from the recipient museum's archive curator.
- 3.1.9 **Human Remains:** any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and character of the burial. EH and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential, the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. Because of the proximity of the development site to the extension of the Friend's Burial Ground on Sedbergh Road, an application will be made by OA North for the study area prior to the commencement of groundworks within the southern area of the site. The removal of human remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations.

3.1.10 **Contingency plan:** in the event of significant archaeological features being encountered during the watching brief, discussions will take place with the Planning Archaeologist or his representative, as to the extent of further works to be carried out. All further works would be subject to a variation to this project design. In the event of environmental/organic deposits being present on site, it would be necessary to discuss and agree a programme of palaeoenvironmental sampling and or dating with the Planning Archaeologist.

## 3.2 REPORT AND ARCHIVE

3.2.1 **Report:** one bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the Client, one copy to the EH Archaeologist, and a further three copies submitted to the Cumbria HER within eight weeks of completion. The report will include:

- a front cover to include the planning application number and the NGR
- a site location plan, related to the national grid
- the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
- a concise, non-technical summary of the results
- a description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and results obtained
- plans and sections at an appropriate scale, showing the location of features
- other illustrations and photographic plates showing, as appropriate, features of interest or to demonstrate the absence of archaeological features.
- a description of any environmental, finds, or other specialist work undertaken, and the results obtained
- the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived.
- a copy of this project design in the appendices, and indications of any agreed departure from that design

3.2.2 This report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on CD, if required.

3.2.3 **Archive:** the results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (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 all features, finds, or palaeoenvironmental data recovered during fieldwork, which will be catalogued by context. All artefacts will be processed to MAP2 standards and will be assessed by our in-house finds specialists.

3.2.4 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. OA North conforms to best practice in the preparation of project archives for long-term storage. This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the Cumbria HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the County Record Office, Kendal. The material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) will be deposited with an appropriate museum following agreement with the client.

- 3.2.5 **Collation of data:** the data generated 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.
- 3.2.6 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database project Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.
- 3.2.7 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.
4. HEALTH AND SAFETY
- 4.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A risk assessment will be completed in advance of any on-site works and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
5. WORK TIMETABLE
- 5.1 **Archaeological Watching Brief:** the duration of this element is dependant upon the duration of any ground disturbing activities on the site.
- 5.2 **Report and Archive:** a report will be submitted within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. However, should an interim statement be required this can be issued within two weeks but instruction must be received from the client prior to completion of the fieldwork.
- 5.3 **Written Instruction;** OA North can execute projects at very short notice once written confirmation of commission has been received from the Client. One weeks notice would be sufficient to allow the necessary arrangements to be made to commence the task and inform EH.
- 6 PROJECT MONITORING
- 6.1 **Access:** liaison for site access during the evaluation will be arranged with the client unless otherwise instructed prior to commencement of the archaeological investigation.
- 6.2 Whilst the work is undertaken for the client, the County Archaeologist will be kept fully informed of the work and its results, and will be notified a week in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork. Any proposed changes to the project design will be agreed with EH in consultation with the Client.
7. STAFFING PROPOSALS
- 7.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Stephen Rowland** (OA North project manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 7.2 All elements of the archaeological investigation will be supervised by either an OA North project officer or supervisor experienced in this type of project. Due to scheduling requirements it is not possible to provide these details at the present time. All OA North



project officers and supervisors are experienced field archaeologists capable of carrying out projects of all sizes.

- 7.3 Assessment of the finds from the evaluation will be undertaken under the auspices of OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA MIFA** (OA North project officer). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England. However, she has specialist knowledge regarding glass, metalwork, and leather, the recording and management of waterlogged wood, and most aspects of wetland and environmental archaeology.
- 7.4 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples which may be taken will be undertaken by **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (OA North project officer). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey. Assessment of any faunal material will be undertaken by **Andrew Bates MSc** (OA North Supervisor).

## 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers), 1997, *Health and Safety Manual*, Poole

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 1990, *Guidelines for the preparation of archives for long-term storage*, London

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## APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

Context	Type	Dimensions	Description
100	Topsoil	0.3m in depth	Friable reddish-brown slightly sandy clay
101	Subsoil	1.1m in depth	Firm reddish-brown slightly sandy clay, 20% inclusions of small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones
102	Wall	4.35m long 0.3m wide, 0.2m in depth	Base of drystone wall, consisting of rough cut and uncut stone, up to 0.4m x 0.3m in size, fairly uniform. 0.05m to 0.2m in depth.
103	Wall	2.05m long 0.25m wide, 0.1 in depth	Base of drystone wall, consisting of rough cut and uncut stone, up to 0.4m x 0.3m in size, fairly uniform. 0.05m to 0.1m in depth.
104	Surface	0.05m in depth	Tar Macadam
105	Layer	0.1m in depth	Fine pinkish-brown compacted limestone chippings
106		0.4m in depth	Compacted reddish-mauve small to medium limestone chippings and sub-rounded stone
107	Natural	0.95m+ in depth	Compact reddish-brown sandy clay with 30% inclusions of small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular sandstone.
108	Dressed Stone	0.27m by 0.26m at base, 0.33m high	Dressed St Bees sandstone block with approximately square base. Two sides slope-in to give dimensions of 0.22m by 0.22m at the top, which is slightly convex. One side is chamfered (0.04m)
109	Dressed Stone	0.26m by 0.25m at base, 0.22m high	Dressed St Bees sandstone block with approximately square base. Two sides slope-in to give dimensions of 0.21m by 0.19m at the top, which is slightly convex. One side is chamfered (0.04m)