



AREA OF PHASE 1 EXTRACTION, PEEL PLACE QUARRY, HOLMROOK CUMBRIA

Archaeological Evaluation



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SUMMARY

Tendley Quarries have been given planning consent to undertake the next phase of extraction works on the western extension at Peel Place Quarry, Holmrook, Cumbria (centred NGR NY 067 010), following the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment (Planning Application Reference 4/04/9011). Previous archaeological investigations have shown that, whilst the soils are not responsive to a magnetometer survey and that there has been little of archaeological significance identified in the limited excavation to date, there is still archaeological potential across the site. As a result, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) advised the mineral planning service that a condition should be imposed on the planning consent to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of any groundworks. Consequently, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were commissioned to undertake the required archaeological work in July 2005.

Ten evaluation trenches were excavated in a random pattern within the specified area of work. The trenches were generally 25-30m long and 1.75m – 3.3m wide and the maximum excavated depth was 0.7m.

The trenches were mechanically excavated to the top of the natural geology, which consisted of a mixture of sands and gravels. No archaeological features were uncovered in any of the trenches. The only feature was an iron pipe that ran through the southern-most trench, Trench 9. The finds included 29 artefacts retrieved from the topsoil. The assemblage comprised fragments of pottery, glass, flint, and metal, with at least one sherd found from each of the trenches.

The presence of two potential waste flint chunks suggests small-scale knapping had been taking place in the area, but it is impossible to date this activity closely. The fragments of pottery, glass, and metal recovered from the topsoil were all post-medieval in date, and the fragment size was small. It appeared to be entirely domestic, and demonstrates post-medieval activity in the area. The finds are likely to be a result of manuring practice across the site.

The results of this phase of evaluation trenching appears to demonstrate the low potential for archaeological remains, despite finds from the immediate vicinity suggesting a potential for prehistoric activity in the region. It is considered, therefore, that the groundworks for the extraction will have no impact on any significant archaeological remains, and no further archaeological investigation is recommended prior to development of this area of the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North would like to thank Tendley Quarries Ltd for commissioning the project and the on-site quarry staff, especially, for their co-operation during the work.

The evaluation was undertaken by Jason Clarke, Steve Clarke and Vix Hughes, with the finds being examined by Jo Dawson, with the exception of the flint, which was identified by Daniel Elsworth. The report and drawings were undertaken by Vix Hughes. The project was managed by Emily Mercer, who also edited the report, together with Alan Lupton.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Tendley Quarries have been given planning consent to undertake the next phase of extraction works on the western extension at Peel Place Quarry, Holmrook, Cumbria (centred NGR NY 067 010; Fig 1), following the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment (Planning Application Reference 4/04/9011). Previous archaeological investigations, including desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and trial trenching (OA North 2004a; 2004b) have shown that, whilst the soils are not responsive to a magnetometer survey and that there has been little of archaeological significance identified in the limited excavation, there is still archaeological potential across the site. As a result, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) advised the mineral planning service that a condition should be imposed on the planning consent to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of any groundworks. Consequently, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) were requested to submit proposals for the archaeological work. These were prepared in accordance with the brief issued by CCCHES regarding the first phase of extraction within the quarry extension.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation was carried out in July 2005. This report sets out the background to the evaluation, including historical information and any previous archaeological interventions, together with the methodology employed during the fieldwork. The results of the evaluation are discussed and the impact of the proposed development on the known archaeological remains is considered.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1.1 The site of the proposed western extension to Peel Place Quarry incorporates current pasture land immediately to the north-west of the existing sand and gravel quarry. The Phase 1 Extraction area is positioned within the south-west of the extension and encompasses approximately 1ha.
- 2.1.2 The quarry is located approximately 2km north of the village of Holmrook on the west coast of Cumbria, with Seascale to the north and Ravenglass to the south, and between the main river valleys of the Calder and the Irt (Fig 1). The area around the site is defined as part of the 'West Cumbria Coastal Plain' by the Countryside Commission (1998). This is a region consisting predominantly of lowland river valleys, and the land use comprises 'gently undulating or flat improved pasture' (*op cit*, 25). The site itself sloped gently to the south, and consisted of fields currently under pasture. A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), in the form of the surviving raised mire of Hallsenna Moor, is located to the immediate south of the assessment area (*ibid*).
- 2.1.3 The solid geology of the area consists of Permo-Triassic rocks, mainly Steeton Bees Sandstone (*op cit*, 27) and is overlain by glacial deposits, predominantly sand and gravel in the area of the site. The overlying soils in this area are defined by the Ordnance Survey (1983) as part of the Wick 1 series, a typical brown earth.

2.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.2.1 **Introduction:** the historical and archaeological background is principally compiled through secondary sources and previous phases of archaeological investigation, and is an overview of the information detailed in the desk-based assessment (OA North 2004a).
- 2.2.2 **Mesolithic Period:** previous investigations on the West Cumbrian Coastal Plain have shown that this area was a focus of late Mesolithic and early Neolithic activity. The landscape characteristic of low sandhills suggests a potential for prehistoric activity, as typified by other sites in the North West. Evidence for Mesolithic settlement is well represented from St Bees to Walney Island. Extensive fieldwalking at Drigg (Cherry and Cherry 1985), to the south-west of the study area, produced evidence of early prehistoric lithic assemblages.
- 2.2.3 **Neolithic Period:** there appears to be a degree of continuity between the end of the Mesolithic period and the start of the Neolithic period, with the flint artefacts being indistinguishable (Cherry and Cherry 2002). The Neolithic period was, however, a time of significant social change, with the introduction of ceramics, large funerary and ritual monuments, such as the reconstructed stone circle at Grey Croft near Seascale (Fletcher 1957, 1), more intensive agricultural practices, and the large-scale production of polished stone axes. These axes are found throughout Cumbria and were traded across Britain and into Europe (Rollinson 1967). In the general area, much of the early Neolithic

activity is defined through the presence of casual findspots of polished stone axes, such as the Halsenna axe found to the west of the site (Crawford and George 1983). The presence of these tools suggests intensification of activities including hunting and tree clearance. Flintwork continued to be dominated by beach pebbles, resulting in small artefacts such as the leaf-shaped arrowheads from the sandhill sites at Drigg (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 75). Within the localised area, in the parish of Gosforth, a small but significant assemblage of lithic scatters has been found. These have a less dense distribution than those from the prominent raised beaches to the west (Cherry 1967, 5), and probably reflect the exploitation of the resources of the basin mires to supplement the exploitation of the coast (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 69).

- 2.2.4 **Bronze Age:** the evidence of clearance activity and burial cairns on the upland margins of the West Cumbrian Plain suggests an expansion of settlement during the Bronze Age (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming). However, the large amount of lithic materials recovered through extensive field walking in the area suggests that much of the lowland settlement pattern was similar to the Mesolithic. The Drigg dunes in particular have produced large quantities of flint, predominantly beach pebbles, including barbed and tanged arrowheads, from an organic layer revealed by sea erosion (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 77). Also eroding out of the cliff was evidence for a prehistoric structure (possibly a burnt mound), which has been radiocarbon-dated to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age (LUAU 2001, 7). Further to the east and inland at Holmrook a middle Bronze Age funerary urn and cremation were discovered and there was also a central burial cairn with cremation and Bronze Age artefacts recovered at Grey Croft stone circle (Fletcher 1957).
- 2.2.5 **Iron Age:** evidence for Iron Age activity on the West Cumbrian Coastal Plain is fairly scarce. Eskmeals, to the west of the site, has produced artefacts of a possible Iron Age date consisting of a pair of blue beads found together with an earlier flint assemblage (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000). There is some antiquarian evidence for the recovery of a bog body from within Seascale Moss in the nineteenth century, which could have been typologically dated to the Iron Age or Romano-British periods (Turner 1989, 21). This limited evidence is not sufficient to prove habitation on the sandhills during this period (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 77).
- 2.2.6 **Romano-British Period:** Roman activity in this area was concentrated at Ravenglass (Potter 1979) where a Roman fort and baths were constructed in mid-Hadrianic period and used for some considerable time. Further evidence of activity in this area is generally limited to scattered finds, consisting of coins and small artefacts (Shotter 1989), such as the single coin of Nerva (AD 96-98) discovered immediately north of the site (Collingwood 1923). There is evidence of a possible local iron manufacturing industry and associated pottery at Eskmeals, and possible small-scale encampments within the sandhills at Drigg (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 78).
- 2.2.7 **Early Medieval Period:** due to the lack of surviving records there is no documentary evidence of activity within the study area between the end of the Roman period and the twelfth century. The main evidence lies with place-names; Seascales is rooted in Old Norse *skali* and *erg*, implying sheilings or shelters by the sea (Parker 1904, 38). At Devoke Water to the south-east,

however, pollen evidence indicated episodes of clearance extending into the eighth and ninth centuries (Pennington 1970: Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming).

- 2.2.8 The West Cumbrian Coastal Plain is significant for the large number of pre-Conquest stone crosses especially to the north at Gosforth (Rollinson 1996). The Northumbrian cross at Irton is regarded as ‘one of the finest examples of ninth century sculpture in the country’ together with the greatest of the Anglo-Scandinavian crosses at Gosforth (Bailey 1980; Bailey and Cramp 1988).
- 2.2.9 **Medieval:** monastic records are the first documented evidence of the population in the area, and show the progressing expansion of settlements into the upland areas. Evidence of peat extraction can be shown from these sources, and from manorial records (Hodgkinson *et al* 2000, 79).
- 2.2.10 Hallsenna, to the west of the study area, is first recorded in 1225 and the assize rolls of 1278 as ‘Sevenhoues’. It is also recorded variously as ‘Sewenhauis’ in 1285, and ‘Sevenhoghes’ in 1292. By the seventeenth century it is known as ‘Halseonhouse’ (1662) and ‘Hall Senhouse’ (1668) (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 394). Peel Place was also first named in a deed of 1365 as ‘Pyel’ (*ibid*), which would normally indicate the presence of a medieval manor in the area; however there is no other evidence of such a manor. The hamlet and the now disappeared medieval hall at Hallsenna are thought to have been the ancestral home of the notable Senhouse family. For a time they also owned the manor of Low Bolton in which the study area is found, and had a 500 year association with the manor of Seascale further to the west (Parker 1904, 39).
- 2.2.11 From within the nearby vicinity the site of the Hallsenna/Percy cross is known. It was found re-used as masonry in a shed within the hamlet of Hallsenna and was a boundary cross that demarcated the boundaries between land owned by the Percy family, Barons of Egremont, and land owned by Furness Abbey, some time between 1414 and 1537 (Parker 1909, 91). There is a long tradition of boundary disputes in the area, with the place-name *Threapland Gate* to the west of the study area meaning ‘the road to the disputed lands’ (Parker 1902, 98), although this may not refer to the boundary mentioned above.

2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

- 2.3.1 The site lies immediately to the west of an area previously investigated in four distinct phases, prior to the northern extension to the quarry. The first three phases comprised evaluation (from 1997-99) by OA North, in their former guise as Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU), in which 24 trenches were excavated. No significant archaeological deposits or features were revealed, although sieving retrieved an iron nail and a number of post-medieval and modern ceramic artefacts. The fourth phase comprised a low level desk-based assessment and evaluation (OA North 2003), which revealed three modern gullies and two tree throws, evidence of a post-medieval agricultural landscape. Several pieces of modern pottery and a fragment of clay pipe were also retrieved from the topsoil. No flint was recovered and no features deemed to be of archaeological significance were revealed.
- 2.3.2 During 2004, OA North carried out an archaeological investigation to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed western extension.

This consisted initially of an enhanced and updated desk-based assessment and geophysical survey, and was followed by four evaluation trenches targeting areas of geophysical anomalies (OA North 2004a; 2004b).

- 2.3.3 The desk-based assessment undertaken in 2004 (OA North 2004a) identified 19 sites of archaeological interest within the study area. None of the sites were to be affected by the proposed development, but the area was considered to have a high archaeological potential due to the significant quantities of prehistoric worked flint recovered from an extensive programme of fieldwalking in the vicinity and known findspots (*Section 2.2*, above). The assessment provided evidence of occupation during the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, in particular, the Roman coin located to the immediate north of the development (Site **06**; *ibid*), the medieval cross fragment (Site **16**; *ibid*), and the relict strip fields associated with the settlement of Hallsenna.
- 2.3.4 The geophysical survey showed a relatively low magnetic response in general (Stratascan Ltd 2004). However, a number of faint linear anomalies seen in the magnetometer results were considered to be of archaeological potential, particularly given the prehistoric potential of the area, and were investigated by evaluation trenching. Only one archaeological feature, a ditch, was identified during trenching that had not been identified in the geophysical survey results, containing pottery evidence dated to between the late seventeenth and early twentieth centuries. It was interpreted as a relict field boundary, and correlated with a field boundary recorded on the Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1865 (OA North 2004a; 2004b).
- 2.3.5 The remaining geophysical anomalies were not observed during trenching, although a land drain may account for one of the anomalies in Trench 4 (OA North 2004b), and it is likely that the variable geological conditions across the site may account for this. The results of the evaluation trenching showed that the low magnetic properties of the overlying soils limited the usefulness of magnetometry.
- 2.3.6 The current work was within the same field as that of Trench 4, excavated in July 2004 (OA North 2004b).

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 PROJECT DESIGN

3.1.1 OA North submitted a project design (*Appendix 2*) for an archaeological evaluation in accordance with a written brief from CCCHES (*Appendix 1*). Following approval of the project design by CCCHES, and acceptance by the client, OA North was commissioned to undertake the work. It fully complied with the project design and with current legislation and accepted best practice, including the Code of Conduct and the relevant professional standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

3.2 EVALUATION

3.2.1 The programme of trial trenching was undertaken to establish the presence or absence of any previously unknown archaeological deposits within the Phase 1 extraction area. Any archaeological deposits were to be then investigated to determine their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation, and from this it would be possible to assess whether any further work will be required on site prior to commencement of the extraction works. The evaluation needed to examine 5% of the outlined Phase 1 area, which measured approximately 1ha. This equated to 500m², comprising 10 trenches measuring 30m in length and 1.75-2.0m in width. The trenches were randomly positioned in order to adequately assess the outlined area.

3.2.2 The topsoil was removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision to either the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit or the interface with the underlying geology, whichever was encountered first. The eventual depth of the trenches did not exceed 0.70m, which was within health and safety constraints. All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or manually. Investigation of deposits was exclusively manual, undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features that appeared worthy of preservation *in situ*. Trenches were located by the use of a Leica CR333, GPS (Global Positioning System). The equipment is accurate to ± 0.25 m, altitude information and was referenced with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum. This information was plotted onto an updated digital plan (dwg) of the extraction area.

3.2.3 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records were available for inspection at all times.

3.2.4 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts were recorded using the same system, and will be handled and

stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.

3.3 ARCHIVE

- 3.3.1 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 Cumbria County Record Office (Whitehaven) on completion of the project.

4. RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 Ten trenches were excavated and recorded using OA North *pro forma* sheets. The trench locations (Fig 2) took into consideration the location of overhead wires, preventing mechanical excavation, and a verbal report of the approximate position of a water pipe that ran along the northern part of the site. This led to one trench, Trench 1, falling outside the area of the extraction works. No features of archaeological significance were observed within any of the trenches, except in Trench 9 where an iron pipe was observed.
- 4.1.2 The geology of the trenches varied slightly across the site. The underlying geology was a highly mixed deposit of interleaved sands and gravels. There were sub-rounded pebbles and cobbles throughout and numerous stone types were evident including quartz pebbles. Several fragments of post-medieval and modern pottery were recovered, along with a spoon handle and a fragment of glass. These are consistent with manuring practices over the site. A complete list of the contexts is given in *Appendix 3* and a full list of the finds in *Appendix 4*.

4.2 TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

- 4.2.1 **Trench 1:** was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 31.75m by 2.15m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1500	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 10-15% sub-rounded pebbles and heavy root and worm activity.	0 - 0.3m
1501	Pale reddish-orange sandy-gravel with occasional sub-rounded pebbles.	0.3m -

- 4.2.2 **Trench 2:** was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 30.3m by 3.0m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.4m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1502	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 20-25% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.4m
1503	Pale orangey-brown sandy-gravel with 30-40% rounded gravel.	0.4m -

- 4.2.3 **Trench 3:** was aligned north/south and measured 30.3m by 3.0m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1504	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 10-15% sub-rounded pebbles and heavy root and worm activity.	0 - 0.6m
1505	Pale reddish-orange sandy-gravel with occasional sub-rounded pebbles. A very ephemeral and amorphous lens of natural coal/manganese was noted.	0.6m -

4.2.4 **Trench 4:** was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 28.9m by 2.25m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.5m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1506	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 20-30% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.5m
1507	Mid orangey-brown stony-sand.	0.5m -

4.2.5 **Trench 5:** was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 25.65m by 2.56m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1508	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 10% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.6m
1509	Pale brownish-orange stony-sand.	0.6m -

4.2.6 **Trench 6:** was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 23.65m by 3.0m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.5m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1510	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 10-15% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.45m
1511	Mid greyish-brown silty-sand. Diffuse boundaries.	0.45 - 0.5m
1512	Dark orangey-brown stony-sand.	0.5m -

4.2.7 **Trench 7:** was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 29.75m by 2.85m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.5m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1513	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 5-10% sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.35m
1522	Mid greyish-brown silty-sand. Diffuse boundaries. Flecks of manganese or natural coal.	0.35 - 0.5m
1514	Mid brownish-orange stony sand.	0.5m -

4.2.8 **Trench 8:** was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 28.3m by 3.25m. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.7m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1515	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 5-10% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.5m
1516	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam with 20% poorly sorted sub-rounded pebbles – cobbles.	0.5 - 0.7m
1517	Dark reddish-brown stony-sandy.	0.7m -

4.2.9 **Trench 9:** was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 24.55m by 3.35m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. No archaeology was revealed, although an iron pipe was recorded.

Context	Description	Depth
1518	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 5-10% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.2m
1523	Pale to mid greyish-brown sandy-loam with pebbles. A very ephemeral and amorphous lens of natural coal/manganese was noted.	0.2 - 0.3m
1519	Pale orangey-brown stony-sand.	0.3m -

4.2.10 **Trench 10:** was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 22.25m by 3.3m. It was excavated to a depth of 0.5m. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

Context	Description	Depth
1520	Mid greyish-brown sandy-loam topsoil, with 5-10% sub-rounded pebbles.	0 - 0.5m
1521	Mid orangey-brown stony sand.	0.5m -

4.3 FINDS

- 4.3.1 In total, 29 artefacts were recovered from the site, comprising fragments of pottery, glass, flint, and metal. All of the finds were retrieved from the topsoil, and at least one sherd was found from each of the trenches. The finds are summarised in *Appendix 4*, and are discussed below.
- 4.3.2 The presence of two potential waste flint chunks suggests small-scale knapping had been taking place in the area, but it is impossible to date this activity closely. The fragments of pottery, glass, and metal recovered from the topsoil were all post-medieval in date, and the fragment size was small. It appeared to be entirely domestic, and demonstrates post-medieval activity in the area. No further analysis is recommended.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 The programme of evaluation within the outlined Phase 1 extraction area did not reveal any archaeological features or deposits. Although the previous desk-based assessment has shown there to be a high archaeological potential across the whole of the western extension and its environs, the evaluation results are consistent with successive phases of evaluation undertaken since 1997, wherein recovery of archaeological evidence has been very low.
- 5.1.2 The area of the Phase 1 extraction would not appear to contain any surviving archaeological remains. The recovery of the very low number of post-medieval finds probably reflects the use of domestic rubbish as an element in the manuring of fields until more modern agricultural practices came into effect. The two areas of amorphous lenses of coal or manganese are natural and have parallels from other excavated sites in the area, namely the work carried out at Lantern Tarn, Braystones, to the north of Peel Place Quarry (OA North 2002).
- 5.1.3 The lack of land drains within the trenches was again, not unusual since the area has free-draining soils, and lies on a slope. However, a land drain had been revealed in Trench 4 of the 2004 evaluation (OA North 2004b), positioned on the brow of the slope and implies that drainage was required downslope from this area.

5.2 IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 The results of the programme of evaluation trenching appears to demonstrate the low potential for archaeological remains, despite finds from the immediate vicinity suggesting a potential for prehistoric activity in the region. However, within the outlined Phase 1 extraction area no evidence was recovered from the reasonable number of trenches undertaken. It is considered, therefore, that the groundworks for the extraction will have no impact, and no further archaeological investigation is recommended prior to development of this area of the site.

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7 ILLUSTRATIONS

7.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Location Map

Figure 2: Plan showing western extension to quarry (ref 4/04/9011)

Figure 3: Plan of evaluation trenches

7.2 PLATES

Plate 1: General view of trenches, facing eastwards

Plate 2: Trench 4

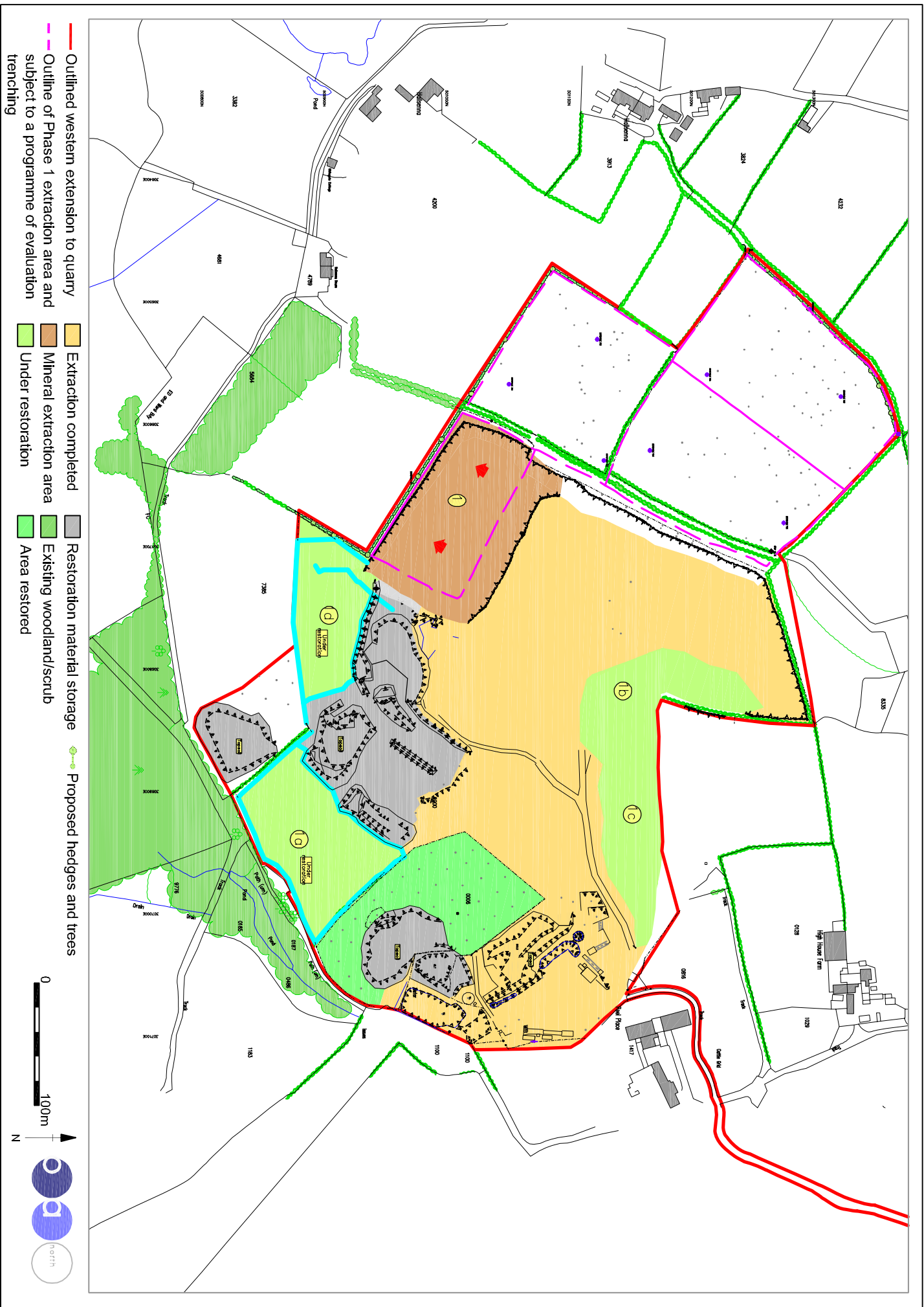


Figure 2: Plan showing western extension to quarry (ref 4/04/9011)



Plate 1: General view of trenches, facing eastwards



Plate 2: Trench 4

APPENDIX 1: CCCHES PROJECT BRIEF

1. SITE DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY

Site: Peel Place, Gosforth

Grid Reference: NY 067 010

Planning Application No.: 4/04/9011

Area of Phase 1 Extraction: approximately 1 hectare

Detailed proposals and tenders are invited from appropriately resourced, qualified and experienced archaeological contractors to undertake the archaeological project outlined by this Brief and to produce a report on that work. The work should be under the direct management of either an Associate or Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, or equivalent. Any response to this Brief should follow IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, 1994. No fieldwork may commence until approval of a specification has been issued by the County Historic Environment Service.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has been consulted by the County's mineral planning service regarding a planning application for the extension to an existing quarry at Peel Place, Gosforth.
- 2.2 The site has been the subject of an Environmental Impact Assessment (Stephenson Halliday 2004) which included the results from an archaeological desk-based assessment, a walkover survey, a geophysical survey and a programme of limited targeted trial trenching. The results of this work indicate that it is unlikely any archaeological remains of national importance survive on the site, which are worthy of preservation *in situ*. However, the results also indicate that the soils were not particularly receptive to the geophysical survey and, because the trial trenching was only very limited in scope, there is a high potential for archaeological remains to extend across the site that have not been revealed by the surveys. Because of this, a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken at the site. Initially, this work will comprise an archaeological evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the whole site threatened by extraction. The evaluation will be undertaken in advance of each phase of mineral extraction and this brief deals solely with the first phase of extraction, as shown on Figure 4a (P114/2c). The first area of evaluation is approximately 1 hectare in extent.
- 2.3 This advice is given in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (Archaeology and Planning), policy 12 of Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The site has been the subject of a desk-based assessment, a walkover survey, a geophysical survey and a programme of limited targeted trial trenching (Oxford Archaeology North, 2004, *Peel Place Quarry Proposed Western Extension Holmrook, Cumbria, Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Geophysical Survey & Walkover Survey*, unpublished document, and Oxford Archaeology North, 2004, *Peel Place Quarry Proposed Western Extension, Cumbria, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpublished document) and this brief should be read in conjunction with these reports. A considerable number of prehistoric implements have been found in the immediate vicinity of the site through systematic fieldwalking and by chance (Historic Environment record nos. 1273, 1309, 3556, 6462, 6463 etc.). Two cropmark enclosures of possible prehistoric origin lie to the east (HER nos. 13542 & 13545). A

walkover survey revealed relict field boundaries likely to be of medieval origin, a hollow way and a trackway surviving on the site.

4. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

4.1 Objectives

4.1.1 The evaluation should aim to determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development within the area shown on the attached plan (Figure 4a (P114/2c)). An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied.

4.2 Work Required

4.2.1 The excavation of a series of linear trial trenches to adequately sample the area shown on the attached plan, and the investigation and recording of deposits and features of archaeological interest identified within those trenches. All features must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the County Historic Environment Service. Initial topsoil removal can be undertaken by machine, but subsequent cleaning and investigation must be by hand. A minimum sample of 5% of the total site area should be investigated.

4.2.2 The evaluation should provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. An impact assessment should also be provided, wherever possible.

4.2.3 The following analyses should form part of the evaluation, as appropriate. If any of these areas of analysis are not considered viable or appropriate, their exclusion should be justified in the subsequent report.

- A suitably qualified specialist should assess the environmental potential of the site through the examination of suitable deposits, including: (1) soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features, and; (2) the retrieval of plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits.
- Advice is to be sought from a suitably qualified specialist in faunal remains on the potential of sites for producing bones of fish and small mammals. If there is potential, a sieving programme should be undertaken. Faunal remains, collected by hand and sieved, are to be assessed and analysed, if appropriate.
- The advice from a suitably qualified soil scientist should be sought on the whether soil micromorphological study or other analytical techniques will enhance understanding site formation processes of the site, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. If so, analysis should be undertaken.

5. SPECIFICATION

5.1 Before the project commences a project proposal must be submitted to, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Service.

5.2 Proposals to meet this Brief should take the form of a detailed specification prepared in accordance with the recommendations of The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd ed. 1991, and must include:

- ❖ A description of the excavation sampling strategy and recording system to be used
- ❖ A description of the finds and environmental sampling strategies to be used
- ❖ A description of the post excavation and reporting work that will be undertaken

- ❖ Details of key project staff, including the names of the project manager, site supervisor, finds and environmental specialists and any other specialist sub-contractors to be employed
- ❖ Details of on site staffing, expressed in terms of person days
- ❖ A projected timetable for all site work and post excavation work

- 5.3 The specification should identify the proposed locations of trial trenches.
- 5.4 Any significant variations to the proposal must be agreed by the County Historic Environment Service in advance.

6. REPORTING AND PUBLICATION

- 6.1 The archaeological work should result in a report, this should include as a minimum:
- ❖ A site location plan, related to the national grid
 - ❖ A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
 - ❖ The dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
 - ❖ A concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - ❖ An explanation of any agreed variations to the brief, including justification for any analyses not undertaken (see 4.2.3)
 - ❖ A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and the results obtained
 - ❖ Plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of deposits and finds located
 - ❖ A list of, and dates for, any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified
 - ❖ A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained
- 6.2 Three copies of the report should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within two months of completion of fieldwork. This will be on the understanding that the report will be made available as a public document through the County Historic Environment Record.
- 6.3 Should further archaeological work result from the evaluation, the results of the evaluation will need to be made available for inclusion in a summary report to a suitable regional or national archaeological publication.
- 6.4 Recommendations concerning any subsequent mitigation strategies and/or further archaeological work following the results of the field evaluation should **not** be included in the report. Such recommendations are welcomed by the County Historic Environment Service, and may be outlined in a separate communication.
- 6.5 Cumbria HER is taking part in the pilot study for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> must therefore also be completed as part of the project. Information on projects undertaken in Cumbria will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

7. THE ARCHIVE

- 7.1 An archive must be prepared in accordance with the recommendations of *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd ed. 1991, and arrangements made for its deposit with an appropriate repository. A copy shall also be offered to the National Monuments Record.

7.2 The landowner should be encouraged to transfer the ownership of finds to a local or relevant specialist museum. The museum's requirements for the transfer and storage of finds should be discussed before the project commences.

7.3 The County Historic Environment Service must be notified of the arrangements made.

8. PROJECT MONITORING

8.1 One weeks notice must be given to the County Historic Environment Service prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

8.2 Fieldwork will be monitored by the Assistant Archaeologist on behalf of the local planning authority.

9. FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

9.1 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to establish safe working practices in terms of current health and safety legislation, to ensure site access and to obtain notification of hazards (eg. services, contaminated ground, etc.). **The County Historic Environment Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this Brief or subsequent specification.**

9.2 All aspects of the evaluation shall be conducted in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Code of Conduct* and the IFA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

9.3 Human remains must be left *in situ*, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation should normally be permitted beyond that necessary to establish the date and character of the burial, and the County Historic Environment Service and the local Coroner must be informed immediately. If removal is essential, it can only take place under appropriate Home Office and environmental health regulations.

9.4 The involvement of the County Historic Environment Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding this brief, contact

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Assistant Archaeologist
Cumbria County Council
County Offices
Kendal
Cumbria LA9 4RQ
Tel: 01539 773431
Email: Jeremy.Parsons@cumbriacc.gov.uk

For further information regarding the County Historic Environment Record, contact

Jo Mackintosh
Historic Environment Records Officer
Cumbria County Council
County Offices
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Cumbria LA9 4RQ
Tel: 01539 773432

Email: jo.mackintosh@cumbriacc.gov.uk

As part of our desire to provide a quality service to all our clients we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this design brief. Please address them to the Assistant Archaeologist at the above address.

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Stephenson Halliday has requested on behalf of Tendley Quarries (hereafter the 'client') that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals for an archaeological evaluation at Peel Place Quarry, Gosforth, Cumbria (centred NY 067 010). Following the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment for a mainly westward extension to the existing quarry, Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) has requested that a scheme of archaeological investigation be undertaken as a condition to the planning consent (Planning Application Number 4/04/9011). Consequently, a brief has been issued by CCCHES regarding the first outlined phase of extraction, recommending a programme of evaluation trenching as the first phase of work. The following project design has been prepared in accordance with the brief.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 During 2004, OA North carried out an archaeological investigation to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed western extension. This consisted initially of a desk-based assessment and geophysical survey, and was followed by four evaluation trenches targeting areas of geophysical anomalies (OA North 2004a; 2004b).

1.2.2 The desk-based assessment identified 19 sites of archaeological interest within the surrounding area, none of which were positioned within the outlined application boundary. Nevertheless, the site was considered to have archaeological potential due to the significant quantities of prehistoric worked flint previously recovered from an extensive programme of field walking in the area, including four findspots of flint artefacts, a polished stone axe, and a hand axe roughout. Research also found there to be evidence of occupation during the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods; in particular a Roman coin located to the immediate north of the application site, a medieval cross fragment, and a relict strip field system associated with the settlement of Hallsenna.

1.2.3 The geophysical survey showed a relatively low magnetic response in general (Stratascan Ltd 2004). However, a number of faint linear anomalies were seen in the magnetometer results of archaeological potential, particularly given the prehistoric potential of the area. These anomalies were further investigated by evaluation trenching. Only one archaeological feature, a ditch, was identified during trenching that had not been identified in the geophysical survey results, containing pottery evidence dated to between the late seventeenth and early twentieth centuries. It was interpreted as a relict field boundary, and correlated with a field boundary recorded on the Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1865 (OA North 2004a; 2004b). The field system was believed to be the remains of medieval strip fields, and the ditch would therefore be of medieval origin and likely to have been still in use in the post-medieval period. Therefore, there exists the potential for other remains associated with the field system identified to be identified across the site.

1.2.4 The remaining geophysical anomalies were not observed during trenching, although a land drain may account for one of the anomalies, and it is likely that the variable geological conditions across the site may account for this. The results of the evaluation trenching showed that the low magnetic properties of the overlying soils limited the usefulness of magnetometry.

1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.3.1 OA North has considerable experience of the assessment of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large-scale projects. Such projects have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. In recent years OA North also has extensive experience of archaeological work in Northern England.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 1.4.1 OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North as part of Oxford Archaeology (OA) 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.
- 1.4.2 **Standards:** it is OA's stated policy to adhere to current professional standards set by IFA, English Heritage, Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers, Museums Organisations. OA helps the profession to develop and establish standards by serving on national working parties (eg recently on archives), and conforms with current legislation and national and local policy standards for archaeology health and safety and other relevant matters.
- 1.4.3 OA has established technical manuals, procedures and policies which control its work covering field recording, finds retention and discard, finds storage and handling, environmental sampling and processing, archiving and post-excavation. These have been developed to conform with best professional practice.
- 1.4.4 **Staff:** OA ensures that its staff are fairly recruited, fairly employed, and properly qualified for their work whether by formal qualification or by established and verifiable experience. OA have established terms and conditions of employment and a system of staff representation to ensure regular consultation on employment matters.
- 1.4.5 OA ensures that staff remain committed and enhance their abilities using annual staff appraisals, supporting formal and informal training and educational courses.
- 1.4.6 **Procurement of services and materials:** OA procures subcontracted work on the basis of value for money, considering quality, track record and service, as well as cost. OA regularly reviews quality of subcontracted work and uses tendering procedures for major sub-contracts.
- 1.4.7 Procurement of materials is on the basis of quality and availability, as well as cost, especially in respect of long-term storage of archives (OA adheres to archive quality photographic materials and processes, archive quality boxes etc).
- 1.4.8 **Working Practices:** management procedures ensure that all work conducted within the Company and all end product reports to clients are monitored and evaluated whilst they are in progress, during compilation, and after completion.
- 1.4.9 **Data Acquisition and Security:** for fieldwork projects OA always removes records and finds from site every day, and ensures equipment is secured.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The assessment aims to evaluate archaeological deposits in order to determine their extent, nature and significance of any archaeological remains that may be threatened by the proposed development. The results will provide information as to whether further investigation or mitigation work is necessary prior to the development taking place. To this end, the following programme has been designed.
- 2.2 **Evaluation trenching:** to undertake evaluation trenching sampling 5% of the area within the Phase 1 extraction.
- 2.3 **Report and Archive:** a written report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context. It will present the results of the evaluation in accordance with the CCHES brief.

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 EVALUATION

- 3.1.1 **Introduction:** the programme of trial trenching will establish the presence or absence of any previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, will then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. In this way, it will adequately sample the Phase 1 area and assess whether any further work will be required on site prior to extraction.

- 3.1.2 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) and the IFA's code of conduct.
- 3.1.3 **Trenching Strategy:** the evaluation is required to examine 5% of the outlined Phase 1 area, which is approximately 1ha in total, equating to 500m². Therefore, the programme of evaluation trenching involves 10 trenches measuring 30m in length and 1.6m-1.7m (the average width of a ditching bucket) in width. The trenches will be randomly positioned within the outlined area in order that it can be adequately assessed.
- 3.1.4 **Methodology:** the topsoil will be removed by machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket). All such work will be undertaken under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit. This deposit will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. All features of archaeological interest must be investigated and recorded unless otherwise agreed by CCHES. The trenches will not be excavated deeper than 1.20m to accommodate health and safety constraints; any requirements to excavate below this depth will involve recosting.
- 3.1.5 All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand.
- 3.1.6 Any investigation of intact archaeological deposits will be exclusively manual. 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. It is hoped that in terms of the vertical stratigraphy, maximum information retrieval will be achieved through the examination of sections of cut features. All excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features, which appear worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 3.1.7 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections, colour slides and monochrome contacts) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 3.1.8 Results of all field investigations will be recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.
- 3.1.9 Trenches will be located by use of GPS equipment which is accurate to +/- 0.25m, altitude information will be established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum. This information will be plotted onto an **updated digital plan (dwg) of the extraction area provided by the client.**
- 3.1.10 **Access:** liaison for basic site access will be undertaken through the client and it is understood that there will be access for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic to the site. Should there be any unforeseen delays resulting from access difficulties beyond the control of OA North a stand down rate will be charged.
- 3.1.11 **Reinstatement:** it is understood that there will be no requirement for reinstatement of the ground beyond backfilling. The ground will be backfilled so that the topsoil is laid on the top, and the ground will be roughly graded with the machine. Should there be a requirement by the client other than that stated this will involve recosting.
- 3.1.12 **Fencing requirements:** the trenches will be protected during the course of the evaluation using barrier tape. However, if the client deems this as not suitable OA North must be informed prior to commencement of site works. Consequently, should heras fencing or similar be required this will be costed as a variation.
- 3.1.13 **Environmental Sampling:** environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (gullies, pits and ditches). An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of suitable

deposits by the in-house palaeoecological specialist, who will examine the potential for further analysis. The assessment would include soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features. In addition, the samples would be assessed for plant macrofossils, insect, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits. The costs for the palaeoecological assessment are defined as a contingency and will only be called into effect if good deposits are identified.

- 3.1.14 Advice will also be sought as to whether a soil micromorphological study or any other analytical techniques will enhance the understanding of the site formation processes, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. Should this be required the costs for analysis will be provided as a variation.
- 3.1.15 **Faunal remains:** if there is found to be the potential for discovery of bones of fish and small mammals a sieving programme will be carried out. These will be assessed as appropriate by OA north's specialist in faunal remains, and subject to the results, there may be a requirement for more detailed analysis. A contingency has been included for the assessment of such faunal remains for analysis.
- 3.1.16 **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. CCCHES 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. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations. Such removal may also require costing as a variation, the amount of which will be made in agreement with the client.
- 3.1.17 **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.
- 3.1.18 **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.
- 3.1.19 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.
- 3.1.20 **Contingency plan:** a contingency costing may also be employed for unseen delays caused by prolonged periods of bad weather, vandalism, discovery of unforeseen complex deposits and/or artefacts which require specialist removal, use of shoring to excavate important features close to the excavation sections etc. This has been included in the Costings document and would be in agreement with the client.
- 3.1.21 The evaluation will provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. In this way, an impact assessment will also be provided.

3.2 REPORT

- 3.2.1 Initially, one bound copy of the draft report will be submitted to the client for approval. Upon client agreement, four subsequent copies of the bound finalised report and one unbound copy will be submitted to the client, and a further three copies submitted to the Cumbria HER within eight weeks of completion. Any additional draft submissions and amendments may require recosting as a variation.
- 3.2.2 The report will be in accordance with the CCCHES brief and will include;
- a site location plan related to the national grid
 - a front cover to include the planning application number and the NGR
 - the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken

- a concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - an explanation to any agreed variations to the brief, including any justification for any analyses not undertaken
 - a description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and results obtained
 - plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing the location and position of deposits and finds located
 - a list of and dates for any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified
 - a description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained
 - a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
 - the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived.
- 3.2.3 It must be noted that as per the CCCHES brief, recommendations concerning any subsequent mitigation strategies and/or further archaeological work following the results of the field evaluation will **not** be included, although this may be outlined to the client and CCCHES in a separate communication.
- 3.2.4 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, but please inform OA North at the earliest convenience.
- 3.2.5 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.
- 3.2.6 **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.
- 3.3 ARCHIVE**
- 3.3.1 The 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 will deposit the original record archive of projects with the Whitehaven Record Office.
- 3.3.2 All artefacts will be processed to MAP2 standards and will be assessed by our in-house finds specialists.
- 3.3.3 The deposition and disposal of any artefacts recovered in the evaluation will be agreed with the legal owner and an appropriate recipient museum. CCCHES will be notified of the arrangements made.
- 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 written risk assessment will be undertaken in advance of project commencement and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
- 4.2 Full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the watching brief as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. As a matter of course the Unit uses a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to any excavation to test for services. However, this is not fool-proof and **it is assumed that the client will provide any available information regarding services within the study area.**

5 PROJECT MONITORING

- 5.1 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 CCCHEs in consultation with the client.

6 WORK TIMETABLE

- 6.1 **Evaluation Trenching:** approximately five days will be required to complete this element with a team of three people (15 person days).
- 6.2 **Archive/Report:** the report and archive will be produced following the completion of all the fieldwork. The final report will be submitted within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork, although an interim report can be issued within two weeks at the request of the client, and the archive deposited within six months.
- 6.3 OA North can execute projects at very short notice once a formal written agreement has been received from the client.

7 STAFFING

- 7.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Emily Mercer BA (Hons) MSc AIFA** (OA North senior project manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 7.2 All elements of the assessment will be supervised by either an OA North project officer or supervisor experienced in this type of project, and assisted by two OA North project assistants. 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** (OA North project officer). Christine has extensive knowledge of finds from many periods, although she does have considerable experience with Roman finds, being involved with the excavations at Ribchester and at present with the Carlisle Millennium Project.
- 7.4 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken by or under the auspices of **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (OA North environmental manager). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.

8 INSURANCE

- 8.1 OA North has a professional indemnity cover to a value of £2,000,000; proof of which can be supplied as required.

REFERENCES

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OA North 2004a *Peel Place Quarry Proposed Western Extension, Holmrook, Cumbria: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Geophysical Survey and Walkover Survey*, unpubl report

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APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Trench	Description
<i>1500</i>	1	Topsoil
<i>1501</i>	1	Geology
<i>1502</i>	2	Topsoil
<i>1503</i>	2	Geology
<i>1504</i>	3	Topsoil
<i>1505</i>	3	Geology
<i>1506</i>	4	Topsoil
<i>1507</i>	4	Geology
<i>1508</i>	5	Topsoil
<i>1509</i>	5	Geology
<i>1510</i>	6	Topsoil
<i>1511</i>	6	Subsoil
<i>1512</i>	6	Geology
<i>1513</i>	7	Topsoil
<i>1514</i>	7	Geology
<i>1515</i>	8	Topsoil
<i>1516</i>	8	Subsoil
<i>1517</i>	8	Geology
<i>1518</i>	9	Topsoil
<i>1519</i>	9	Geology
<i>1520</i>	10	Topsoil
<i>1521</i>	10	Geology
<i>1522</i>	7	Subsoil
<i>1523</i>	9	Subsoil

APPENDIX 4: FINDS SUMMARY

Trench	Ctxt	Object record	Qty	Material	Description	Date range
1	1500	1000	1	Ceramic	White earthenware	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
1	1500	1000	1	Ceramic	White earthenware factory-made slipware jug (?) fragment with white relief-moulded exterior and blue slip-coated interior	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century
2	1502	1001	1	Ceramic	Bone china tea cup rim with relief-moulded decoration	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century
2	1502	1001	1	Silver?	Teaspoon handle	Not closely dateable
3	1504	1002	1	Ceramic	Black-glazed red earthenware hollow-ware rim	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
3	1504	1002	1	Ceramic	White earthenware hollow-ware fragment with blue transfer-printed pattern of a person in a landscape pointing at something, with a flower and leaf border	Late eighteenth - nineteenth century
3	1504	1002	1	Glass	Green bottle fragment	Eighteenth - twentieth century
4	1506	1003	1	Ceramic	Black-glazed red earthenware vessel base fragment	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
5	1508	1004	2	Ceramic	Refitting black-glazed red earthenware fragments	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
5	1508	1004	1	Ceramic	Brown-glazed red earthenware fine plate (?) rim	Late seventeenth - early nineteenth century
5	1508	1004	1	Ceramic	White earthenware with dark green sheet (?) pattern transfer-print	Nineteenth - early twentieth century
6	1510	1005	1	Ceramic	Black-glazed high-fired laminated brown earthenware hollow-ware vessel fragment	Late seventeenth - nineteenth century
6	1510	1005	1	Ceramic	Creamware with impressed design	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
7	1513	1006	1	Ceramic	Pearlware fragment	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
7	1513	1006	1	Ceramic	Brown-glazed red earthenware vessel rim	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
7	1513	1006	1	Ceramic	Black-glazed red earthenware hollow-ware fragment	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
8	1515	1007	1	Ceramic	Self-glazed beige earthenware hollow-ware vessel fragment with white factory-made slip lines	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century

Trench	Ctxt	Object record	Qty	Material	Description	Date range
8	1515	1007	1	Flint	Waste chunk	Not closely dateable
9	1518	1008	1	Ceramic	White earthenware rim (?) fragment	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century
9	1518	1008	1	Ceramic	Brown-glazed red earthenware vessel base fragment	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
9	1518	1008	1	Ceramic	Light brown glazed light orange earthenware hollow-ware fragment	Late seventeenth - nineteenth century
10	1520	1009	2	Ceramic	Black-glazed red earthenware base fragment and hollow-ware vessel fragment	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
10	1520	1009	1	Ceramic	Creamware fragment	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
10	1520	1009	1	Ceramic	White earthenware fragment	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
10	1520	1009	1	Ceramic	Pearlware hollow-ware vessel fragment with factory-made slipware decoration: dark brown band with cable (?) decoration over it in dark brown, olive green, and light blue, and rouletted decoration on the non-slip-coated area, with the rouletting filled with dark brown slip	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
10	1520	1009	1	Ceramic	Tin-glazed earthenware fragment with blue painted decoration	Eighteenth century
10	1520	1009	1	Flint	Waste chunk or part of core	Late Mesolithic to early Neolithic?