

Helvellyn Gill, Lake District National Park, Cumbria



Rapid Desk-Based Research and Walkover Survey

Oxford Archaeology North



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SUMMARY

Following proposals by United Utilities (UU) for the construction of a flow transfer structure, access improvements and a control building at Helvellyn Gill in Cumbria (NGR NY 3162 1698), the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) recommended that rapid archaeological desk-based research and a walkover survey of the proposed development be undertaken. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was subsequently commissioned by United Utilities to undertake this work.

The study area is located in the Thirlmere valley, one of the main natural communication routes extending north from the centre of the Lake District, which would have been an important access route in both the prehistoric and subsequent periods. The Dunmail Raise cairn to the south of Thirlmere is a possible commemorative marker perhaps for a dark age battle or a Cumbrian King. It is located at the watershed between two major valleys and is on the line of a natural boundary. Since at least the twelfth century it has marked the border between Cumberland and Westmorland, and at one time may have marked the border between England and Scotland, or Cumberland and Strathclyde.

A survey carried out by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) in 1997 of North West Water's (now UU) Thirlmere estate, which included the current study area, concluded that the earliest medieval exploitation of the area was of a sporadic and potentially transhumant nature. A medieval enclosure located at Helvellyn Gill (Site **11**) is, therefore, a rare example of a medieval field system in the Thirlmere area. The development of settled communities in Thirlmere through the medieval and post-medieval periods appears to be less intensive than in other Lakeland valleys.

In the mid-late nineteenth century the demand for water in Manchester had resulted in the Manchester Corporation proposing to obtain their water from the Lake District. Proposals were made to flood the Thirlmere valley to create a reservoir and to build an aqueduct between Thirlmere and Manchester. Despite opposition by landowners both at Thirlmere and along the route of the aqueduct, this work was completed before the turn of the century. At Thirlmere this comprised the construction of a dam at the north of two small lakes in the Thirlmere valley, which subsequently merged to form the reservoir. Farm land, houses and a road and crossing point between the lakes were submerged by the reservoir.

In total, eleven sites of archaeological interest were identified within the study area during the desk-based research, all of which had been previously identified by the 1997 LUAU survey of the Thirlmere Estate. The identified sites comprised the findspot of a Neolithic axe (Site **01**), a cairn of possible prehistoric or medieval date (Site **09**), a medieval enclosure (Site **11**), a road which pre-dates the Thirlmere reservoir (Site **02**), a milestone (Site **05**), an area of north/south aligned post-medieval ridge and furrow (Site **03**), a large post-medieval circular enclosure (Site **06**), a small circular feature (Site **08**), two modern leats (Sites **04** and **07**) and a modern sheepfold (Site **10**).

Site **07**, a modern leat, crosses the proposed development area on an approximate east/west alignment and therefore may be impacted upon by the development. Site **09**, a cairn, of medieval or possibly prehistoric date, is located within the proposed

development area on the west side of Helvellyn Gill enclosure (Site **11**) and may be impacted upon by the proposed development. The enclosure, Site **11**, is located to the east and south-east of the proposed development area, and buried features relating to its north-west corner may be located within the proposed development area. Site **03** is an area of post-medieval ridge and furrow located immediately to the north-east of the proposed development area and therefore may also be impacted upon.

In light of the potential for archaeological remains, it has been agreed with the Lake District National Park archaeologist, that an archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of the proposed development. Sites **09** and **11** are located within the proposed development area, and it has been proposed that the client will isolate by fencing, those threatened sites. The archaeological watching brief will be subject to a separate report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank United Utilities for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Eleanor Kingston at the Lake District National Park Authority and the staff at Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle.

Kathryn Blythe undertook the rapid desk-based research and Mark Tidmarsh produced the drawings. Will Gardner undertook the walkover survey and Alison Plummer managed the project and also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 United Utilities proposed the construction of a flow transfer structure, access improvements and a control building at Helvellyn Gill in Cumbria (Fig 1). Following recommendations made by the Lake District National Park Authority, United Utilities commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake rapid archaeological desk-based research and a walkover survey of the proposed development area.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 The proposed development area is located at Helvellyn Gill (NGR NY 3162 1698) on the east side of the A591, which runs approximately north/south on the east side of the Thirlmere reservoir (Fig 1). The site lies approximately 300m from Thirlmere at *c* 230m AOD (Ordnance Survey (OS) 2001). Highpark Wood is located a short distance to the south of the proposed development area, and to the east the ground rises steeply towards Red Screes and Raise to the north of Helvellyn.

1.2.2 The solid geology of the Thirlmere estate is comprised largely of igneous rocks, specifically tuffs and pyroxene andesitic lavas, with intercalations of fine-grained acid intrusive rhyolite and basalt, dating from the Llandeilo division of the Ordovician, and belonging to the Borrowdale Volcanic Group (BVG) (Geol Surv 1863; Ward 1876, 13-19; Inst Geol Sci 1980). The BVG was previously called Green Slates and Porphyries by Sedgwick (1836; 1842). Marr (1916, 19-22) assigns most of the rocks both east and west of Thirlmere to the Ullswater and Eycott group, the second oldest sub-division group in the BVG.

1.2.3 There are a number of lead and copper veins in the wider area. There are mine workings to the south-east of the study area at Brown Cove (LUAU 1997) and two copper veins, both of which have been worked, are found above Thirlspot (LDNPA HER 1237) to the north of the study area, and in Birkside Gill (LDNPA HER 12147) to the south of the study area.

1.2.4 Glacial action in the valley has resulted in erosion, rather than accumulation or deposition (Ward 1876, 80-1). Moraine mounds occur frequently with perched and transported (i.e. erratic) blocks south-west of Dollywagon Pike, south of Raise; north of Raise *'where the miners' path crosses the watershedding line'*; and in Stanah Gill, west of Stybarrow Dodd to the north-east of the study area (Ward 1876, 88-9). A boulder of the Armboth and Helvellyn dyke is found above Thirlspot, at a height of 1000ft (*c* 305m), and there are many perched blocks and scattered boulders across the Wythburn and Armboth Fells, to the south and south-west of the study area (*ibid*).

1.2.5 The soils (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1983) around the lake shore belong to the Malvern Association [611a] comprising brown podzolic soils (Jarvis *et al* 1984, 235-7).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 A brief for the archaeological work was produced by the LDNPA (*Appendix I*). The rapid desk-based research was carried out in accordance with the relevant IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001, *Standard and guidance for archaeological Desk-based Assessments*; English Heritage 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE)).

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED RESEARCH

2.2.1 A study area of 0.5km centred on the proposed development was examined. All known archaeological sites identified have been integrated into the Historical and Archaeological Background (*Sections 3.2 and 3.3*) in order to assess the impact of the proposed development. The location of these sites is shown in Figure 2.

2.2.2 Several sources of information were consulted as part of the assessment, which have provided a good understanding of the developmental history of the study area. Archive sources that were consulted include:

- **Lake District National Park Authority Historic Environment Record (LDNPA HER):** the Historic Environment Record held in Kendal was consulted to establish the presence of sites of cultural heritage interest already known within the 0.5km study area centred on the proposed development.
- **Cumbria County Record Office, Carlisle:** cartographic sources relating to the study area were consulted at the Record Office.
- **OA North Library:** OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary. In particular, extensive use has been made of a survey of the Thirlmere Estate carried out by LUAU in 1997, which included the Helvellyn Gill study area (LUAU 1997).

2.3 WALKOVER SURVEY

2.3.1 Following the desk-based research a level I-type survey was undertaken to relate the existing landscape to research findings. Archaeological features identified within the landscape were recorded using the relevant OA North *pro forma*, and the features located using differential GPS survey, which can achieve an accuracy of +/- 5m with respect to the OS national grid.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full and 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 archive will be deposited in the County Record Office in Carlisle, and copies of this report will be deposited with the Lake District National Park Authority.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 The following section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the general area. This is presented by historical period, and has been compiled in order to place the study area into a wider archaeological context.

Period	Date Range
Palaeolithic	30,000 – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 – 3,500 BC
Neolithic	3,500 – 2,200 BC
Bronze Age	2,200 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval	AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval	AD 1540 – c1750
Industrial Period	cAD1750 – 1901
Modern	Post-1901

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

3.2 THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD

- 3.2.1 **Mesolithic-Neolithic (c 8000–2400 cal BC):** during the Mesolithic period the inhabitants of the British Isles employed a subsistence strategy traditionally viewed as the exploitation of natural resources by activities based on hunting, gathering, and fishing. Approximately commensurate with the adoption of farming, from c 4000 BC, the Neolithic period saw an increase in more permanent settlement, and the beginnings of widespread construction of monumental architecture (Hodgson and Brennand 2006).
- 3.2.2 A chipped Neolithic axe was found in the parish of St John Castlerigg and Wythburn (Site **01**), and is now in Manchester Museum, but the exact findspot is unknown.
- 3.2.3 **The Bronze Age (c 2400–700 cal BC):** the beginning of the Bronze Age in Britain developed gradually from the preceding Neolithic during the mid third millennium BC, although beyond the appearance of metal artefacts the distinction is somewhat overstressed (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 29-30). Little in the way of firm settlement evidence during this period has been encountered in Cumbria, although numerous cairnfields suggest the widespread practice of agricultural field-clearance (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 34–5) and intimate the presence of associated areas of domestic activity.
- 3.2.4 A polished stone axe of prehistoric date (LDNPA HER 1246) was found in the Wythburn area, to the north of the study area, and is now in Keswick Museum. A bronze axe found at Shoulthwaite, to the north-west of the study area, is thought to be Bronze Age or Iron Age in date (LDNPA HER 4235). A tor cairn (a circular bank of stones and turf, sometimes accompanied by a ditch,

surrounding a natural outcrop of rock, usually a tor, or an earthfast boulder) of prehistoric date, is located *c* 430m to the north-east of the study area (NGR NY 323 172; LDNPA HER 32563). A prehistoric enclosure comprising a circular stone bank roughly 14m in diameter is located *c* 350m to the east of the study area (NGR NY 322 169; LDNPA HER 32562).

- 3.2.5 There are no Bronze Age sites from the study area, however, Site **09** is a large earthfast cairn or large mound, 15m in diameter and 0.8m high, and could be prehistoric in date.
- 3.2.6 ***The Iron Age (c 700 cal BC – AD 43):*** a comparative lack of material culture in the North West relating to the Iron Age has historically made sites of this period difficult to identify in the archaeological record, particularly with reference to small-scale rural sites. Both the uplands and lowlands of Cumbria have produced evidence of enclosures that may date to the Iron Age, although a lack of dating evidence has made it difficult to assign these sites firmly to the Iron Age (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 52). Intensive aerial survey has revealed large field systems and agriculturally improved areas in the uplands of the Lake District (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming).
- 3.2.7 Shoulthwaite Gill bivallate hillfort (LDNPA HER 5497) is a Scheduled Monument (SM 23682), of possibly Iron Age date, located *c* 2.5km to the north-west of the study area (NGR NY 29987 18845). The site measures roughly 140m by 90m and stands 15m high. It lies on an area of otherwise flat land dominated by the large steep rocky outcrop, known as Castle Crag. The land to the north and west is extremely steep, forming an excellent defensive barrier. The other sides are protected by two large ramparts approximately 35-40m long; constructed on flat ground, they stand to around 6-7m in height and are roughly 12-15m wide at their base. A small entrance on the east side leads round to a steep slope up to the summit of the knoll.
- 3.2.8 Two bronze penannular armlets were found in 1902 at Rough Crag to the south-west of the study area (LDNPA HER 1244). There are no known Iron Age sites within the study area.

3.3 THE HISTORIC PERIOD

- 3.3.1 ***The Romano-British Period (c AD 43 – AD 410):*** there are several Roman roads in the Lake District, but none in the vicinity of the study area. High Street runs north/south approximately 14km to the east, and a road runs south-west/north-east, from the Roman fort at Troutbeck, approximately 12.5km to the north-east, to the fort at Old Penrith (*Voreda*). Approximately 14km to the south a road runs east/west linking the fort at Ambleside to the fort at Hard Knott (Ordnance Survey 1991).
- 3.3.2 There have been finds of Roman pottery on Castlerigg Fell (NGR NY 290 201; LDNPA HER 4234), *c* 4km to the north-west of the study area. There are no known Roman sites within the study area.

- 3.3.3 **Early Medieval (AD 410 - 1066):** Dunmail Raise to the south of Thirlmere, c 5.2km to the south of the study area, marked the boundary between Cumberland and Westmorland, prior to the formation of Cumbria in 1974. Dunmail Raise Cairn (Scheduled Monument 22556; LDNPA HER 1239), has traditionally been the burial site of Dunmail, King of Cumberland who, it was claimed, was killed in battle by Edmund the Saxon and Malcolm King of the Scots in 934 AD (Clarke 1787, 118-19; Baines 1834, 110). However, more recent research suggests that although defeated, he was not killed in this battle but later lived in Strathclyde, dying on a pilgrimage to Rome thirty years later (Collingwood 1949, 158). Nevertheless, the cairn may be a commemorative feature, although it was rebuilt during the Thirlmere reservoir construction and associated works (*ibid*).
- 3.3.4 There are no known early medieval sites within the study area.
- 3.3.5 **Medieval (AD 1066 - 1540):** the study area lies in the former township of St John Castlerigg and Wythburn, in the former very large parish of Crosthwaite, which includes Keswick and Borrowdale. The township of Wythburn included the manors of Wythburn (of which the hamlet of Armboth was also a part), and Legburthwaite, on the northern part of the lake shore (Lysons and Lysons 1816, 83-4).
- 3.3.6 A survey carried out by LUAU in 1997 of the Thirlmere estate concluded that, from the surface evidence, the earliest medieval exploitation of the area was of a sporadic and potentially transhumant nature. Across the fells a considerable number of small, usually single-celled rectangular huts have been identified. They are generally much-decayed and do not relate to modern field systems. Their form, isolation and character are not dissimilar from documented shielings; however, they could also be shepherds huts, and in the absence of place-name evidence, it has proven difficult to discriminate on fabric evidence alone between the two interpretations (LUAU 1997). ‘Bields’ are located to the north-east of the study area in the Barwick House area (NGR NY 31909 17356). Dickson (1879, 21) defines a bield as ‘a place of shelter; a fox den; a shelter of loose stones to protect sheep from storms on the fells’.
- 3.3.7 The survey found that there was relatively little evidence for more established medieval farming settlements and field systems in the Thirlmere Estate (with the notable exception of Helvellyn Gill Enclosure (Site 11)). This either suggests that evidence for early settlement has been destroyed by subsequent ploughing, or that the development of settled communities was less intensive, and of a later date by comparison with other Lakeland valleys. Even by the time of the flooding of the valley in the late nineteenth century, the agricultural community was still of a relatively low density (*ibid*).
- 3.3.8 **Post-medieval (AD 1540 - present):** prior to the construction of the dam at the north end of the valley in the late nineteenth century, Thirlmere comprised two lakes, Leathes Water to the north and Wythburn Water to the south, joined by a stream at an isthmus near Dalehead, to the north-west of the study area. The stream was crossed by the rustic Wath Bridge, described by Mansergh (1878, 21) as ‘a narrow stream over which a footpath is carried by three rude bridges’, and by a ford immediately to the south of it (LDNPA HER 12023).

Nicholson and Burn (1777, 2, 79) gives the name of the (combined) lake as Brackmeer, and of the valley as Buredale, after the River Bure (now called St John's Beck) which issues from its north end (Marsh and Garbutt 1994, 25). Wilson (1885, 53) confirms that the 'ancient' name of the lake was Brackmere or Bracken Water. Both lakes, and much of the surrounding land, were owned by the Leathes (previously Laythes) family (Thompson 1960), of Dalehead Hall, to the north-west of the study area. The family originally lived at Laythes in the parish of Aikton (Armstrong 1950, 119) and moved to Dalehead in 1577, during the reign of Elizabeth I (Armstrong et al 1950, 317; NWW nd).

- 3.3.9 Access across the two lakes was possible by a road leading south-west from Dalehead, across the bridge, to Armboth. The pre-reservoir road, running along the north shore, is now very largely underwater, except for a short stretch (centred at NY 3150 1660) shown as a track on current OS mapping, west of Highpark Wood (Site 02).
- 3.3.10 In the 1870s, Armboth, the home of the Jackson family since at least 1601, and four other farms, together with woodlands and 'stints' (grazing rights on common land) on Armboth Fell - called Deergarth by Clarke (1787, 117) - were owned by Countess Mary Ossalinsky (nee Jackson), whose claim for compensation was disputed by Manchester Corporation (MCL/M 231/2/2 Ossalinsky Arbitration, 2). The farms were Nether Place (submerged), Hollin Brow (site partly above water), Steel End (standing building), and Brotto (standing building; name changed), north of Thirlspot on the east bank of the lake (LUAU 1997). At Deergarth, possibly where the old road crossed Launchy Gill, was the Steading Stone (now submerged) where manorial courts were held (Collingwood 1949, 155; Darrall 1974). On Armboth Fell, near to Launchy Gill, is the Web Stone, beside which people marketed yarn during the plague of 1645, when markets were forbidden in the towns and villages (Wilson 1885, 64; Collingwood 1949, 156).
- 3.3.11 Manchester's water consumption had increased from 8 million gallons per day in 1856 to 17 million in 1875 (Hill 1896, 4), and a number of schemes were mooted to solve the problem. The Thirlmere Scheme was the idea of Alderman Grave, chairman of the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Committee. He advised John Bateman, consulting engineer to the Committee, to consider its feasibility. Bateman's own suggestion (June 1875) had been to develop Ullswater and Haweswater as sources, possibly in partnership with Liverpool, but the Committee blocked any idea of a shared project. The Waterworks Committee recommended in June 1877 that a private Act of Parliament be obtained (Bateman 1884).
- 3.3.12 At the time of the Manchester Corporation initiation of their Thirlmere Scheme, the owner was Thomas Leathes Stanger Leathes, Lord of the Manor of Legburthwaite. He was steadfastly opposed to the sale to Manchester Corporation and had made it impossible for the Corporation to survey the land they wished to purchase without some subterfuge. However, he died in 1876, and his son, who had emigrated to Australia, agreed to sell (Hoyle and Sankey 1994, 16).

- 3.3.13 Despite considerable local opposition by other landowners at Thirlmere and along the route of the 100 mile long aqueduct to Manchester, which was orchestrated by the Thirlmere Defence Association (1877a and b), evidence was heard by a specially enlarged Parliamentary Committee between 22 February and 8 April 1878. The Manchester Corporation Waterworks Act received Royal Assent on 23 May 1879. The first contract was let in December 1885, to Thomas Vernon & Co, for 7 miles 174 yards of tunnel, the straining well, and works at the entrance to the aqueduct at Wythburn. The contract for the embankment dam, and related works including diversion of roads, was let to Morrison & Mason on 15 March 1890. The works were opened, and water supply, began on 13 October 1894 (Harwood 1895, 144-5; Hill 1896, 4-5; Hoyle and Sankey 1994, 15-20).
- 3.3.14 There are a number of post-medieval and modern sites in close proximity to the study area. Site **03** is an area of post-medieval ridge and furrow, 0.2m in height, trough to crest, and 3.5m in width crest to crest. It stretches for 100m and forms a 35m wide strip running from north/south. It is cut by a leat (Site **07**), and possibly bounded on its eastern edge by a dried-up stream. Its western side is marked by a field wall and a stream. Site **05** is a post-medieval milestone reading 'Keswick 6/Ambleside 10', shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1867 (Fig 4); it is marked 'Old Milestone' on the OS second edition 6" map of 1900 (Fig 5), but is not shown on the current OS map (Fig 2). Site **06** is a post-medieval circular enclosure, 50m in diameter, shown on the OS first and second edition 6" maps of 1867 and 1900 (Figures 4 and 5); the OS second edition shows this area as wooded. Site **08** is a post-medieval hollowed circular feature, 3m diameter, lined with stones, some of which have fallen out, and banked up on the outside, giving a 5m external diameter. The function of the site is unknown. Site **04** is a post-medieval leat and overflow, indicated on the current OS map (2008; Fig 2), but not shown on earlier maps.
- 3.3.15 Site **07** is a large modern concrete leat 3m wide, and 1m deep, shown on the current OS map, which zig-zags across the landscape east of Thirlmere. It is a water catchment leat which takes water off Helvellyn and drains it into Thirlmere reservoir. Site **10** is a modern sheepfold, sub-triangular in shape and measuring 60m long by a maximum width of 20m. It incorporates two drystone walls and is split into a number of different areas. At the apex, between the two drystone walls, there is a flat platform measuring 10m by 8m with a small, 3m by 3m, stone-built hut, now roofless, with cement and mortar joints, built upon it.

3.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.4.1 *LUAU 1997, Thirlmere Estate Survey, Archaeological Survey*: an identification, historical and archaeological survey of the Thirlmere Estate was undertaken by LUAU in 1996-7. A desk-based study assimilated the results of all archaeological work undertaken in the area to date and examined documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic evidence for archaeological monuments and landscapes within the estate. An identification survey was undertaken of the study area; this involved systematic field walking with sites located using a Global Positioning System technology (GPS). The digital

results of the survey were combined, on a CAD system, with digital topographic detail supplied by LDNPA. A gazetteer of all archaeological sites was compiled (*Appendix 2*).

- 3.4.2 The area surveyed included the study area which is the subject of the current desk-based research, and relevant sites identified in the survey have therefore been incorporated into the gazetteer (*Section 5*). A possible medieval enclosure and cairn of uncertain date (Sites **11** and **09**) were the subject of a limited programme of more detailed survey, the results of which are reproduced below and in *Appendix 2* and Figure 6, where the sites are referred to by their gazetteer number from the 1997 survey, Site **141** (Site **11**) and Site **143** (Site **09**).
- 3.4.3 The Helvellyn Gill Enclosure (Site **11**/ LUAU Site **141**) lies over a small hummock on an area of relatively flat land just north of Highpark Wood and adjacent to Helvellyn Gill. The main feature of the site is an irregularly-shaped field-plot, which is entirely contained within a later field system; the boundaries of the later system were established by the time of the first edition 1:2500 OS map (1880). The enclosure is defined by a now ruined drystone wall and there is evidence for different phases of walling, suggesting that the site has been in use for a considerable period and may have medieval origins.
- 3.4.4 The latest phase of field system comprises the modern field walls, which are a product of parliamentary enclosure and were established by the time of the 1880 first edition 1:2500 OS map, where they are shown enclosing unimproved land. Wall LUAU **141/20** truncates part of the early enclosure and is clearly a much later component. Wall LUAU **141/17** is also a later feature; it extends between the east wall of the modern field system and the north-east corner of the early enclosure. It is now substantially decayed but has a constructional form that is typical of parliamentary enclosure walls and is certainly similar to the other modern walls in this area. Wall LUAU **141/4** is an integral component of the early enclosure, but is in a markedly better condition than the other early walls; it displays a butt join against the modern wall LUAU **141/20**. Along with wall LUAU **141/17** it formed an internal wall of the modern field system and was clearly re-used at this time; it was maintained and in places built up as part of this phase of use. The butt join of wall LUAU **141/4** against wall LUAU **141/20** was clearly a product of this latest phase of improvement. The 1880 first edition OS map does not show the wall LUAU **141/4-141/17** element of the modern field system, and it evidently had gone out of use by that date.
- 3.4.5 The main phase of early activity, represented on the site is the irregular field enclosure, defined by drystone walls (LUAU **141/4**, **141/7**, **141/18** and **141/1**) which incorporated large boulders as foundations, with much smaller stones forming the upper courses. None of the stone was worked. The west side of the enclosure is poorly defined, in part because the area has been disturbed by stream erosion. A large, broad bank (LUAU **141/5**), extends approximately between the two observed ends of the main enclosure and possibly reflects a discontinuous west boundary. The bank has been considerably eroded by stream action which has generated the irregularities of its plan and profile. Mound LUAU **141/6** is in-between the end of wall LUAU **141/4** and bank

LUAU **141/5** and may be a component of the enclosure boundary, albeit very disturbed. The entrance to the enclosure is on the north side at NY 31720 16987. Adjacent to this entrance, and butting against the internal face of the enclosure wall, is a small rectangular structure (5.2m x 2.5m), which survives as an indistinct earthwork. There is evidence of internal terracing within the structure and it may have served as a field or similar structure. Apart from this there is no evidence of any domestic accommodation associated with the enclosure or in its environs; the nearest settlement shown on Clarkes Map (1787) is at Thirlspot (annotated as 'Trefpett' on the map).

- 3.4.6 The enclosure is quite small and has been partially cleared, the clearance material being deposited in small cairns within the enclosure. The cairns are located on the poorer quality land, notably small promontories (cairn LUAU **141/16**), or along the large break of slope that extends through the site (cairns LUAU **141/9** and **141/10**). The cairns are made up of some medium and large stones, but there is also a considerable amount of small stone. Such concentrations of small stones are relatively rare within a prehistoric context, where the cairns are often a product of a pastoral economy. By contrast cairns that are a product of cultivation typically comprise smaller stone material which have been brought up by the plough. The cairns are associated with areas of ridge and furrow, both above and below the break of slope. The ridge and furrow above the break of slope had a separation of 4m, and only survives in a localised part of the area; there are some outcrop obstructions and earthfast boulders which have been avoided by the ridge and furrow. The top of the break of slope has, in places, a very sharp artificial edge, particularly near to cairn LUAU **141/10**; the exaggerated edge is probably a product of terracing or lynchet formation at the edge of the ridge and furrow area. Below (to the west) of the break of slope is a further area of ridge and furrow; however, this has been expanded and enlarged by subsequent drainage. Drains have been excavated in the bottom of furrows and some of the drainage lines cut ancient features, demonstrating their relative modernity. There is some undisturbed ridge and furrow on the west side of this area, which indicates that the width of the furrows is between 3m and 4m. Although the enclosure has undoubtedly been used for cultivation the nature of the rather broken, undulating terrain and the amount of natural scree and outcrop do not favour cultivation and it was not necessarily used exclusively for arable agriculture.
- 3.4.7 The earliest phase of the site are walls LUAU **141/15** and **141/19**. Wall LUAU **141/15** extends from the terminus of curved wall section LUAU **141/19** and is a decayed and severely robbed section of wall running along the break of slope. Wall LUAU **141/19** has a semi-circular shape and is butted onto by wall sections LUAU **141/7** and **141/18**; a possible stub of walling extends from the north-east terminus of wall LUAU **141/19**. Wall sections LUAU **141/15** and **141/19** are the extant elements of a small enclosure that extended south-east from wall section LUAU **141/19**. The size and shape of this enclosure would have been more appropriate for a pastoral, than an arable function.
- 3.4.8 Wall section LUAU **141/14** may also be early; it has been extensively robbed and is overlain by wall LUAU **141/4**; however, wall LUAU **141/4** has been repaired and consolidated as part of the latest phase of the site, and the robbing

and this relationship may only indicate that wall LUAU **141/14** pre-dates the later consolidation of wall LUAU **141/4**.

- 3.4.9 Site **09** (LUAU Site **143**) is a large prominent mound lying just west of the main enclosure; it has well defined edges and is clearly artificial. There are stones protruding throughout and a hollow in the middle with one block of stone protruding from the top. It has no direct relationship with the enclosure, apart from an evident spatial association and it can not be established, from the surface evidence, if it was contemporary with the enclosure system. The possibility that it was a prehistoric funerary monument can not be excluded.

3.5 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.5.1 *Hodkinson and Donald's map of the County of Cumberland, 1774 (Plate 1)*: this is a small-scale map which shows the main fells, lakes, roads and settlements. Helvellyn and Dodd Fell are marked to the east of the study area, Thirlmere is named 'Thurlmeer', and the road running down its east side is depicted. To the north of the study area 'Dale Head' is marked but, beyond the depiction of Helvellyn Gill, there is no detail for the study area itself.
- 3.5.2 *Clarke's Survey of the Lakes of Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire, 1787 (Plate 2)*: this is a fairly large-scale map and shows buildings, place-names, field boundaries, and the extent of tree cover. Thirlspot is named 'Trefpett' on this map, and Dale Head is named 'Laithe Hall'. An area of land to the south of the hall is named Laithe's Park, and may include the northern part of the study area. To the south of this, in the approximate area of the remainder of the study area, the map is blank, except for the depiction of the road. Further south 'Swirls Gate' is marked and further wooded plots of land are depicted. Helvellyn Gill is not depicted on this map.
- 3.5.3 *Greenwood's Map of the County of Cumberland, 1823 (Plate 3)*: this map is small-scale, but shows the fells, settlements, roads and lakes. Thirlmere is named 'Thurle Meer or Leathes Water'. Dale Head Hall is marked on the map and Helvellyn Gill is depicted. To the west of the road is an area of wood, which is in the location of Station Coppice, as marked on later maps (Fig 4 and 5). Highpark Wood, to the south of the study area, is also depicted on this mapping, but not named. A boundary wall is depicted to the east of Helvellyn Gill, which runs approximately north/south at the base of the fells.
- 3.5.4 *St John's-Castlerigg and Wythburn tithe map, 1840 (Fig 3)*: this is the first map to show field boundaries within the study area and it should be noted that the field boundaries depicted on the tithe are the same as those on the current mapping. The eastern boundary as shown on Greenwood's map (Plate 3) marks the eastern extent of this map and confirms that this is the edge of the enclosed fell. In the award that accompanies the map, the fields within the study area are all listed as being owned by Thomas Leathes and occupied either by 'himself' or Daniel Thwaite. The fields tend to be named 'intack' on the east side of Helvellyn Gill, indicating that they had been enclosed and improved from the fell land. The southern fields tend to be called 'park', e.g. field 934 is 'Low Park' and field 921 is 'High Park', possibly indicating that they were part of an

estate to the south of the study area. At the time of the tithe the fields were predominantly in use as pasture.

- 3.5.5 **Ordnance Survey first edition map 1867 (6") (Fig 4):** this mapping shows further detail of the study area. Helvellyn Gill, Station Coppice and Highpark Wood are all named on this mapping. A milestone (Site **05**) is marked on the north/south road, which runs through the study area, and is labelled Keswick 6/Ambleside 10. A sheepfold (Site **10**) is marked on the east side of Helvellyn Gill. A very regular circular enclosure (Site **06**) can be seen just outside of the study area to the west of Station Coppice. In the wider area, 'bields' are shown to the north-east of the study area, 'Burwick House' is marked to the north and the 'King's Head Inn' and a post office are labelled in Thirlspot.
- 3.5.6 **Ordnance Survey second edition map of 1900, 6" (Fig 5):** within the study area, this mapping is very similar to the 1867 mapping. The circular enclosure (Site **06**) to the west of Station Coppice is now depicted as wooded. The milestone (Site **05**) is labelled 'Old Milestone' and a new milestone labelled Keswick 6/Windermere 15 is depicted to the north of the study area. The sheepfold (Site **10**) is not labelled on this mapping, although it is still depicted. Outside of the study area are major changes, as the Thirlmere reservoir had been constructed by this time, which has resulted in the widening of the lake in the area of the former crossing point. On the west side of Highpark Wood the original road (Site **02**) has become submerged and a new road has been built on a bank on its east side through the wood.

4. WALKOVER SURVEY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The walkover survey aimed to determine both the survival of above ground remains of sites recorded during the rapid desk-based research and also to identify previously unrecorded sites in the proposed development site

4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 Sites **09** and **11** comprise a cairn and Helvellyn Gill Enclosure, noted as Sites **141** and **143** in the LUAU report of 1997, and have not altered since this earlier survey. They are located over a small hummock to the north of Highpark Wood.

4.2.2 Site **11** (LUAU **143**) is a large irregular, sub-circular drystone-walled enclosure 95m by 70m, just north-east of the car park at the bottom of Helvellyn Gill. The enclosure walls are poorly-preserved and stand at most to 0.5m, in many places they survive merely as a rubble spread. The interior of the enclosure has been cultivated and is now virtually filled by ridge and furrow. There are also a few clearance cairns on the inside; one is roughly 10m in diameter and stands to 0.8m in height, whilst another measures 5m in diameter and stands to 0.3m in height. There are two similar cairns to the north of the enclosure. The site does not respect, and is not respected by, the neighbouring field boundary to the west, and although no definite trace of the enclosure could be located over the field boundary, the shape and form of the enclosure are sufficiently different to the surrounding fields to justify the conclusion that the site predates the field boundaries.

4.2.3 Site **09** (LUAU **141**) lies to the west of Site **11**. It is a large earthfast cairn or large mound, roughly 15m in diameter and 0.8m in height, it could be related to the enclosure, although there is a possibility that it is prehistoric in date.

4.2.4 Apart from the cairn and Helvellyn Gill Enclosure (Sites **09** and **11**), no additional sites were identified during the walkover survey.

5. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site Name St John's Castlerigg and Wythburn
Site number 01
NGR NY 31000 17000
HER no LDNPA HER 1245
Site Type Axe Find Spot
Period Neolithic
Statutory Designation -
Source LDNPA HER
Description A chipped stone axe of volcanic ash with lateral facets, 0.3m long, 0.087m wide, and 0.05m thick was found in this area, the exact find spot is unknown; it is now in Manchester Museum.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Ambleside to Keswick Old Road
Site number 02
NGR NY 3238 1370 - 3143 1648
Ref no -
Site Type Course of Road
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Map regression (LUAU 1997, Site 248)
Description The course of the old Ambleside to Keswick road, now largely below the water level. It is shown on the OS 2nd edition 6" map (1900) and remains in use in part, southwards from the straining well at NY 3214 1494.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Station Coppice
Site number 03
NGR NY 31597 17067
Ref no LDNPA HER 31791
Site Type Ridge and Furrow
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Site visit, Cartographic, Documentary (LUAU 1997, Site 140)
Description A field of ridge and furrow, 0.2m in height trough to crest, and 3.5m in width crest to crest. It stretches for 100m and forms a 35m wide strip running from north/south. It is cut by a leat (Site 07), and possibly bounded on its eastern edge by a dried-up stream. Its western side is marked by a field wall and a stream.
Assessment The site lies within close proximity to the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Barwick House
Site number 04
NGR NY 31749 17245
Ref no LDNPA HER 33104
Site Type Leat and Overflow
Period Modern
Statutory

Designation -
Source Cartographic (LUAU 1997, Site **317**)
Description A leat and overflow are indicated on the current OS map, but are not shown on the earlier maps.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Station Coppice
Site number **05**
NGR NY 31596 17062
Ref no LDNPA HER 33105
Site Type Milestone
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Cartographic (LUAU 1997, Site **318**)
Description A milestone reading "Keswick 6/Ambleside 10" is shown on the OS 1st edition 6" map (1867); it is called "Old Milestone" on the OS 2nd edition 6" map (1900), but is not shown on current mapping.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Station Coppice
Site number **06**
NGR NY 31357 17169
Ref no -
Site Type Enclosure
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Cartographic (LUAU 1997, Site **314**)
Description A circular enclosure 50m in diameter is shown on the OS 1st and 2nd edition 6" maps (1867 and 1900), the OS 2nd edition shows the area as wooded.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name West side of Thirlmere valley
Site number **07**
NGR NY 31731 17044
Ref no -
Site Type Leat
Period Modern
Statutory Designation -
Source LUAU 1997 Identification Survey (Site **153**)
Description A large concrete leat 3m wide, and 1m deep, which zig-zags across the landscape east of Thirlmere. It is a water catchment leat which takes all the water off Helvellyn and drains it into Thirlmere reservoir.
Assessment The site lies partially within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Station Coppice
Site number **08**
NGR NY 31420 17124
Ref no LDNPA HER 31790
Site Type Circular Feature

Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source LUAU 1997 Identification Survey (Site **145**)
Description A hollowed circular feature, 3m diameter, lined with stones, some of which have fallen out, and banked up on the outside, giving a 5m external diameter. The function of the site is unknown.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Helvellyn Gill Cairn
Site number **09**
NGR NY 31674 16987
Ref no LDNPA HER 31787
Site Type Cairn
Period Medieval/Prehistoric
Statutory Designation -
Source LUAU 1997 Identification Survey (Site **143**)
Description A large prominent earthfast cairn or large mound, 15m in diameter and 0.8m high. The mound has well-defined edges and is clearly artificial. There are stones protruding throughout and a hollow in the middle, with one block of stone protruding from the top. It has no direct relationship with the enclosure to the east (Site **11**), apart from an evident spatial association and it cannot be established, from the surface evidence, if it was contemporary with the enclosure system. The possibility that it was a funerary monument cannot be excluded.
Assessment The site lies just outside the southern boundary of the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Helvellyn Gill
Site number **10**
NGR NY 31741 16879
Ref no LDNPA HER 31788
Site Type Sheepfold
Period Modern
Statutory Designation -
Source LUAU 1997 Identification Survey (Site **142**)
Description A sheepfold just beyond the south-west corner of Site **11**. It is sub-triangular in shape and measures 60m long by a maximum width of 20m. It incorporates two drystone walls and is split into a number of different areas. At the apex, between the two drystone walls, there is a flat platform measuring 10m by 8m with a small, 3m by 3m, upon which sits a stone-built hut, now roofless, with cement and mortar joints.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name Helvellyn Gill Enclosure
Site number **11**
NGR NY 31727 16899
Ref no LDNPA HER 31789
Site Type Enclosure
Period Medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source LUAU 1997 Identification Survey (Site **141**); Cartographic; Documentary
Description A large irregular, sub-circular drystone-walled enclosure 95m by 70m, just north-east of the car park at the bottom of Helvellyn Gill. The enclosure walls are poorly

preserved and stand at most to 0.5m, in many places they survive merely as a rubble spread. The interior of the enclosure has been cultivated and is now virtually filled by ridge and furrow. There are also a few clearance cairns on the inside; one is roughly 10m in diameter and stands to 0.8m in height, whilst another measures 5m in diameter and stands to 0.3m in height. There are two similar cairns to the north of the enclosure.

Assessment

The site lies close to the proposed development area and associated buried features may be affected by the works.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

6.1.1 Rapid assessment of the available evidence from the LDNPA HER, historic maps held at the Record Office in Carlisle, and the 1997 Thirlmere Estate Survey (LUAU 1997) has shown that there are archaeological remains within, or close to, the proposed development area. An area of north/south aligned post-medieval ridge and furrow (Site **03**) is located immediately to the east of the proposed development area. Helvellyn Gill enclosure (Site **11**) is located to the east and south-east of the proposed development area, and features relating to its north-west corner may be located within the proposed development area. A cairn of medieval or possibly prehistoric date (Site **09**) is located on the west side of the enclosure and to the immediate south of the proposed development area.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2.1 In light of the potential for archaeological remains, it has been agreed with the Lake District National Park archaeologist, that an archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during the groundworks phase of the proposed development. Sites **09** and **11** are located within the proposed development area, and it has been proposed that the client will isolate by fencing, these threatened sites. The archaeological watching brief will be subject to a separate report.

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8. ILLUSTRATIONS

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Figure 6: A survey of Helvellyn Gill Enclosure (Site **11**/LUAU 1997 Site **141**)

8.2 LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Extract from Hodkinson and Donald's map of the County of Cumberland, 1774

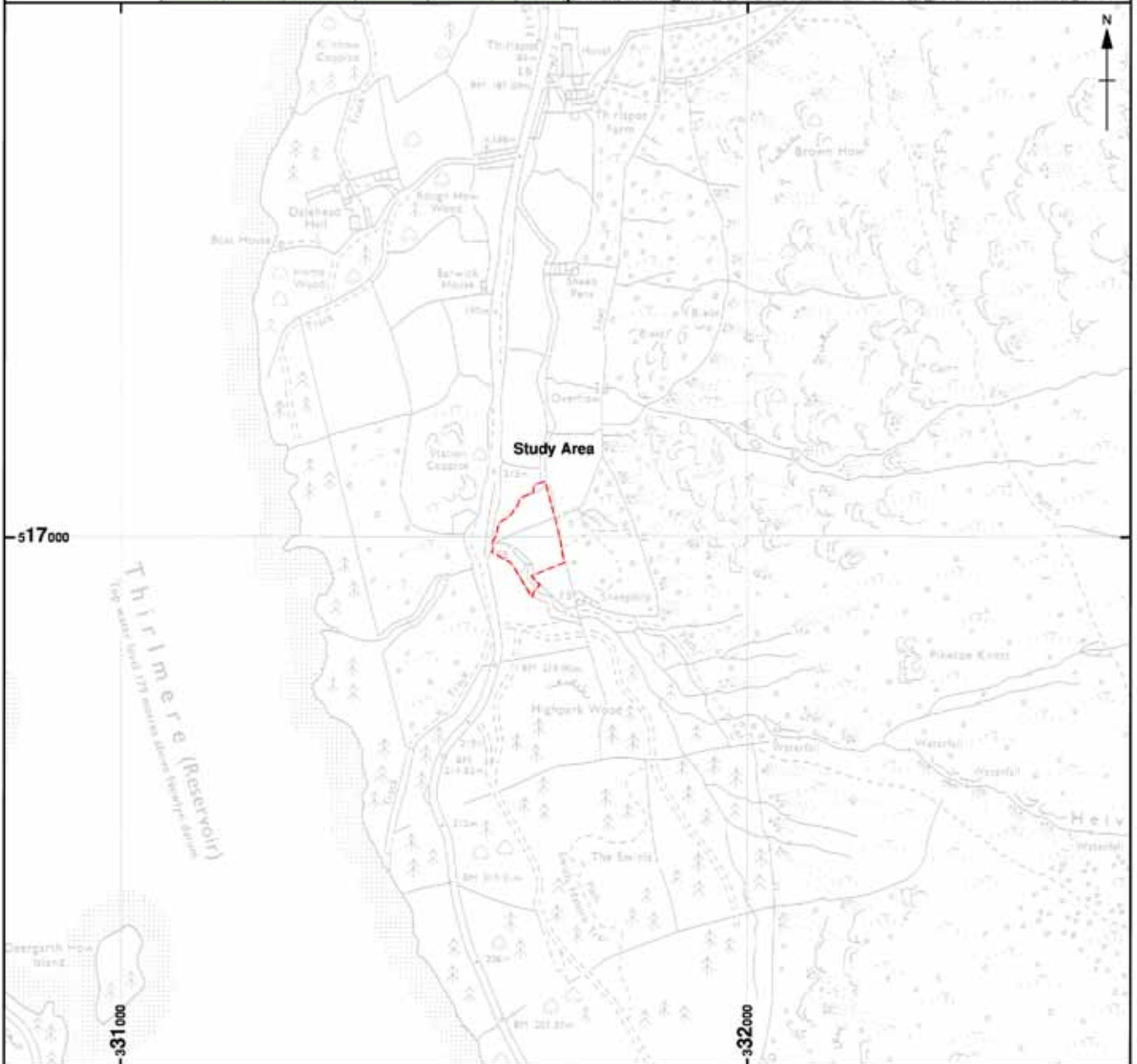
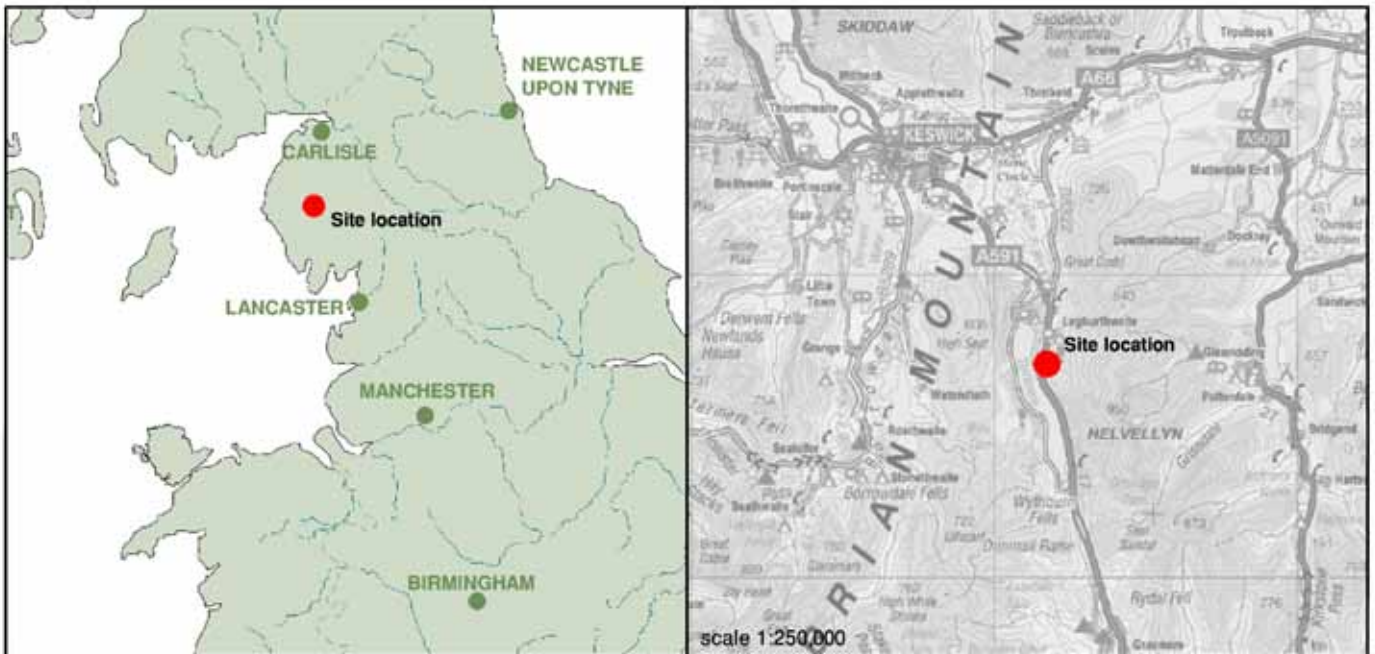
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Figure 1: Site location

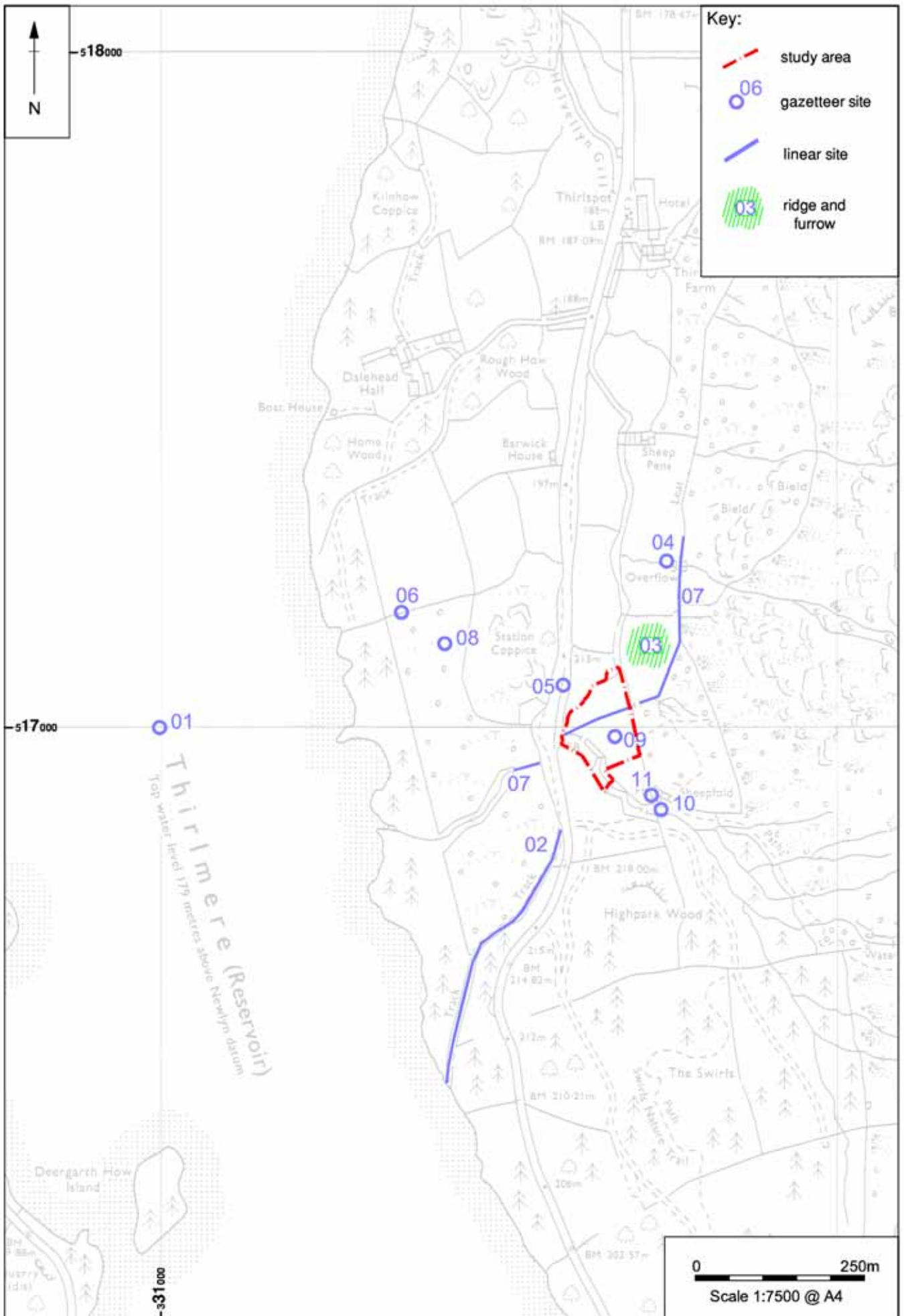


Figure 2: Gazetteer sites plan

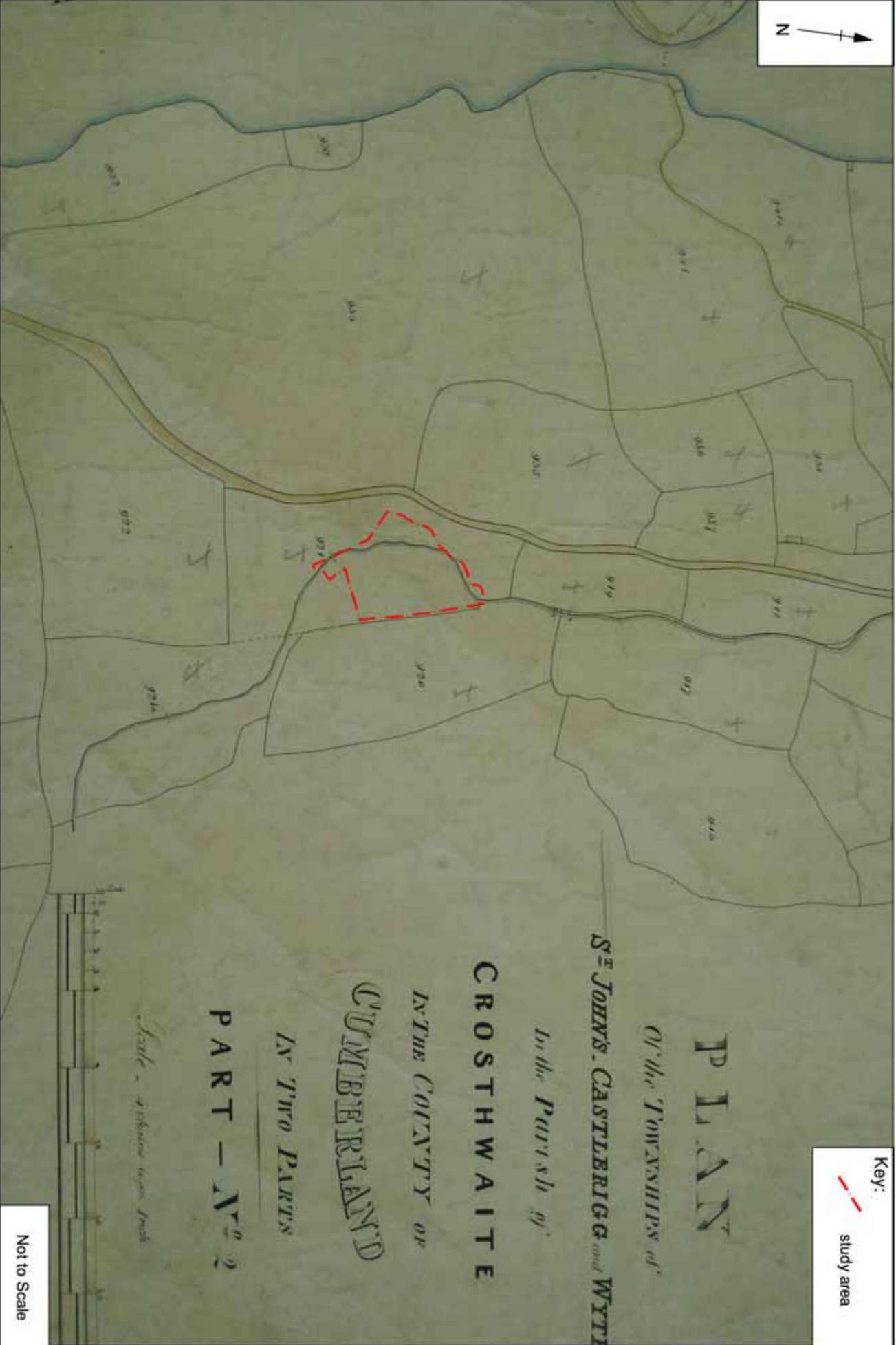


Figure 3: Extract from the Tithe of 1840, showing study area

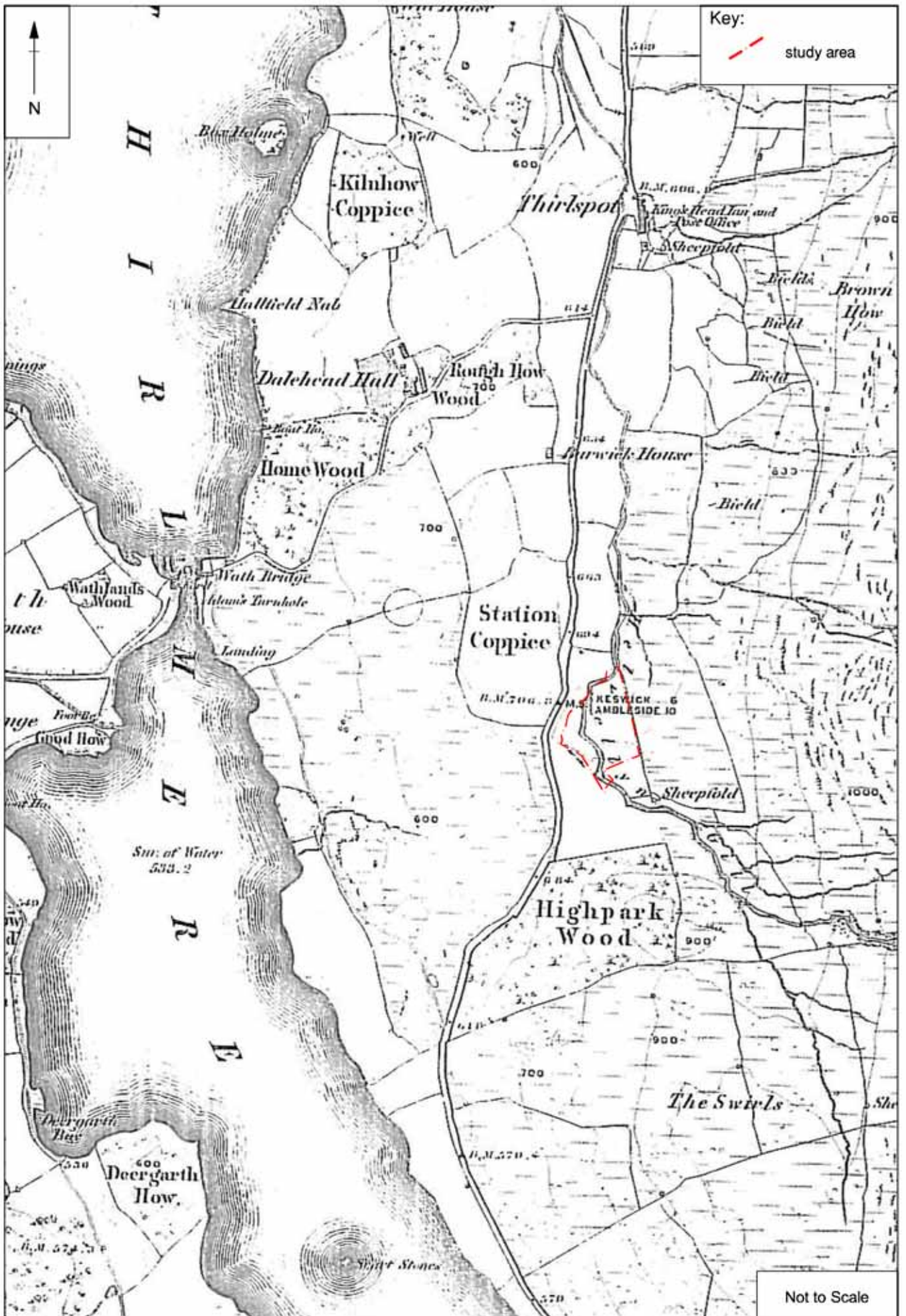


Figure 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile, 1867, showing study area

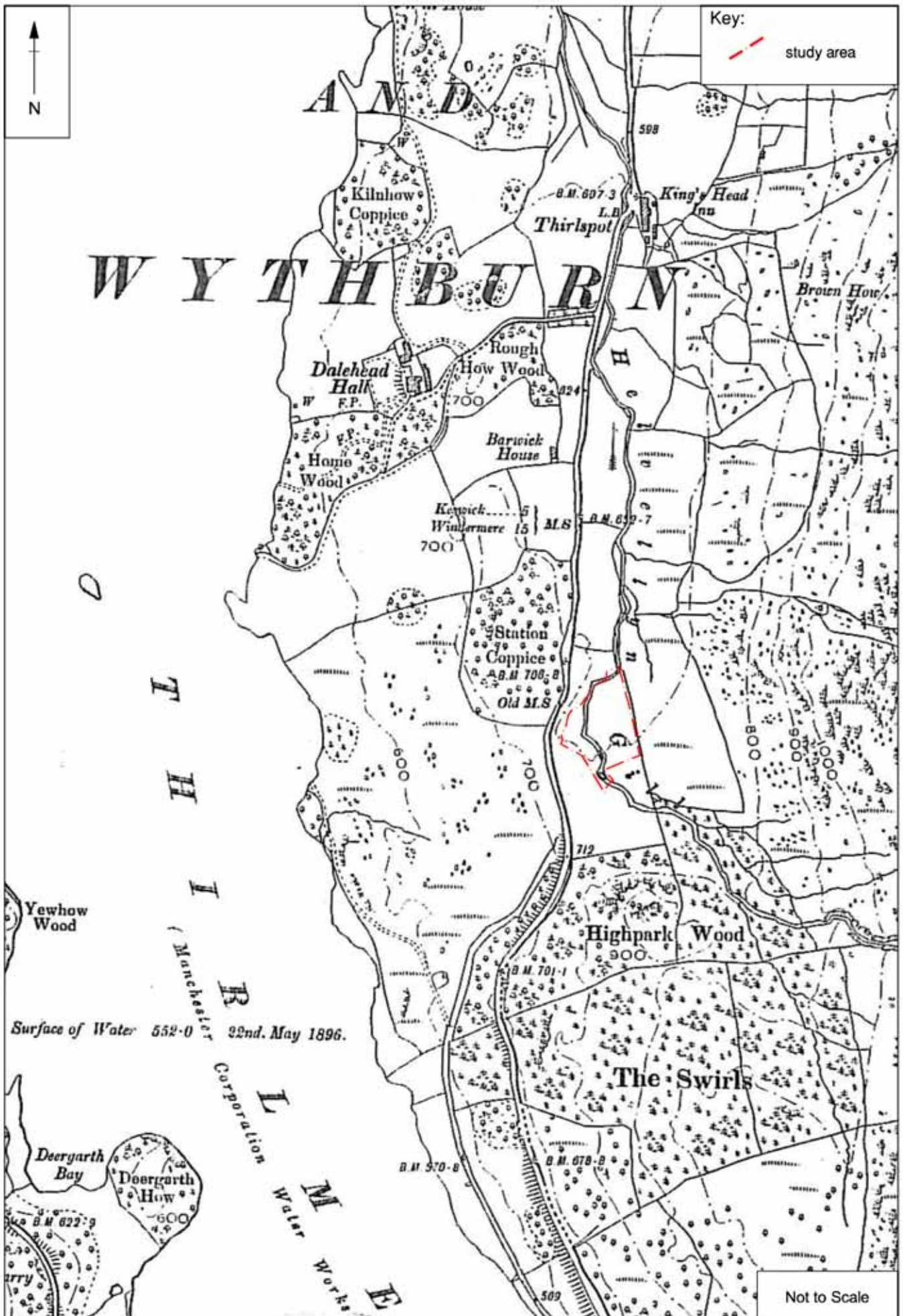


Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile, 1900, showing study area

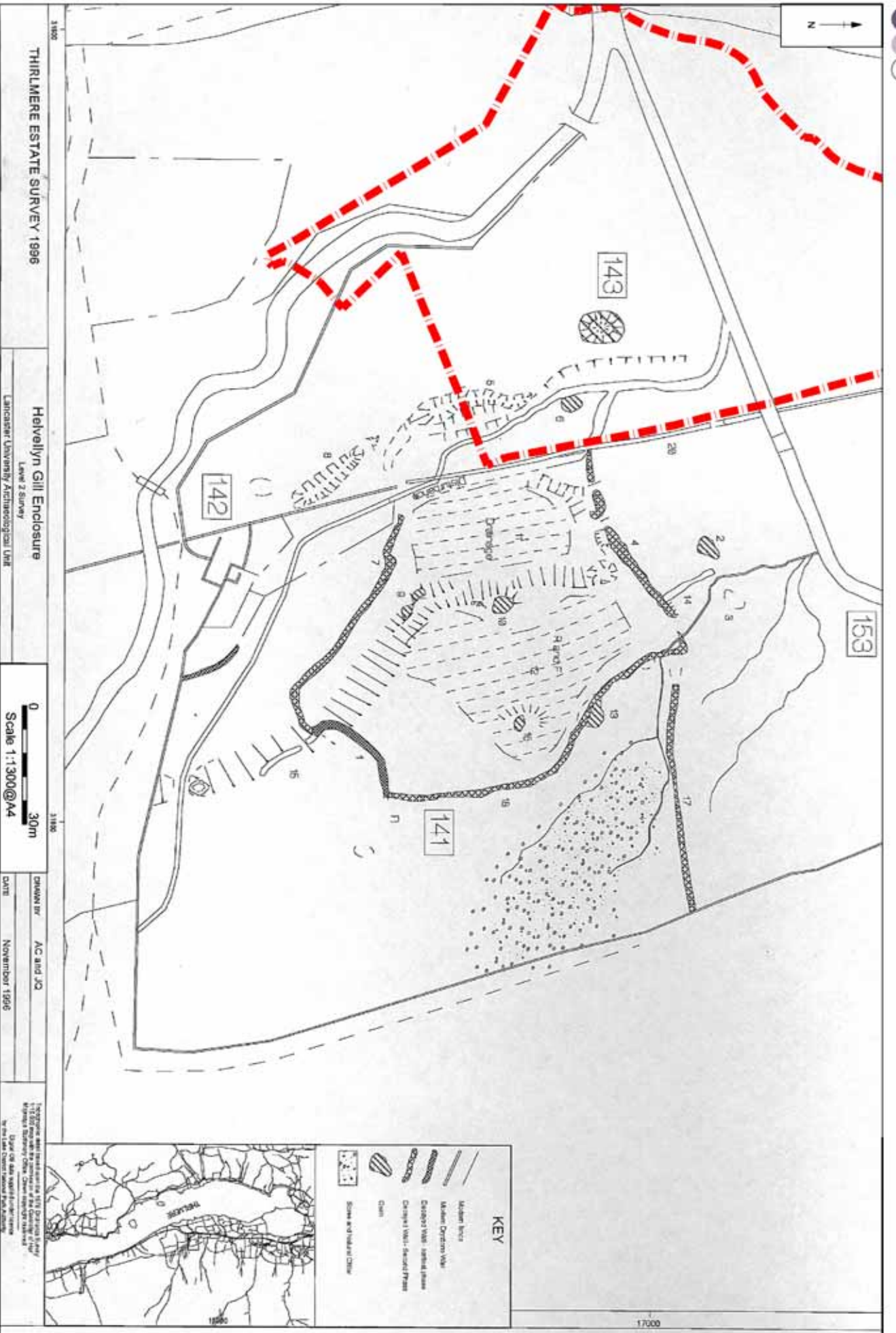


Figure 6: A survey of Helvellyn Gill Enclosure (Site 11/LLUAU 1997 Site 141)



Plate 1: Extract from Hodkinson and Donald's map of the County of Cumberland, 1774



Plate 2: Extract from Clarke's Survey of the Lakes of Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire, 1787



Plate 3: Extract from Greenwood's map of the County of Cumberland, 1823



Plate 4: Site 03, looking south-west



Plate 5: Site **10**, looking south



Plate 6: Leat (Site **07**) with cairn (Site **09**) to the south, looking west

APPENDIX 1: DETAIL SURVEY MONUMENT GAZETTEER HELVELLYN GILL ENCLOSURE (FROM LUAU 1997)

Site 11: Site 141: Helvellyn Gill Enclosure

Monument No. **141/1**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Decayed wall
 NGR: NY 3178 1692
 Period Medieval/Post-medieval
 Length: 19m Width: 1.4m Height: 0.35m
 Description: A curved section of the main enclosure boundary; it appears to be butted by sections **141/7** and **141/18** and a continuation of its south end is represented by the robbed wall section **141/15**. The wall has a large boulder foundation, coupled with smaller material forming the wall superstructure; it is similar to that exhibited on the other boundaries of the enclosure. However, the semi-circular shape, the butt joins and the wall **141/15** extension, would suggest that this was the earliest element of the field system, and was part of a smaller enclosure which extended south-east from bank/wall **141/1**.

Monument No. **141/2**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Mound
 NGR: NY 31729 17013
 Period Modern/Natural
 Length: 4.7m Width: 3.3m Height: 0.2m
 Description: A large irregular pile of very small stones, with some slightly larger material. It has an irregular profile. It is spatially associated with bank **141/14** and it could be related. However, it is adjacent to a stream and the concentration of predominantly small material may suggest a natural origin.

Monument No. **141/3**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Mound
 NGR: NY 3174 1702
 Period Natural
 Length: 4.6m Width: 3m
 Description: A large mass of natural stone outcropping, comprising mainly small stone material.

Monument No. **141/4**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Wall
 NGR: NY 3172 1699
 Period Medieval/ Post-medieval?
 Length: 43m Width: <3.1m Height: 0.45m
 Description: The main enclosure wall, which is very irregular in form and is of drystone construction but probably does not contain enough stone to have extended to any great height. It comprises some very large stone material forming the foundation with smaller stones providing the superstructure. The wall is in better condition than other sections of the enclosure. There is a small regularly defined 1.5m wide bank on the south side of the wall next to a very obvious entrance; there is internal terracing within the enclosure. This would appear to be a small structure, although it may only have been a small shelter. Bank **141/14** extends out from this bank and may be an earlier component. There is no evidence of a southerly return to the bank beneath the modern dry-stone wall.

Monument No. **141/5**

Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Mound
 NGR: NY 3169 1695
 Period Unknown
 Length: 31m Width: <5.2m Height: 0.6m
 Description: A large prominent bank, which, along with site **141/8**, formed the line of a possible boundary, which may once have defined the edge of a stream. Its shape is in part formed by stream action, which has cut into its east side. The stream extends between this bank and mound site **141/6**, which once may have been a part of the site. It has an irregular profile, but is well-defined. There is an ill-defined bank extending south-east from the south end of the main bank, which is orientated towards the terminal of bank **7**. There is a possibility that this defined the west boundary of the enclosure.

Monument No. **141/6**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Mound
 NGR: NY 31693 16979
 Period -
 Length: 5.2m Width: 4.2m Height: 0.3m
 Description: A fairly well defined elongated mound which has small to medium protruding stones and an irregular shape, probably due to stream action. It is likely that this was originally part of site **141/5** but stream action has cut through between them. It is located in between the ends of wall **141/4** and bank **141/5** and could have connected them.

Monument No. **141/7**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Wall
 NGR: NY 3174 1692
 Period Medieval/Post-medieval
 Length: 50m Width: 2m Height: 0.4m
 Description: This drystone wall is a continuation of the main enclosure boundary and comprises large boulders and smaller stone material; it is similar in form to wall section **141/4** on the other side of the enclosure. There is clear evidence of dry-stone structure despite its highly decayed state. It butts into wall section **141/19**, which is the earlier phase of the enclosure. At the west end it terminates short of the modern wall, but this section may have been eroded by the action of the stream which separates this site from the modern wall.

Monument No. **141/8**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Mound
 NGR: NY 3171 1691
 Period unknown
 Length: 21m Width: 5m Height: 0.6m
 Description: A large prominent mound which, along with site **141/5**, may have formed the line of a former boundary. It has been cut by stream action and, at the south end, by the construction of the modern drystone wall. It is irregular in profile and plan, and may have been extensively disturbed subsequent to abandonment. To the south of the bank, is a small, round profiled mound, which may be related.

Monument No. **141/9**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Cairns
 NGR: NY 31744 16939
 Period Medieval / Post-medieval
 Length: 6.4m Width: 2m Height: 0.4m
 Description: A pair of cairns on the side of a prominent break of slope. The cairns, have been located on agriculturally unusable land to maximise the better land to the east. The cairns have an irregular plan and profile and comprise considerable quantities of

small stone as well as medium and some large stone. The stone assemblage is consistent with waste stone brought up by the plough, and would appear to relate to the adjacent ridge and furrow cultivation (**141/12**). The break of slope, has an artificially exaggerated edge which is probably a result of limited terracing.

Monument No. **141/10**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Clearance Cairn
 NGR: NY 31745 16962
 Period Medieval/Post-medieval
 Length: 4.8m Width: 3.3m Height: 0.45m
 Description: A prominent, irregular profiled clearance cairn comprising medium, large but also significant quantities of smaller stone and has a similar make-up as cairn **141/9**. Cairn **141/10** is located on the highest point of the break of slope, on a small hillock. There is a considerable break of slope on the north and west sides, which may reflect a limited amount of terracing along the line of a natural break of slope; it has therefore accentuated the natural break of slope.

Monument No. **141/11**
 Site Name: Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Ridge and Furrow?
 NGR: NY 3172 1696
 Period Post-medieval
 Length: 39m Width: 3m
 Description: An area of ridge and furrow within the area of the enclosure which appears to have been expanded and considerably enlarged for use as drainage. Some of the drainage lines cut ancient features and are definitely modern; however there are other ditches which are much more subtle in profile, to the west of the area, which are more consistent with ridge and furrow. This would suggest that modern drainage has been excavated along the line of furrows expanding them and extending them.

Monument No. **141/12**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Ridge and Furrow
 NGR: NY 3176 1697
 Period Medieval / Post-medieval
 Length: 45m Width: 4m
 Description: A large area of fairly shallow 4m wide ridge and furrow. Cairns **141/9**, **141/10** and **141/16** all contain considerable amounts of small material and are associated with this ridge and furrow. There are some large boulders in the area of ridge and furrow but it is clear that the plough has avoided them as well as the cairns. The west edge of the ridge and furrow has been along the line of the prominent break of slope and soil slippage and deliberate soil deposition has exaggerated the line of the break of slope.

Monument No. **141/13**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Cairn :
 NGR: NY 31772 16985
 Period Natural ?
 Length: 7.6m Width: 5m Height: 0.25m
 Description: This mound comprises mainly small stone and has an irregular shape and flat, irregular profile. It is overlain beneath wall **141/18**, which would indicate that it pre-dates the wall. However, the stone content, is not inconsistent with natural small stone outcropping and it is possible of natural origin. If this is artificial it shows that the area could have been cultivated prior to the building of the enclosure.

Monument No. **141/14**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Wall
 NGR: NY 3173 1700

Period -
 Length: 12.3m Width: 0.8m Height: 0.4m
 Description: A former wall comprised now of mainly large boulders; it extends north from the main enclosure wall (site **141/4**). It does not contain the same type of material as site **141/4**, which has large boulders with small stones in between. The wall betrays dry-stone construction, but is now patchy and mainly contains large stones and boulders; it would appear that it has been robbed of the smaller make up stone, presumably for the adjacent wall (**141/4**). The bank appears to underlie wall **141/4** and this, combined with the robbing, would suggest that it pre-dates the main enclosure boundary.

Monument No. **141/15**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Wall
 NGR: NY 3178 1690
 Period Medieval / Post-medieval
 Length: 14.2m Width: 1.05m Height: 0.4m
 Description: A continuation of part of the main enclosure wall which survives as a much more decayed element, comprising mainly large material; however it has been largely robbed, probably for the construction of the adjacent wall **141/7**. This is evidently an earlier phase and the line of the feature follows the line of a natural break of slope. Along with section **141/1** of the enclosure wall, it formed part of an earlier and much smaller enclosure. The size and shape of this enclosure would have been more appropriate for a pastoral rather than an arable function.

Monument No. **141/16**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Clearance cairn
 NGR: NY 31774 16966
 Period Medieval/Post-medieval
 Length: 3.99m Width: 2.65m Height: 0.4m
 Description: An irregular, shaped and profiled mound on a natural promontory within the middle of an area of ridge and furrow (**141/12**). The ridge and furrow diverts around the cairn and promontory. The stone material of the cairn is mainly small, but also some large and medium stone. The predominantly small stone is consistent with being waste stone, brought up by the plough.

Monument No. **141/17**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Wall
 NGR: NY 3179 1700
 Period Nineteenth Century
 Length: 57m Width: 1.7m Height: 0.4m
 Description: A significant length of drystone walling which is likely to be of nineteenth century date from its form and style of construction. It heads straight to the north-east corner of the enclosure and links it with the modern land enclosure boundary wall to the east. Although this is clearly later than the enclosure, its constructional design is consistent with that practised during the main period of enclosure in eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and would suggest that the early enclosure (wall **141/18**) was still in use at that time.

Monument No. **141/18**
 Site Name Helvellyn Gill
 Type: Decayed wall
 NGR: NY 3178 1697
 Period Medieval/Post-medieval
 Length: 72m Width: 1.5m Height: 0.4m
 Description: A length of decayed walling forming the east side of the old enclosure. It comprises large boulders as foundation for the wall and has smaller, material forming the superstructure. It is similar in form to the other sections of wall (**141/4**, **141/7** and

141/1). It appears to butt onto wall section **141/19**, which is the earlier element of the field system.

Site 9: Site 143: Helvellyn Gill

Monument No. **143**
Site Name: Helvellyn Gill
Type: Mound
NGR: NY 31674 16987
Period: Unknown
Length: 11.5m Width: 8.2m Height: 0.6m
Description: A large prominent mound which is clearly artificial with well defined edges. There are stones protruding throughout and a hollow in the middle with one block of stone protruding from the top. It has no direct association with the field system and is not necessarily contemporary. Its function is unknown, although there is a remote possibility that it was a funerary monument.