ART. VII. – *The Origins of Inglewood Forest.*

By N. J. HIGHAM, B.A., Ph.D.

THE area that was to become the royal forest of Inglewood during the 12th century has been the scene of recent archaeological investigations, via excavation at Dobcross Hall, Stockdalewath,[1] at Crosfield Farm, Penrith,[2] at Spedding Head (see appendix), at and near Old Penrith,[3] and via aerial reconnaissance across the whole area.[4] The recent suggestion that parts of Inglewood were subjected to centuriation during the Roman period,[5] provides a valuable opportunity for a reappraisal of the history of settlement and of land-use in this important and substantial tract of valley land. Although the area subjected to forest law was to be eventually extended far beyond, this attempt at a reappraisal will concentrate upon that area which provided the core of the forest between the Chalk Beck and the River Petteril, in particular the townships and civil parishes of Dalston, Sebergham, Hesket, Mungrisdale, Catterlen, Hutton, Skelton, and Castle Sowerby.

Environmental Factors

The topography is comparatively flat, with ground rising above 500 ft. (*c.* 150 m.) south of a line between Sebergham and High Hesket. There is a generally north facing aspect, therefore, but the somewhat hummocky nature of this moraine and the variability of local drainage allows specific areas a southerly perspective. Drainage is, however, predominantly south-north via the Chalk Beck, Caldew River, Roe Beck, River Ive, River Petteril and their tributaries. Rainfall is greater than around Carlisle or Penrith, but is not excessive by local standards at 825-1270 mm. (32·5-50 inches), increasing rapidly on the higher ground that forms a major barrier to the west, on Bowscale and Carrock Fells.[6] The subsoil of most of this area is impervious glacial till, supporting a soil which is only slowly permeable and is seasonally waterlogged. To the east the River Petteril forms the approximate boundary of this terrain, where it meets deep, well-drained, loamy and sandy soils, and similar soils are present in the south, on the north side of the Dacre Beck, appearing patchily as far north as Skelton. To the north-west, impermeable soils stretch across north Cumberland to the coast at Maryport and to the Wampool basin at Aikton, but better drained soils offer relief in the Kirkbampton area, and patchily around Old Carlisle (Wigton) and Dalston. The core of Inglewood is therefore, the largest expanse of poorly drained valley soil in Cumbria, relieved only by the alluvium associated with a minority of watercourses. Recent efforts to disperse surface water have utilised above surface (via canalised streams and ditches) and sub-surface land drainage via pipes,[7] and more recently chisel plough and subsoiling techniques.[8] Without these, cultivation of much of the area has been an unattractive strategy, and some soils have suffered severely from iron panning.

No detailed palaeoenvironmental study has so far been attempted of this region. Extensive sampling was undertaken throughout lowland Cumberland by Walker and others;[9] his researches included the examination of cores extracted from Moorthwaite

Moss (NY 510510),[10] Abbot Moss (NY 510430),[11] and Tarn Wadling (NY 485445).[12] However, none of these deposits provided evidence of late prehistoric or later episodes – the latest data obtained was from Abbot Moss, assigned to pollen zone C19 which Walker suggested belonged within the mid 2nd millennium b.c., when cereal pollen was recorded, and tree pollen (excluding birch) was in decline. While some wind-transported pollen from Inglewood arguably provided the background to this data, most probably derived from areas adjacent to the site, and east of the Petteril River. There is at present therefore, no reliable, direct evidence of the vegetational status of Inglewood during later prehistory and the early historic epoch.

Archaeological Evidence; Prehistory

The distribution of certain categories of artifacts provide an indirect means of assessing the nature and extent of prehistoric settlement and land-use in Inglewood. Sepulchral monuments of various types are well-represented in the north Cumbrian lowlands; most belong to an epoch centred on the mid to late 2nd millennium b.c.. They are comparatively numerous in the Eden and Eamont Valleys, where they cluster around several henges and stone circles, which probably belong to the early part of the same millennium. Two long cairns (presumed Neolithic) are extant between Newton Reigny and Stainton, and the adjacent place-name Sewborwens (literally, seven burial mounds) implies that others have been destroyed. In a similar context, the place-name Fowrass (four mounds) in Skelton (close by) might imply the loss of several more. Although bronze age round barrows are less densely sited on the Solway lowlands, recent aerial reconnaissance has led to the identification of several possible examples, one of which (near Home Abbey) has recently been excavated revealing a single cinerary urn containing a cremation.[13] A further example at Ewan Rigg has since been identified by surface investigation, and excavated, revealing numerous cremation burials.[14] Between these two areas, Inglewood is characterised by a low density of monuments associated with sepulchre or ritual (Fig. 1). The coexistance of palaeobotanical evidence for clearance and cereal cultivation at Abbot Moss and the relatively dense scatter of broadly contemporary field monuments in the vicinity implies that Inglewood was less intensively utilised than adjacent areas at this period. Other artifact distributions provide directly comparable results; Inglewood is not alone in the absence of late prehistoric metal-work, but does contrast with significant concentrations at or near Carlisle, and in the valley of the Eamont River.[15]

To the extent that such distribution patterns provide an insight into contemporary settlement and land-use, Inglewood was characterised by a low density of human settlement, clearance and intensive economic strategies, which contrast with more intensive activity in neighbouring and environmentally more advantageous terrain, west of Wigton and south and east of Skelton. Inglewood may, therefore, have been utilised via extensive strategies (including pastoralism, hunting and gathering) by communities normally resident in peripheral regions.

One site that is likely to have been occupied during later prehistory has been identified in Castlesteads at Dobcross Hall, Stockdalewath (NY 392451). This is a two phase site,[16] enclosing a maximum of *c.* 3 ha. (8·6 a.), which has been all but erased by the plough, although it was still upstanding in 1789.[17] A small, ditched enclosure at the centre of the site was occupied during the Roman period, but the size of the outer enclosure, its

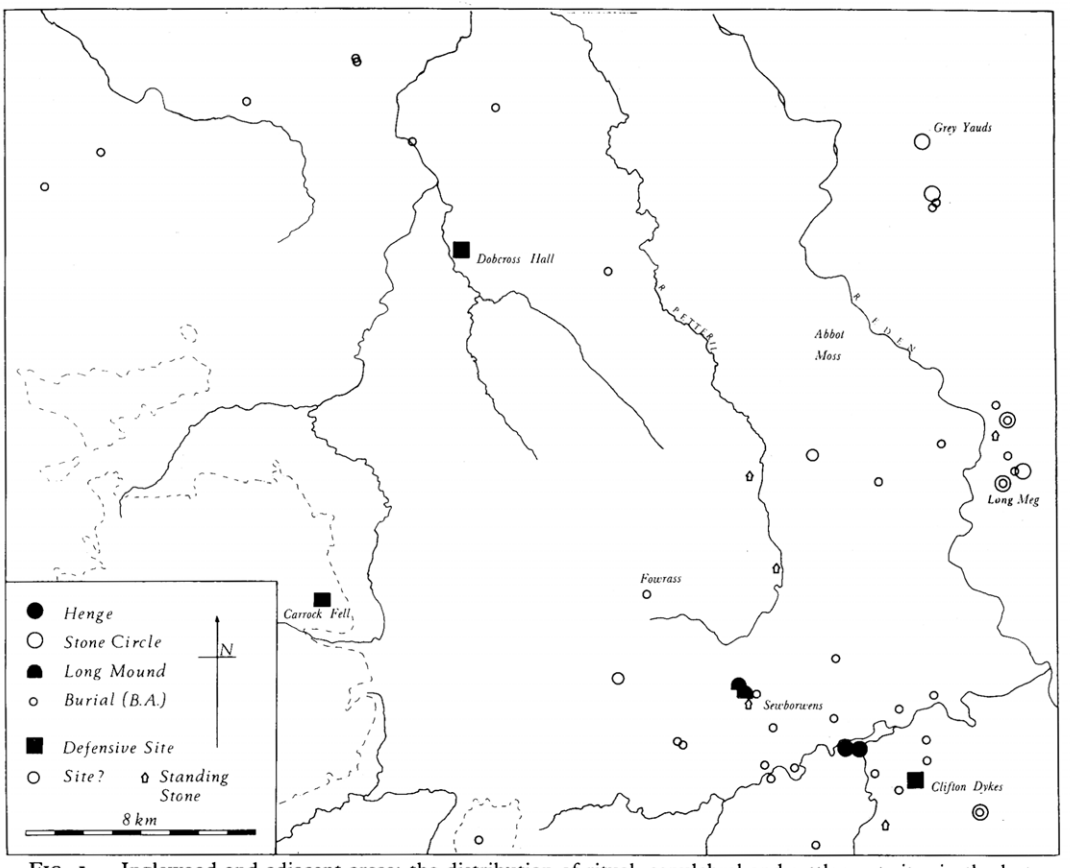


FIG. 1. – Inglewood and adjacent areas: the distribution of ritual, sepulchral and settlement sites in the last three millennia b.c.

scarp edge location, the profile of the ditch, the presence of an outer palisade trench and the likely scale of the internal bank are not compatible with occupation by indigenes during the Roman period.[18] At least two periods of structural occupation were identified in the interior, the earlier being timber and the later, stone. On analogy with numerous excavated examples from Northumberland, the earlier of the two occupations may belong in later prehistory.[19] Radial ditches were identified running away from the outer enclosure ditch on three sides. Parallels with southern English hill-forts are obvious, and nearer parallels are available, as in the ditch and bank arrangements adjacent to Woden Law above Teviot. Such divisions of the landscape are easiest interpreted as "ranch boundaries" or the like. Castlesteads is, therefore, a prime candidate as a major focus of late prehistoric, pastoralist activity in the northern part of Inglewood, where it may have served a function equivalent to that of the numerous fell-edge hillforts of Northumberland.[20]

Archaeological Evidence; The Roman Occupation (Fig. 2)

The Roman conquest, and the subsequent consolidation of that conquest, established

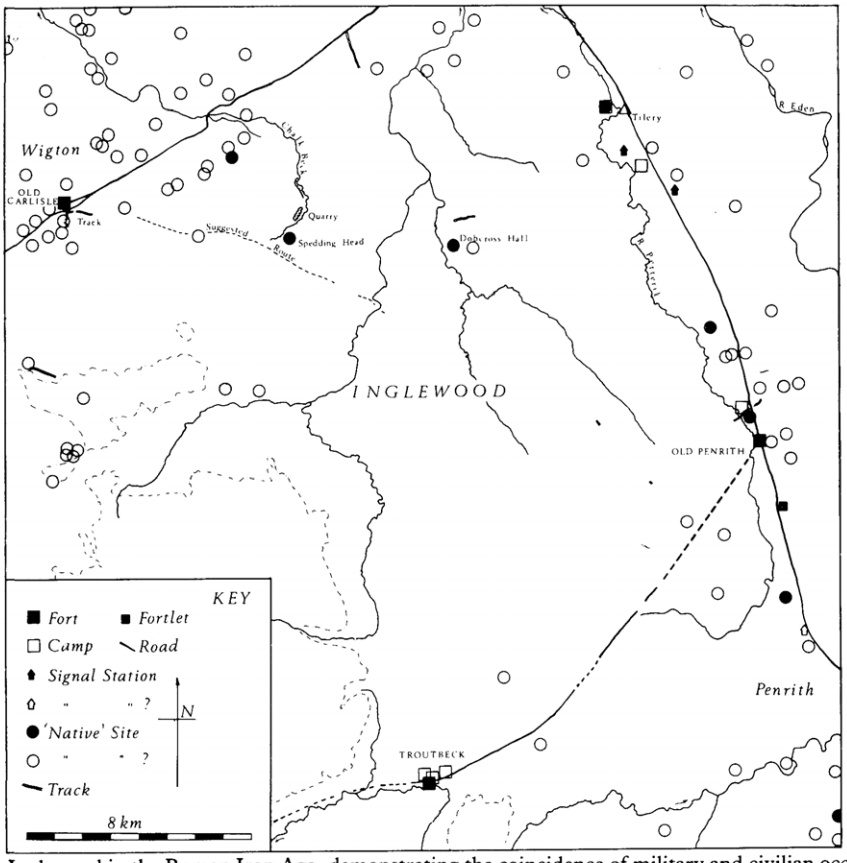


FIG. 2. – Inglewood in the Roman Iron Age, demonstrating the coincidence of military and civilian occupation on the periphery of the medieval forest.

a military frontier on the Solway-Tyne isthmus. The occupation was determined initially by strategic factors. The bulk of the garrison troops were positioned in the main communication corridors, or along what became the Hadrianic and post-Antonine frontier in western and northern Cumbria. Fundamental geographical factors determined the choice of the River Petteril as the major, strategic route corridor from the south, via Brougham, to Carlisle (broadly the modern A6), and of the Carlisle-Red Dial-Papcastle route (the A595) as the arterial route towards the west coast. The control of these routes required the establishment of permanent, auxilliary garrisons at Red Dial (Old Carlisle) and Plumpton (Old Penrith), around which developed substantial vicinal communities. In addition, temporary camps and lesser military sites such as fortlets and signal stations, and the military tilery at Scalesceugh, all testify to long lived and high density military activity in, and overlooking, the valley of the River Petteril, and in the Troutbeck pass to the south. Despite this, there is little evidence of a permanent military occupation between the River Petteril and the Chalk Beck. One possible site is that of Park House (NY 442496),[21] where a putative fort site has been identified on the apex of a small hill immediately west of the Petteril River. Although published as a military site, trial excavation did little more than demonstrate the presence of Roman pottery within an

embanked enclosure surrounded by a ditch with a 'v' shaped profile, although the excavator believed he had identified in section timber framed structures set in construction trenches in the interior. The published aerial photograph reveals ditches as crop marks apparently radiating from the site, and these have led to the suggestion that the site was civilian.[22] The latter possibility receives some support from the presence of indubitable, civilian sites exhibiting closely comparable characteristics, nearby at Petteril Green, at Old Penrith, and at the inner enclosure at Castlesteads, Dobcross Hall, as well as in numerous examples elsewhere throughout the northern counties.[23] If Park House was a military site, then it should probably be interpreted as a short-lived, specialist establishment associated with the adjacent tilery on the east bank of the River Petteril, and sited rather inconveniently on the west bank for some idiosyncratic reason.

The identification of two inscriptions (both now lost, R.I.B. 1001, 1002) on quarry faces on the Chalk Beck offers the possibility that stone from this source might have been utilised in the construction of the fort at Old Carlisle, or associated structures. A large, open-cast quarry is still visible (Lower Green Quarry, NY339462), and the possibility should be considered that this is a relic of ancient stone extraction.

The heart of Inglewood does not, therefore, appear to have attracted a significant military occupation in the Roman period, although it may well have proved a popular hunting ground for local garrison troops, and was used whenever convenient to obtain basic materials. Any direct communication between the Petteril valley and Old Carlisle would have necessitated a road or routeway approximating to the B5305. Given that Old Penrith was the eastern terminus of the Keswick road (via Troutbeck), we should, perhaps, anticipate that the same fort may have acted as the eastern terminus of a routeway, or even a minor road, running approximately west-northwest, crossing the River Caldew within 2 km. of Sebergham, but probably downstream. A possible line from there might be via modern minor roads from Grassgarth, Welton and via the B5305 between Chalk Side and Warble Bank. No such road has so far been located, but the presence of at least a ditch-defined track finds some support from recent aerial reconnaissance around Old Carlisle where parallel ditches arguably defining a routeway emerge from the *vicus* south of the fort, and divide to run both south-southwest, and east-southeast.[24] Had the Lower Green Quarry site been in use in the Roman period, a road to Old Carlisle would have been a necessity. Within Inglewood, double ditches have been identified at Devonshire Square (NY 440392) and near Grassknop (NY 456376), but these align not on Old Penrith but on Eamont Bridge, and have not in any event been dated.[25]

Indigenous occupation within the Roman period in northern Cumbria resulted in large numbers of civilian homesteads or farm sites. Their ditched perimeters make these perhaps the easiest category of pre-medieval settlement to identify by aerial reconnaissance. The distribution of this type of site in northern Cumbria has been published on several occasions.[26] Numerous examples have been identified in the Eamont Valley and along the route corridor northwards between the River Petteril and the River Eden. Among these a small minority are upstanding, as in the examples on Blaze and Lazonby Fells and at Carleton Hill east of Penrith. The remainder have been identified, as crop marks, or as damp lines in pasture under drought conditions. One example, at Crosfield Farm, Penrith has been excavated, and can provide a type site.[27] West of the River Petteril, small numbers of sites have been identified, but the distribution thins rapidly

beyond Skelton in the south. To the north, a scatter of sites have been identified around Dalston and other townships close to Carlisle; to the west numerous sites have been identified south and east of the Carlisle-Papcastle road, but hardly any examples have been identified east of the Chalk Beck. The heartland of Inglewood emerges as severely under-represented within this category of archaeological evidence, with marginal penetration resulting in peripheral examples, limited to Castlesteads, Dobcross (where a farming community arguably took advantage of an existing prehistoric clearance), Spedding Head (see appendix), and to a small number of unexcavated examples at Hutton-in-the-Forest (NY 469358) and Rashmire Wood (NY 482354), in the extreme south-east of the area. A single Roman coin found beside the Bassen Beck (NY 398444) is unlikely to be associated with rural settlement, if only because farm sites in northern England have not in general yielded coin finds. This may therefore, be associated with a putative route across the forest area, and does lie close to a possible route crossing the Rivers Roe and Caldew. The find of querns at Middlesceugh (NY 403422) is more likely to represent permanent settlement. The most obvious interpretation of this distribution of settlement would identify Inglewood as an underexploited region, heavily wooded and unattractive to settlement by the indigenes, despite the apparent high density of farming activity on the better drained loams, sands and gravels of the Solway lowlands. The presence of deer bones in a 2nd century context at Crosfield Farm, Penrith may suggest that communities based on the periphery of Inglewood continued to exploit its natural resources via extensive economic strategies.[28] The bones of cattle dominated this small assemblage, and were also exclusively represented among the small sample from Spedding Head (appendix). Inglewood arguably provided extensive pasturage for these herds. It may be that the tribal name *Carvetii* (the stag-people) is relevant to Inglewood.

Two alternative explanations must be explored. One derives from the problem of identification. Compared to the sands and gravel of the Holme Abbey area, Inglewood is badly drained, and this renders crops, and in particular pasture relatively unreceptive to aerial observation. The discrepancy in observed distribution might therefore, be a factor of the method, rather than of the basic distribution. Although it is impossible to entirely dispel this objection, it should be remembered that where sites do occur – as at Dobcross Hall – there is no problem in site identification, rather the reverse. Although large areas of Inglewood are currently under permanent pasture, there is a patchwork of cultivation equivalent to that across much of the Eden valley. Despite investigation of these, and of the whole under drought conditions, the incidence of site location remains very low compared to neighbouring regions. The problems of negative evidence remains, but a pattern of probability does emerge by which the distribution pattern appears relevant.

The second alternative is that offered by Richardson in 1982,[29] that parts at least of the region were centuriated in the Roman period and utilised as farmland under a regime that differs markedly from the scattered farms of the indigenes. This suggestion cannot be totally disproved; it is however, a weak hypothesis both in principle and in detail. In principle, it requires that we assume the Roman authorities to have been so sensitive to existing, indigenous, propriatorial interests that they were prepared to develop a relatively disadvantaged tract of agricultural land to serve the garrison troops. Such an assumption should be considered inherently unlikely. In addition, it requires a more direct participation in production than has yet been identified among the northern Roman garrisons. The

territoria of the garrisons remain a substantial interpretive problem, but this hypothesis contributes little to that interpretation.[30] In detail, the centuriation hypothesis relies upon 18th and 19th century maps, the latter of which is attached to an enclosure award. The dominant pattern of southeast-northwest aligned roads are in part a product of the 1819 enclosure; in part they merely serve to remind us of the basic direction of drainage – it is hardly coincidence that many of the local by-ways run parallel to the major tributaries of the River Caldew and the River Petteril; by keeping parallel to the rivers those who laid out these lanes were choosing the dryest routes across a region that (prior to ditching and under drainage in the last two centuries) was characterised by poor drainage. While this hypothesis may attract some local interest, it is not one which can find much support in the available evidence, nor in the academic context of the Roman occupation.

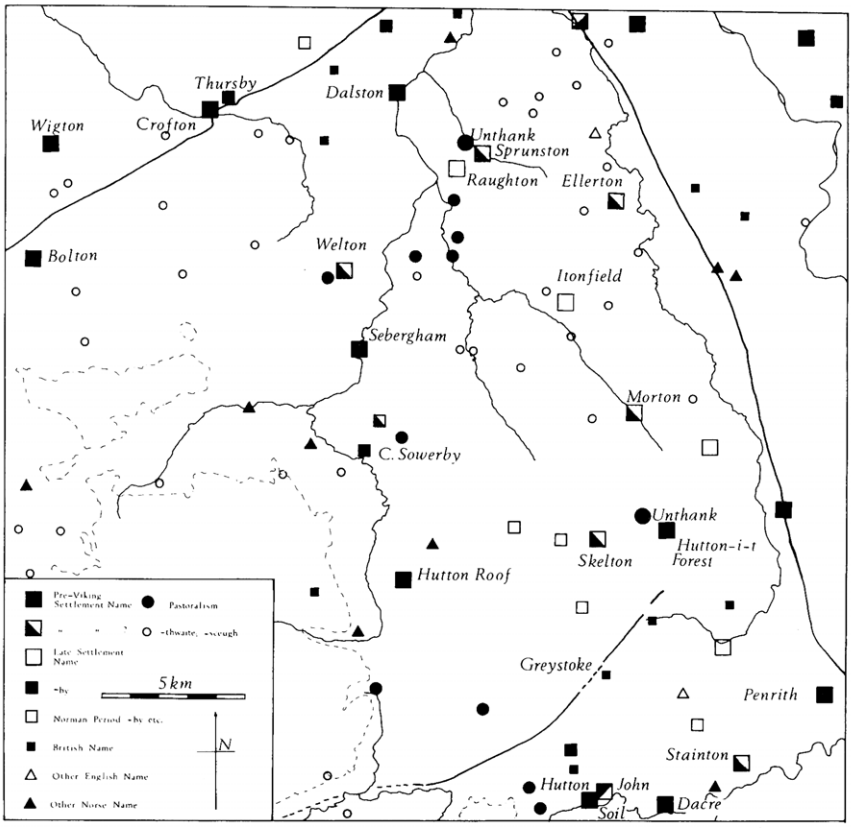


FIG. 3. – The colonisation of Inglewood in the age of Northumbria, showing the importance of early peripheral settlement around the core of the forest in the Anglo-Scandinavian and Anglo-Norman periods, and thereafter.

Post-Roman Inglewood (Fig. 3)

Proven examples of pre-Anglian place-names are not represented within the core of Inglewood, although adjacent river-names survived the Northumbrian assimilation of this region (e.g. Eden, Dacre), and there is a degree of place-name survival in early

forms of Dacre, Carlisle (the last element) and (less certainly) Penrith. Place names likely to have survived from the early Anglian period are scarce. Sebergham is a difficult case, for which no forms are extant before the early 13th century, when several spellings suggest the second element may represent a lost *burh* name.[31] Alternatives are Old Norse Setberg, or Seat Hill and Saeburg, an Anglian woman's name. The suffix is arguably *-ham*, but the location of this parish centred on the steep and narrow valley of the Caldew River requires that we take seriously the possibility that the name originated as a *-hamm* place-name, utilising a suffix associated with riverside resources, although if this were the case it would represent a northerly outlier from the predominately southern distribution of *hamm* place-names. Whatever the derivation, the place-name most probably existed by the 9th century. The remaining place-names of parochial or township territories are in most cases associated with modern settlements peripheral to Inglewood; since most of these are descriptive of settlements, it seems likely that the settlements from which they derive originally shared a similar, peripheral distribution. Most of these employ the suffix *-ton*, -hence Wigton, Crofton, Bolton, Plumpton, Dalston, Hutton. Where these employ Old English personal names (arguably Wigton, Dalston, likewise Sebergham) these may pre-date A.D. 900, and others formed from topographical elements (Hutton) are strong candidates for a pre-Scandinavian origin. However, the element *-ton* continued to be used in place-name formation in the period of Anglo-Scandinavian colonisation, if not later. The place-names Raughton and Iveton (enshrined in Itonfield) must, at least in their current form, post-date local Scandinavian colonisation, and Skelton is another candidate. Even among township and hamlet names, several are conspicuously late formations (hence Newton [Reigny]), or are environmentally perjorative and thereby are likely to be late (e.g. Morton, Ellerton, Stainton). Among the minor *-ton* names that occur in the heartland of Inglewood, none is demonstrably a product of a pre-Scandinavian language group, although it remains possible that place-names such as Welton or Morton do derive from before A.D. 900. Nor is there any evidence that those *-ton* names of the Anglo-Scandinavian period represent renaming of existing settlements – there is a conspicuous absence of "Grimston – hybrid" style place-names, or of distinctively early Viking-Gaelic place-names in the core of Inglewood.

Several names which are likely to represent communities in existance before 900 are characterised by association with a wide territory lacking any single nucleated settlement, hence Bolton Newhouses, Boltonwood Lane, Bolton Low Houses, Boltongate, Bolton Park (in Westward) and Plumptonfoot, Plumpton Walls, Plumpton Old Hall, Plumpton Hall and Plumpton Head. These may represent a longstanding association between a single-named community and a territory over which it exercised rights to exploitation via extensive strategies. Most remarkable is the example of Hutton on the southern edges of Inglewood. A hamlet with the name Hutton Soil occupies a site on the Dacre Beck 2·6 km. from Dacre Church. Adjacent to it is Hutton John. Ten kilometres to the north lies Hutton-in-the-Forest with Hutton Row, Hutton Grange and Hutton End; Hutton Roof and Hutton Sceugh occupy the upper reaches of the River Caldew, and Hutton Moor lies between the Glenderamackin River and the Troutbeck. Several of these names may have no great antiquity, but a significant group were present in the 12th century. The specifics which have been appended in the cases of Hutton Roof and Hutton Row probably represent personal names, and are therefore, possessive in force, but are unlikely to predate the Norman conquest of the region *c.* A.D. 1100. If this group of

place-names represents a single territory or estate of the pre-immigration period, it was probably owned by (and its cohesion guaranteed by) the adjacent monastic community at Dacre. This is purely speculative. However, there are no indisputable, further candidates among the place-names of this region as pre-immigration survivals.

The name Inglewood most probably derives from the 10th century. Both elements are English, and the force of the name is possessive "English(men's) Wood", perhaps, enshrining contemporary but not entirely successful attempts to exclude immigrant colonists from the area. It may be that the two place-names "Unthank" represent successful trespasses by which colonists successfully established themselves at a time when the local community was English speaking. Both lie adjacent to English settlement place-names, at Dalston and Hutton-in-the-Forest.

We have already noted the Scandinavian linguistic element in Skelton. One late tier of names is likely to have resulted from British immigration from Clydeside in the early 10th century – hence Penruddock, Greystoke, Blencow, Catterlen and Culgaith in the Central Eden Basin, and Cumrew, Cumdivock, the Chalk (Beck) and the British elements in Cumwhitton and Cumwinton north of Inglewood. These names occur within the same terrain and in the same areas as pre-existing Anglo-Celtic place-names; they are not present in the centre of Inglewood. British communities did give names to "waste" areas in the region, hence *Barrock* Fell, Great and Little *Mell* Fell, *Carrock* Fell, Castle *Hewen*, etc, but not within Inglewood. Whether we should suppose an English policy of exclusion, or merely environmental disincentives is unclear.

The initial Scandinavian immigration was broadly contemporary with this British colonisation, although arguably involving a longer and later time scale, and larger numbers. Place-names which combine Norse or Gaelic personal names with settlement elements, or place-names which utilise the Gaelic inversion compound are likely (but by no means certain) to predate the Norman conquest. Examples such as Motherby, and Dalemain (Dacre) are present in the south, and Thursby and Brownelson (Dalston) in the north, but they are not well represented in the core of Inglewood, although several river names (Roe Beck and Ive) and *-by* names such as (Castle) Sowerby, Sowerby (-Wood, Dalston) and Southernby may derive from 10th or 11th century colonisation, although *-by* was still in use in place-name formation after the Norman occupation, hence Johnby, Lamonby and Ellonby. Early names of the Scandinavian immigration display a peripheral distribution, essentially comparable to that of the pre-existing settlement names, and the British colonists. Place-names denoting cultivation are entirely absent (with the possible exception of Itonfield); where economic activity is described, it is pastoral – hence Stockdalewath, Lambsceugh, Stoddah, Gatesgill, Skiprigg, Grassgarth, Haythwaite and (Mun)grisdale. Others specifically refer to summer pasturage, and Inglewood has one of the densest concentrations of shieling place-names in lowland Cumberland – hence, Berrier, Foxley Henning, Hewer Hill (Castle Sowerby), Gatesgill (Dalston) and Scalesceugh. To the extent that there is a pre-Norman group of place-names within the core of the forest, those descriptive of extensive economic activity are dominant, along with small numbers of minor settlement names, many of which are arguably late foundations. This is not to suggest that Inglewood as here defined was the only substantial area of "waste" land in the locality in the period A.D. 900-1200. Skirwith (with the meaning of woodland shared by the shire) provides an obvious parallel east of the Eden. However, Inglewood was unique by virtue of its large size.

The process of assarting and colonisation in Inglewood owes much to post-Norman population pressure. Many of the numerous *-thwaite* place-names appear to date from a time when this element had been absorbed as a dialect term into the local middle English vernacular – hence Southwaite, Thethwaite and Smalthwaite, and thereby continue a local tradition of place-name formation perhaps already present in Braithwaite. Place-names in *-sceugh* (*-skogr*) likewise are largely compounded with middle English, – hence Middlesceugh, Sceughmyre etc.. The origin of some of these were arguably as late as the early 13th century, where for example, Lord Dacre was enclosing land at Kirkthwaite by Middlesceugh.[32]

Conclusions

Despite the poverty of the palaeobotanical record for this area, indirect evidence from archaeology and place-names suggests that Inglewood was, over a period of several millennia, consistently resistant to settlement and intensive land-use. Not until the re-emergence of population growth in the Anglo-Scandinavian period and thereafter is there evidence of significant settlement in the core of the area; most of this process of colonisation occurred after *c.* A.D. 1100, and was characterised by non-nucleated settlements practising pastoralism. The reason for its unattractiveness must lie in the cold, wet and heavy clay soils which dominate the area.

The region therefore displays consistency throughout a long prehistory and history. Unlike many areas termed Royal Forests in the 12th century, Inglewood was still extensively wooded in 1100, with major settlements confined to the periphery, and a scatter of small communities occupying small clearances in the interior. The deaneries of Carlisle and Cumberland divided the forest between them, but the forest was extra-parochial. The township structure that eventually emerged supports this emphasis on the high status of peripheral communities.

This is not to suggest that Inglewood was unused by man throughout prehistory and history before the 10th century. As a substantial tract of well-wooded lowland the forest acted as an important reserve of capital, available to the surrounding communities whenever required. It offered an arena in which hunting strategies could be combined variously with the gathering of foodstuffs, herbs, building material, clay and fuel, and in which substantial herds could find sustenance. The existance of Inglewood guaranteed to local communities access to extensive economic strategies over a long period during which demographic pressures made their use variously both more and less necessary. That such pressures had re-emerged by the 11th century is at least implied by the control exercised by Gospatric in neighbouring Allerdale, within which he was renewing special privileges to members of the local aristocracy.[33] It is within this context that we should view the origins of Inglewood; an area for which the Anglo-Norman term "waste" might appear apposite, but one to which it is attached at peril.

Appendix

Rescue excavation at Spedding Head, October 1982

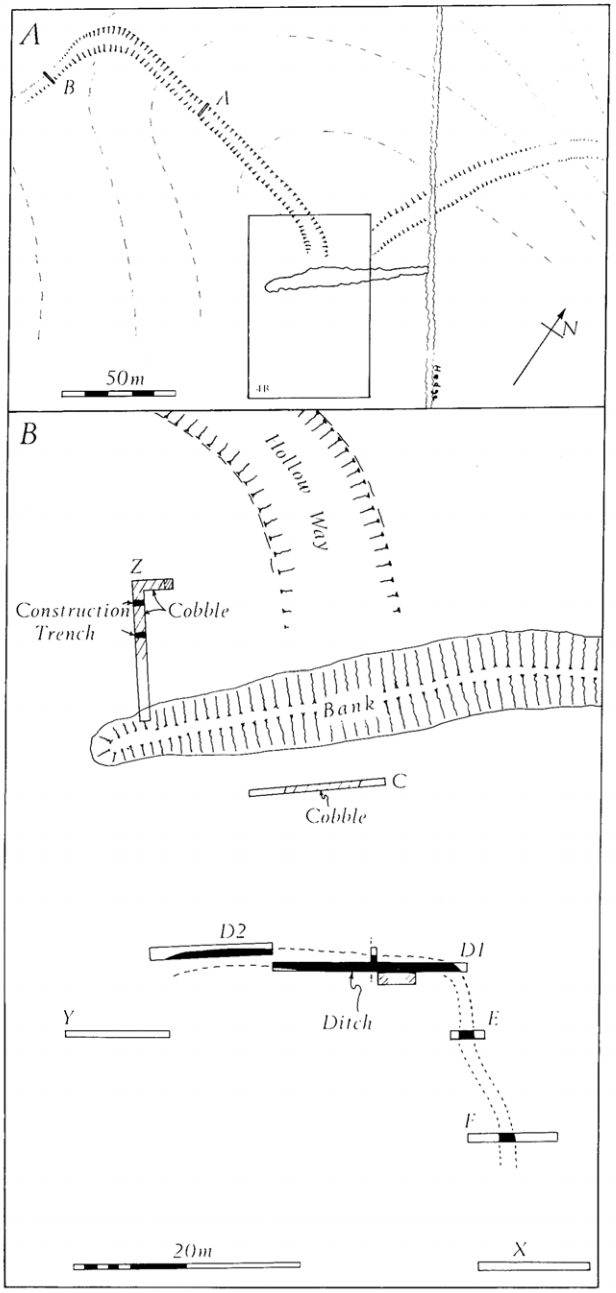
By D. BRITTAN AND G. D. B. JONES

Spedding Head (NY 336453) is a spur of land on the south side of the Chalk Beck located between that watercourse and the Iron Gill. The Head has a north westerly aspect lying between 100-120 m above O.D., on slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged, reddish till. The existence of an archaeological site was first suggested in 1981 by Mr Brian Berry, as a result of air photography which indicated the lines of two trackways converging on the hilltop. From the west, a hollow way climbs via a steep bend onto the crest; a less distinct track was also identified, running along a terrace from the north-east (Fig. 4), which clearly predated the modern, field boundary. From the latter projected a 60 m long "kest" or bank of stones, arguably derived from field clearance, in the lee of which lay a slight depression, *c.* 30 m across, and broadly circular in shape. Mr John Hetherington, the farmer, wished to use the material of the bank to level up the depression, but following discussion with the first author kindly provided a mechanical excavator to test the archaeology of the site prior to agricultural improvement.

The lower of the two sections (B) showed that a track had run in a hollow-way approximately 3·5 m across, which infilled with alluvium to a depth of 0·4 m. Subsequently, in early modern times, a drain had been cut down the centre to facilitate the drainage pattern in the field (Fig. 5). The upper section (A) represented the same pattern on a larger scale. The sunken track measured from lip to lip 4 m across with a cobbled surface laid in the bottom measuring some 2 m wide. Above the remnants of paving, two layers of alluvium had formed (both silver-gray in colour and reaching a total depth of 0·2 m). Above these, two relatively modern levels had accumulated, perhaps associated with recent agricultural processes; a substantial field drain had been cut into the lower of these two levels. The effect of the agricultural levelling had almost entirely destroyed the profile of the sunken lane at this point some 100 m from the site.

The settlement site

The nature of the salvage operations was controlled by agricultural rather than archaeological considerations. Although the results failed to produce a coherent plan, the amount of material (particularly faunal remains) emphasises the importance of the site. A machine trench was excavated 67 m from the hedge at the southern end of the bank (Trench z). The original cut was developed into a L-shaped trench. Above the boulder clay a stratum of heavy and medium cobble was identified, extending patchily for 5·5 m in a north-westerly direction. This cobble appeared to form the flooring for a two-roomed, subrectangular building represented by the lines of two construction trenches packed with red clay. The distance between the two construction trenches suggested a structure 2 m wide. The northern room was floored with larger cobble, with a spread of yellow clay and yielded a substantial number of sherds including black burnished ware. There may have been an entrance to the room on the eastern side reflected in changes in the size and shape of the cobbling, but the weather conditions and shortage of time prevented a fuller examination. The interpretation of this area alongside the western-most track is probably that of a substantial, floored building, built in timber along rectilinear lines and flanking the approach track.



The other sections were cut on the southern side of the bank, presumably to the rear of the building already identified. Altogether, four trenches produced archaeological features and a further two proved to be void of evidence. The first of the former (C) identified the line of a paved track-way, which appeared to be an extension of that already

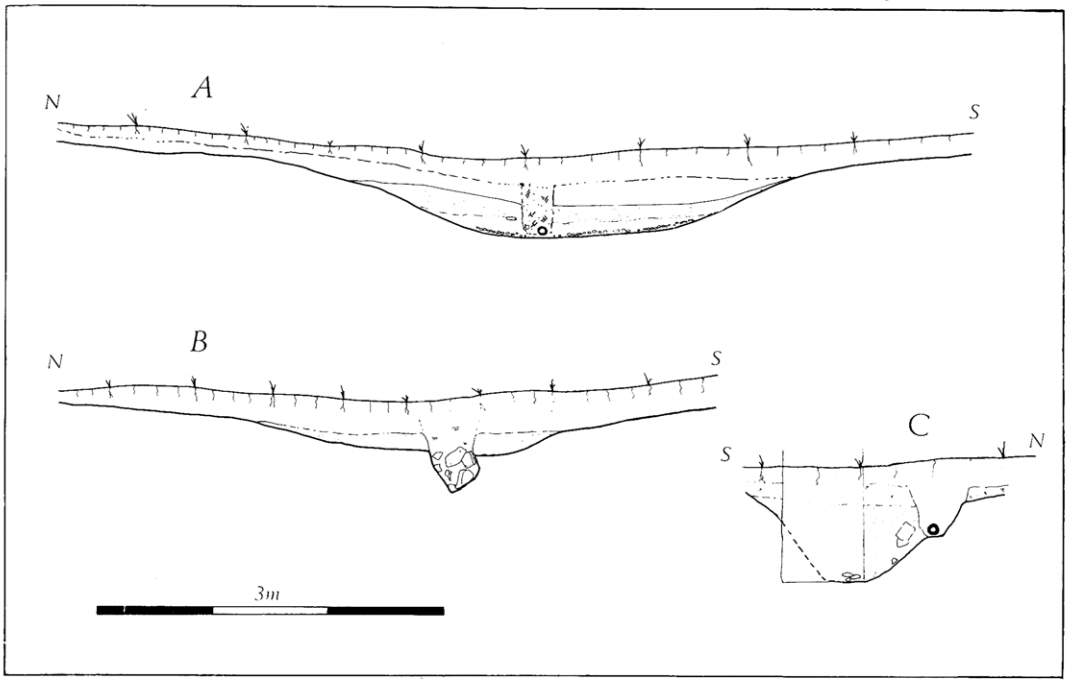


FIG. 5.

identified in the area of Building A, to the south side of the old bank. The paving measured approximately 6·8 m across and runs in a north-west/south-east direction. The principal feature identified in Trenches D1/D2 comprised a U-shaped, silted ditch partly back-filled with boulders. From surface evidence, the direction of the ditch was completely unclear and the arbitrary mechanical cut D1/D2 ran along the length of the ditch, making examination difficult. The original mechanical cut D1 was extended to north and south to produce a full ditch section and attempt to locate features on the southern side. The latter operation was partly successful in that it revealed a patch of cobbling and a series of limestone boulders, including one which may have been squared, along the edge of the ditch. The ditch itself, in the complete section excavated in D1, measured 1·75 m across with a depth of 0·5 m. The fill was almost entirely silt, from which a large variety of material was recovered. A modern pipe trench obscured one part of the ditch profile (Fig. 5) and showed that there had been consistent attempts to tackle the problem of flooding over the last century and a half.

Trench D1 was extended in Trench D2 in the hope of establishing the line of the ditch. It became apparent from the western side of D2 that the ditch ran in a gentle turn towards the south-west. At the north-eastern end of Trench D1 it equally became apparent that the ditch made a sharp, almost right-angled turn to the south-east. This was subsequently traced some 5 m away in Trench F, where the U-shaped ditch with silt and stone fill was again located. Some 10 m further to the south-east the line of the ditch (identified by the stone infill) was again located. A further trench 10 m to the south-east failed to show a direct continuation (X).

The provisional interpretation of the site layout is that the two approach tracks ran

directly on to the crest of the hill roughly 20 m north of the old field bank. In this area there may have existed a number of buildings of which one was identified on the west side of the western track. Part of this central core area was evidently paved, as one might expect from the evidence of the tracks themselves. The evidence for this derives from Trench C. The south-eastern boundary of the settlement area appears to be marked by the ditch located in Trenches D1 and D2. This ditch curves away to the south-east and south-west but its full layout remains uncertain. It is from the contents of the ditch that the most important evidence in this report emerged, in the form of both pottery and faunal remains.

Conclusions

The most likely interpretation of this site is as a "native" settlement, sited on the edge of the main wooded area of Inglewood on unattractive soils, close to the environmental threshold of occupation by the indigenous community and therefore strategically occupying a site with the advantages of natural surface drainage. The waterlogged condition of much of the ditch reinforces its function in draining the area. It is unclear whether or not the site was enclosed, since the trial excavation that was possible in the conditions was unable to do more than identify a ditch on the south side of the major concentration of structural and surface features. The possibility of a paved rectilinear structure provides an interesting *addendum* to the existing series of rectangular structures already known on five "native" farm sites in the region.[34] There remains an outside possibility that the site is in some way to be associated with the quarrying on the far side of the Chalk Beck, but this option is unattractive for a variety of reasons and should probably be dismissed, particularly in view of the later third and fourth century occupation indicated by the pottery.

The Bones

by W. CLARK, M.R.C.V.S.

Identifiable fragments were recovered from the silt that comprised the bulk of the fill of the ditch identified in Trenches D1 and D2. All were from cattle. Two groups were identified, one comprising 3 fragments which combined to make a left tibia, fragments of both left and right femur, and the distal end of a metatarsal or metacarpal, all from one or more adult specimens. The smaller group was similar in composition, comprising two fragments of a femur (of which one was diagnostic of the left side), the proximal end of a metatarsal, and one fragment less reliably identified as the head of a tibia. The find spots of the two groups were only 40 cms apart. In addition, two teeth were recovered, both being molars, with crown wear consistent with a mature animal of 5+ years. A tooth from the cobbled surface adjacent to Trench D was a molar of an ox of 2-3 years. This collection is too small for statistical analysis. All that can be said is that it represents two deposits of bones from prime butchery cuts – in both cases hindquarters of beef, and possibly from the same beast. Marks of a sharp tool indicate butchery, and the epiphysial processes appear to have been deliberately broken from the long bones, presumably to obtain access to the marrow. The size of the tibia suggests a beast

comparable in size to a modern Ayrshire or Friesian, which suggests a beast of unusual size for the Roman period.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due first and foremost to Mr John Hetherington and his family, of Green Bank, without whose permission and practical encouragement work on the site would have been impossible. The site was initially identified from the air by Mr Brian Berry, and work on the ground was initiated by Mr David Brittan, with a small team from Manchester led by Professor Barri Jones comprising Paul Reynolds and Peter Lawson. The bones were examined by Mr W. Clark of Wigton, who kindly offered the above comments. The draft of this appendix was typed by Miss P. Faulkner and the finished report by Mrs D. Fielding. To all go our grateful thanks.

Notes and References

[1] CW2, lxxxi, 1-6.
[2] *Britannia* xiv (1983), 45-72.
[3] CW2, lxxxii, 51-66. In addition excavation adjacent to Old Penrith fort by the Central Excavation Unit awaits publication.
[4] *Archaeological Journal*, 132 (1975), 16-53 and subsequent observation.
[5] CW2, lxxxii, 67-71.
[6] Soil Survey Record No. 46 *Soils in Cumbria I* (Sheet NY 53, Penrith) Soil Survey, 1977, 6.
[7] *Ibid.* 105.
[8] As observed at Dobcross Hall Farm over recent years.
[9] *Philosophic Trans. of the Royal Society* B, 251, 1-210. (see also, Barber, K. E. 1981, *Peat Stratigraphy and Climatic Change*, A. A. Balkema, Rotterdam, pages 112-123.)
[10] *Ibid.* p. 76.
[11] *Ibid.* p. 79.
[12] *New Phytologist*, 63 (1964) 232.
[13] Excavated by Prof. G. D. B. Jones in 1981, at NY 138483; other probable examples have been identified adjacent to it, and at Granger Houses, NY 253463; Kirkland Farm, NY 272484; Roundhill NY 146486, 148484, 150483.
[14] Excavated by R. Bewley in 1983.
[15] CW2, lxix, 1-39; CW2, lxxii, 44-52.
[16] *Archaeologia*, ix (1789), 223.
[17] This notice predates enclosure; Inglewood Forest Enclosure Award, 1819. Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle Q/RE/1/135/2.
[18] CW2, lxxxi, 6.
[19] e.g. *A.A.*, 5, 5 (1977) 1-38; *A.A.*, 5, 6 (1978), 1-28.
[20] *A.A.*, 4, 43 (1965), 21-64.
[21] See CW2, liv, 9-16.
[22] For suggested reinterpretation, *Archaeological Journal*, 132 (1975), 34.
[23] Nearby parallels include the double ditched enclosure at Petterilgreen Cottages (NY 477422), Blaze Fell (NY 497428), Dobcross Hall and Yanwath Woodhouse.
[24] For preliminary survey, see *Archaeological Journal* 132 (1975), 18 and facing. Subsequent reconnaissance has reinforced the presence of trackways in this area.
[25] *Archaeological Journal* 132 (1975), 36.
[26] *Archaeological Journal* 132 (1975); largely derived from that work is Higham, N. J. "Native Settlements West of the Pennines" in Branigan, K. (ed.) *Rome and the Brigantes* (Sheffield), 41-7; see also Potter, T. *Romans in North west England* (1979).
[27] *Britannia*, xiv (1983), 45-72.

[28] *Ibid.* 66.

[29] CW2, lxxxii, 67-71.

[30] See Higham, N. J. "Native and Roman in Northern England: Acculturation and its limitations", (1986 Forthcoming).

[31] This (and all other references to place-names studies) depends on interpretation as found in Armstrong, A. M. *et al, The Place-Names of Cumberland* Parts I and II, (Cambridge, 1950).

[32] CW2, v, 35-61, see also CW2, vi, 159-70; CW2, vii, 1-30.

[33] CW2, v, 71-84.

[34] *Britannia*, xiv (1983), 65 for a summary of these structures, none of which were founded on construction trenches of the kind identified here.