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A Flake of a Stone Axe from Ash Fell

Tom Clare

A number of flakes from stone axes have been recovered from the limestone escarpment between the rivers Lune and Eden (Cherry and Cherry, 1987). Taken together with palaeoenvironmental evidence they can be interpreted as the result of using axes to work timber (Clare, 2008) and as such are very much in contrast to those complete axes which may have been deliberately deposited for less prosaic purposes. In this context the finding of a flake from a polished axe, almost certainly of Group VI origin (Vin Davis, pers. comm.) from Ash Fell, near Ravenstonedale, extends the geographical spread of such fragments.

The find was made on the footpath at NY 7440 4532 near to the prehistoric burial mounds. As such it can be interpreted as part of the prehistoric land use which saw the expansion of farming and the appearance of monuments within ‘core areas’ of land use. The flake has been deposited in Kendal Museum.

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Investigation of part of the High Street Roman Road in Kentmere

Samuel Whitehead and Daniel W. Elsworth

As part of a series of repairs to the footpath between Froswick and Thornthwaite Crag, which forms part of the Kentmere Horseshoe, an archaeological evaluation and associated topographic survey was commissioned by the Lake District National Park Authority. This stretch of footpath (centered on NY 4325 0911; Figure 1) follows the line of the High Street Roman road for about 1 km, and was liable to be affected by the footpath repairs. The survey was therefore intended to record the form of extant earthworks prior to the construction of the new footpath. In addition, three evaluation trenches were also excavated to locate and characterise the Roman road and to assess its survival and the likely impact that the footpath repairs might have on it.

The survey and archaeological evaluation were carried out by Greenlane Archaeology Ltd., in June and September 2006 respectively (Greenlane Archaeology, 2006).
Fig. 1. Site location and earthworks within the survey area.
Early History

The date of origin of the road across High Street is not known for certain, although the general assumption is that it connected the fort at Brougham to a road between the forts at Kendal and Ambleside (see for example, Hindle, 1977, 10). This would suggest it was likely to have been constructed during the late 1st or early 2nd century A.D. (Shotter, 2004, 53).

The first published reference to identify it as a Roman road is thought to be in the Beauties of England and Wales (Britton et al., 1814). However, it is mentioned in documents from the 13th century, when it is named ‘Bretstrett’ meaning ‘street of the Britons’ (Hindle, 1984, 16), an indication that its early origins were already suspected.

Hodgson’s map of 1828 is apparently the earliest to show the line of the Roman road, although earlier plans do show the position of ‘High Street’, referring to the hill of that name. Limited investigation of the road was carried out by Cornelius Nicholson, some time between the two editions of the Annals of Kendal (Nicholson, 1832; 1861). The first detailed excavation of High Street was carried out by Grundy and Parkin in 1898 (Haverfield, 1898, 360-363). In the trench closest to the survey area (although this was still over 8 km to the north) the road was found to be approximately ten feet wide at the top, 15-16 feet wide at the bottom and constructed from four layers. A second trench, which was approximately two miles further north, found kerb stones nine inches across, but the road surface was severely worn by packhorse tracks and could not easily be distinguished (ibid.).

The line of the road is still visible in aerial photographs (Ordnance Survey, 1972; MAFF, 1983), and there are extant earthworks denoting at least part of its route. However, there has been considerable debate ever since the road was first identified about its ultimate destination, and the route it took south of the survey area. A steep route known as ‘Scot-rake’ was described by Nicholson (1861, 7) as a possible direction, and this was adopted by some following writers (Collingwood, 1930, 118).

Results

The topographic survey recorded three main areas of earthworks (Fig. 1). At the northernmost end, a group of shallow scoops in the hillside were recorded, which seem likely to represent small scale quarrying activity. Without excavation these features remain impossible to date although given their close physical association to the projected line of the road it is possible that they are related. In this part of the survey area the road itself was not clearly represented by any earthworks, although there were some shallow terraces that may be the remains of it. These are truncated by a deep natural ravine, which has cut through the line of the road.

South of these features a 130m long bank and associated terrace were clearly evident (Fig. 1). A flattened area of hillside had apparently been created by the cutting away of part of the slope to the west and seems very likely to correspond to the route of the road.
South of these earthworks a large gap is visible in the line of the road, south-west of which is another series of linear earthworks that also took the form of a terrace and continued southwards for approximately 250 m. Again this was thought to represent the position of the Roman road. Erosion caused by the present footpath is evident along the edge of both the central and southern sections of the road as a narrow worn patch in the vegetation with deep erosion scars present in various places. Other earthworks including areas of peat cutting and the remains of the parish boundary, were also present within the survey area.

The three evaluation trenches were all 5m in length, and the road surface was identified in all of them. In each trench the road was built of gravels and pebbles but was clearly denuded (Fig. 2). Unlike the excavations of Grundy and Parkin, over a century earlier, no cobbling or kerb stones were evident although the gravels encountered presumably represent one of the four layers that they described (Haverfield, 1898, 360-363).
In each trench additional features were present that had been constructed to keep water and peat from encroaching onto the road from the slopes or boggy ground to the west. In the northernmost trench this took the form of a large gravel-filled ditch (Fig. 2), and in the other two trenches large banks built of clay and gravel were evident, which presumably acted as a form of dam (Fig. 2).

**Conclusion**

The complex nature of the features and layers recorded in the three trenches exacerbated by the shallow stratigraphy and wet conditions, the lack of dating evidence, and the small size of the areas examined, makes a confident assessment of the archaeology difficult. What is evident, however, is the presence of a surface with associated ditch or bank that follows the route of the High Street Roman Road and seems likely to represent the remains of it.

The structure of the road surface discovered is not what might be described as typical for the Roman period (see for example, Bagshawe, 1985), but it does have some similarities with other roads of Roman date, not least Haverfield’s description of the same road north of Loadpot Hill (Haverfield, 1898, 362).

One can only assume that this section of the road has suffered the effects of erosion from its documented heavy usage, and stone may have been robbed for other purposes such as the construction of piles of stones shown as marking the parish boundary in 1863 (O.S., 1863). Ferguson, writing in 1877, noted that the High Street had been used as a packhorse route (Ferguson, 1877, 65), and 20 years later Haverfield describes how the packhorse trails were used by peat carriers taking peat to Windermere, prior to the completion of the railway in 1847 (Haverfield, 1898, 362).

The terraces that were surveyed as part of this project can now be confidently related to the road surface discovered and have finally been recorded and mapped. The investigation has unfortunately not enabled an easier understanding of the route of the road south of the survey area, which has been subject to some debate, although earthworks observed during the project to the south of the survey area and the reassessment of the documentary sources do suggest the Roman road is most likely to continue along the upper slope of the valley for some distance, before reaching the lower ground. This corresponds to the route suggested by Hindle (1984, 17), rather than following ‘Scot-Rake’ into the valley.

**Acknowledgements**

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Richard Fox, Upland Paths Advisor at the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA), Eleanor Kingston, Archaeologist at the LDNPA for her support on site, and the staff of the Cumbria Record Office in Kendal. The survey and excavation were carried out by Daniel Elsworth, Jo Dawson and Craig Appley. The project was commissioned by the Lake District Upland Paths Landscape Restoration Project, which is run by a partnership of the LDNPA, the National Trust and Natural England with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
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Medieval remains on Boroughgate, Appleby

Samuel Whitehead and Daniel W. Elsworth

This article provides a brief synopsis of work carried out by Greenlane Archaeology Ltd. prior to the submission of a planning application for the development of land adjacent to Shaw’s Wiend and Boroughgate in the centre of Appleby, Cumbria (NY 68406 20116; Figure 1). The work took place in May 2006 (Greenlane Archaeology, 2006), and comprised three evaluation trenches covering 5 per cent of the total site area (790.2 m²).

Appleby was granted a borough charter some time prior to 1179 (Daniels, 2002, 189), which probably led to the development of large parts of the town, in particular Boroughgate. This comprises narrow burgage plots, typical of the period, arranged along the street, which ran uphill to the market place and the gates of the castle (Douglas-Simpson, 1949, 122-123). During the 14th century large parts of Appleby were devastated by the Scottish raids, and, according to historical sources, it took until the 16th century for the town to recover fully (Holdgate, 1982, 34-36).

The trenches targeted properties fronting onto Boroughgate and Shaw’s Wiend, which are shown clearly on Hill’s map of 1754, and a probable burgage plot boundary consistently recorded on maps between 1754 and 1861. In addition, a more open area to the west was examined in order to establish the presence of any outlying features.

Results

While no definite remains of the properties or boundary were discovered, a considerable number of features typically associated with plots, yards, and gardens were recorded.
Fig. 1. Boroughgate, Appleby: trench location plan.
The earliest of these included deposits and a pit probably originating in the 12th century, the period at which Boroughgate is thought to have been first established, with areas of cobbled surfaces associated with a stone drain or culvert probably added at a later date (Fig. 2). The cobbled surfaces were overlain by a thick garden soil containing late-medieval and post-medieval finds, suggesting that at least part of the site was abandoned during the medieval period, perhaps as a result of the devastating Scottish raids of the 14th century.

Large quantities of medieval artefacts and bone were recovered, including well-preserved pottery fragments (many of which refitted) and part-glazed floor or roof tiles, all of which suggest structures of some significance were present in the area. It is hoped that these will be more fully reported in due course. Industrial residue in the form of smithing waste was also recovered in large quantities from the area around the cobbled surfaces. Post-medieval features included a small pit that probably originally contained a barrel, a foundation cut for a wall (Fig. 2), and layers of rubble, some probably forming part of a path. A Charles II of Scotland sixpence, known as a ‘bawbee’ and dated to between 1677 and 1679, was also recovered (Holmes, pers comm.).

Conclusions

The results of the evaluation show a high potential for the presence of other remains dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods within this part of the town. Those that were encountered were in an extremely good state of preservation, and were in places only covered by a relatively thin layer of topsoil. The large number of high-status artefacts dating to the medieval period might be due to the proximity of the site to the castle and Boroughgate, the main thoroughfare through the town and location of a marketplace.

Excavations in Appleby have previously been limited to the Friary Fields area (LUAU, 1996; 1997; Brigantia Archaeological Practice, 1998), apart from work carried out by the Time Team at the town jail (Channel 4, nd.), so the evaluation on Boroughgate was a rare opportunity to examine a medieval burgage plot. The site was also fortunate in that it had seen limited post-medieval and modern development, so the medieval features and deposits were extremely well preserved. The results of the evaluation therefore show the enormous potential that the site has for revealing further information about the development of medieval Appleby.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Mr W. Idle for commissioning the work and his agent Tom Woof for providing useful information about the site. Additional thanks are due to Richard Newman and Jeremy Parsons at the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) for their advice during monitoring visits to the site, and Jo Mackintosh and Arnold Webster, also at CCCHES, and the staff of the Cumbria Record Office in Kendal (CRO(K)) for their help. The evaluation was carried out by Daniel Elsworth and Sam Potter, and the coin was examined by Nick Holmes of the National Museums of Scotland.
FIG. 2. Features in trenches 1 and 3.

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A Medieval Road in Ulverston

SAMUEL WHITEHEAD AND DANIEL W. ELSWORTH

Following an application to build five dwellings on the site of a former garage on Stanley Street, in Ulverston, Cumbria (SD 2854 7862; Figure 1) South Lakeland District Council, after a recommendation by Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), placed a condition on planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological assessment. The first phase of this comprised a desk-based assessment and subsequent archaeological evaluation, which was carried out in June 2006 by Greenlane Archaeology Ltd., (Greenlane Archaeology, 2006a).

The site is situated on the north side of The Gill, which is thought to be one of Ulverston’s medieval market places (CCC and EH, 2002, map D) and is on the north-east edge of the medieval core of the town. Much of the town centre is based on planned burgage plots laid out during the medieval period and the site lies to the rear of plots that run along Soutergate to the east. The medieval period saw Ulverston grow in size and prosperity: it was granted borough status in 1196 and a market charter in 1280 (op. cit., 6), but little is known in detail about the history of The Gill prior to the early 19th century. The earliest written reference to it is perhaps found in the name ‘Richard del Gill’, recorded in 1311 (although by this date it is at least three generations old; Farrer and Brownbill, 1914, 355n), and it is stated that The Gill was used for holding cattle sales in the 19th century (Birkett, 1949, 122).

Results

The evaluation comprised two trenches amounting to a 5 per cent sample of the total site area (575 m²). Trench 2 revealed only post-medieval deposits, relating to the occupation of the site by a firm of coachbuilders and then an aerated water bottling company, while Trench 1 revealed an area of cobbling thought to be a roadway or yard surface. This deposit was sampled and a single piece of medieval pottery was recovered; the sherd, although small in size, was considered a good indication of the likely age of this feature. The evaluation also produced the largest assemblage of medieval pottery yet recorded in Ulverston (ranging from 12th to 15th century in date), albeit only comprising 13 fragments. Although many of these were residual and occurred within a post-medieval buried soil horizon directly overlying the metalled surface, they acted as a further indication of the likely date of this feature. The function of the stony layer remained uncertain, however, and the nature of the evaluation meant that its true extent was unknown.

Due to the discovery of this surface a brief was issued by CCCHES for a further 25 m² of the site to be stripped for archaeological excavation with the intention of further characterising and recording this feature. This was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology in September 2006 (Greenlane Archaeology, 2006b). The excavation revealed that the underlying drift geology and bedrock was present at a depth of between 0.4m and 0.5m below the level of the modern overburden. The bedrock was covered by a thin layer of pinkish silty clay of natural origin, which was overlain by the stony deposit forming a metalled surface as was encountered in the evaluation.
Fig. 1. Ulverston: location of excavation area and evaluation trenches.
During the excavation this surface was found to comprise a mid brownish-orange firm sandy clay with frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles and cobbles distributed evenly throughout. The deposit was up to 0.4m thick, and appeared to be linear in plan (see Fig. 2). A length of 5m was uncovered, orientated north-east/south-west, and its width (measured north-west/south-east) was 3.6m. The structure of the deposit suggests that it was re-worked or disturbed glacial till that had incorporated some silts through trampling and water logging. As a result of this heavy disturbance, cobbles not derived from the immediate area had been introduced in an attempt to consolidate the ground. This was probably carried out as a series of separate episodes, which suggests the surface represents the route of a well-used path or track. It appears that the natural glacial tills seen elsewhere during the evaluation are absent in this part of the site and the stone has been introduced to level the eroded ground surface, the bedrock below being rough and uneven and therefore unsuitable for human or animal traffic.
The stony surface contained only three finds, all pottery sherds, which were recovered from near to the base of the deposit. Two of these fragments were refitting pieces of Northern gritty ware dated to the 12th to mid 13th century; the third was not closely dateable but was also thought likely to be medieval, although it was severely abraded and could be earlier. The presence of this pottery and the lack of any later artefacts strongly suggests a medieval date for the surface. The buried soil above the stony surface identified during the evaluation was also present in the excavation trench, and again contained both medieval and post-medieval finds (the medieval pottery ranged from the 13th to mid 17th century in date, and included a possible piece of imported French Saintonge ware). A complete clay pipe bowl marked ‘RC’, dated to between 1660 and 1680, was also recovered from this deposit; it is significant in its own right as a maker with these initials is not previously recorded (Peter Davey, pers. comm.).

A further 11 cut features were planned during the excavation, ten of these were postholes, all of which truncated the medieval surface and the post-medieval soil horizon which lay above it and the eleventh represented the remains of a brick structure. All 11 features were relatively modern in date and related to the light industrial activity carried out on the site during the late 19th and 20th centuries.

**Conclusion**

The excavation was successful in determining the extent of the metalled surface, both in terms of its alignment and width, factors which could not be determined during the evaluation phase. While the exact function of the stony surface is not certain it seems probable that it formed a road surface, perhaps providing access from the north into the market place formed by The Gill (Fig. 1). The exact use that The Gill was originally put to is not known, but if it was a market place, as has been suggested, a well-consolidated track or roadway providing access from agricultural land to the north would have been essential for the movement of both livestock and human traffic. The discovery of this surface is significant as it is, to date, the only confirmed feature of medieval date identified through archaeological excavation in Ulverston, a town whose origins have previously been extremely elusive. It also adds considerably to the understanding and dating of activity in The Gill, an area that was probably of some importance to the town from an early period in its development. The collection of pottery, especially when combined with other finds that have been made around The Gill, could also form the beginnings of a useful local reference collection.

**Acknowledgements**

The evaluation and excavation were commissioned by Birch Plastering, and Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Paul Birch for his support throughout the project. In addition, thanks are due to Ged Higham for his help on site during the excavation. The evaluation was carried out by Daniel Elsworth and Craig Appley, and the excavation was carried out by Daniel Elsworth, Craig Appley, Kelsang Malaya, and Jo Dawson. Peter Davey assessed all of the clay pipe fragments from the site, the post-medieval finds were assessed by Jo Dawson, and the medieval pottery was assessed by Ian Miller at Oxford Archaeology North.
Croft Cottage Dendro-dated

NINA JENNINGS

In the 2007 volume of these Transactions, I gave an account of Croft Cottage, Burgh-by-Sands, a newly discovered true longhouse.1

Thanks to a generous grant from the Society’s Research Fund, samples from the house have now been examined and a dendrochronological date of A.D. 1510 has been ascribed. This makes it the fourth true longhouse in the Solway Plain to have been dated, the others being 1489, 1572 and 1615. Croft Cottage is also the third oldest standing clay dabbin to be identified.2

Notes and References

1 Nina Jennings, ‘Croft Cottage, a newly discovered true longhouse’, CW3, vii, 227-231.

A 17th Century Lead Cloth Seal from Carlisle Cathedral

GEOFF EGAN AND IAN CARUANA

The single, slightly battered disc, D. 17mm, has a shield with the arms of Stuart Britain and IR to the sides. This is only one part of a seal which would originally have had three, or more probably four, discs in row and connected by strips. Such seals were put on each newly woven cloth before it could legally be sold at the market. They indicated that the textile to which each was attached had been individually examined and found to be of an adequate standard for sale (Egan, 1995, 1-4). The royal arms show this is an alnage seal, that is, one put on by an officer of the Crown, who had scrutinized the cloth and taken a tax of a few pence for the king or his nominee. IR is James I, and several parallels have the date 1611 over the arms (ibid., 60 and Fig. 26 no. 123).

Seals with these stamps usually had at least one other stamp on a different disc showing the county the textile was manufactured in. Cumberland was not noted in the early 17th century for textile production and the nearest large-scale industry was in Kendal in Westmorland. A few seals with stamps of different design but also assignable to the reign of James I are known in London which read COM:WESTMOR, and there are others of similar date for Lancashire and Yorkshire products. While it is possible this
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present find is from a textile made in a nearby county, it is at least equally likely that it
labelled one from a completely different part of England, depending on the particular
variety of cloth concerned. Its precise origin will never be known.

Findspot

The seal was found during excavations by Graham Keevil in 1988 prior to the
construction of the Treasury at the west end of the Cathedral nave. It was initially
logged as a Roman coin and x-rayed as such by the Conservation Laboratory in
the University of Durham, who recognized that it was not a coin, but it was not
processed by the excavator in preparing his report. Recognition of its importance only
came about when material for the earlier, 1985, excavations was being prepared for
publication. Although unstratified the seal belongs amongst a range of 17th century
material (coins, musket balls, and parts of the demolished Cathedral fabric) found in
the top soil and building debris of the Cathedral precinct dating from activity in the
Civil War period, including the reduction in size of the Cathedral (Weston, 2000, 19).
In addition to its potential importance for evidence of life in the Cathedral close, this
is the first record of a cloth seal in Cumbria.

Site code: CAR88 CAT G1 N246. Seal now in the Cathedral Treasury Museum.

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One Branch of the Webster Family
BLAKE TYSON, B.SC., PH.D.

This note is dedicated in memory of my late wife Margaret, who was a 5 x great niece of Francis Webster, descended from his eldest brother Thomas. My debt to her is immeasurable for 40 wonderful years of marriage, and for being my ever-willing assistant on research and fieldwork, as well as a wise counsellor on all aspects of my life. Had she not died of a very rare disease on 26 March 2003, just two terms short of finishing four years of part-time study towards an M.A. degree in English Local History at the University of Leicester, she might have written this note herself.

Note: Italics are used for individuals who form the links in this branch of the family tree.1

Blake Tyson married Margaret Osborn of Llandudno on 29 December 1962. Their three daughters are: (1) Ruth (born 1968, in 1998 married Rob. Hubbard, and have Tom and Connie); (2) Jane (born 1969, in 1998 married Paul Dyer who combined their surnames to become Dyson, and have Oliver and Harvey); and (3) Clare (born 1974, in 2002 married Craig Farmbrough, who have Holly and Max). Margaret was born on 12 May 1942, the only child of Harry Osborn and Margaret (née Poole of Troedyrhiw, Glamorgan, born 8 November 1911), who married on 14 September 1940 at Llandudno, but she died in childbirth on 12 May 1942. Margaret was brought up by her grandmother Mary Ann Osborn (née Webster, born at Silverdale, near Lancaster), and an uncle and aunt, both single. Mary Ann was married at Lancaster in 1901 to John William Osborn (died 1941, aged 65)2 and had: John (1901, born at Saddleworth – numerous descendants); Albert (1904-1980, d.s.p), Henry (1909-1996), Hilda (1911-1995, single) and Ernest (1914-1981, single) – the last four were born and buried at Llandudno.

Mary Ann (born 28 April 1877, died 16 July 1968, aged 91) was the eldest daughter of Robert Webster (1847-1925), whose ten children were all were born at Silverdale and baptised: John (1875); Mary Ann (above); Sarah Jane (1878); Agnes Ellen (1880); Margaret (1881); Robert (1883, married Elizabeth Osborn, a sister-in-law); Barbara (1885); Thomas (1887); Edith E. (1888) and Susannah (1890).

Robert Webster was baptised at Flookburgh on 3 January 1847, as the second child and eldest son of Francis Webster (1822-1904). Robert moved to Silverdale as a quarryman, but deafness forced him to become a fisherman living at Shore Cottages, Silverdale (newspaper obituary). He had married Mary Thompson (baptised 19 June 1853 at Allithwaite, died 10 April 1924, aged 70), daughter of John Thompson (a fisherman, of Shore Cottages, whose wife Mary died 17 December 1894, aged 83 – both born in Cartmel parish (funeral card). Robert Webster died on 8 February 1925, aged 78 (funeral card).

Francis Webster was baptised at Flookburgh on 8 December 1822 (third son of Robert Webster (1785-1828) and died 8 November 1904, aged 81. As a fisherman of Quarry Flatt, aged 23, on 10 May 1845 he married Ann Burrow aged 21 (baptised 28 December 1823, a daughter of Robert, fisherman, and Jane Burrow of Holywell, Cartmel parish). Ann died 23 February 1890, aged 66 (funeral card). The children were: Mary Ann (1845); Robert (1847); Elizabeth Agnes (1849); Thomas (1851, died
Robert Webster, mason of Quarry Flatt, Cartmel, died on 26 February 1828, aged 43, so he was born in 1785. On 25 July 1809, he married Elizabeth Duke who died 7 September 1869, aged 84 (gravestone at Cartmel church). Robert was recorded as a mason when all of their children were baptised: Thomas (24 December 1809, a stonemason who married Mary Cam on 10 June 1840); Sarah (17 November 1811); Mary (3 October 1813, died 11 February 1828, aged 14); Robert, a stonemason (3 December 1815); Anne (7 April 1818); Elizabeth (24 September 1820); Francis (1822-1904); John (12 August 1825 who, aged 24, married Mary Simpson (19) on 24 March 1849, and had 11 children between 1850 and 1871 at Flookburgh) and lastly Agnes (3 February 1828). Robert was the eldest son and 5th of eight children of Thomas Webster (1755-1792) whose marriage in 1777, I discovered at Windermere.

Thomas Webster was a mason whose children were baptised at Dalton-in-Furness. He was buried there on 3 April 1792. He married Mary Kemp at Windermere on 8 September 1777 and their eight children were baptised: Nancy (1778); Mary (1779); Sarah (1781, married twice; (1), William Bailiff (three children, 1799-1809) and (2), Joseph Dixon (four children, 1812-1822)); Elizabeth (1783, married Robert Wright (three children, 1809-1816)); Robert (1785-1828); a stillborn child 1788; William (1789, a tailor, married Isabella Rockcliff (ten children)); and Jonathan (1791). Details of these children have been published by Janet Martin. Their father was the eldest son of Robert Webster (1726-1799) but died before his father made a will in 1793, which left bequests to Thomas's children, including £20 each to Robert (1785-1828) and Sarah, and £5 each to the others who survived childhood.

Robert Webster of Quarry Flatt, died on 10 April 1799 aged 72 (fine monumental inscription on the outside wall of the south transept of Cartmel Priory). I discovered his baptism at Kendal on 1 June 1726. He was the first stonemason of the family and his children have been studied by Janet Martin. His origins have now been traced and recorded in these Transactions. To complete this account, the main elements will be summarised. He moved to Cartmel where on 7 July 1754, he married Ann Crosfield (1732-1814). Their seven children were Thomas (1755-1792), became a stonemason (see next above); Robert (1757-1805, also a stonemason, who married Ellin Harrison on 28 September 1783 and had three children: Agnes (1784); Ann (1786) and John (1792-1843). After Robert came Sarah (May 1761, the last to be born at Cark Hall); then, at Quarry Flatt: John (1763); William (16 March 1766, buried 25 February 1767); Francis (1 May 1767 who started the Kendal architectural practice, buried 10 October 1827); and Agnes (1771). Their father was the eldest son of Thomas Webster of Kendal.

Thomas Webster (baptised 18 July 1707), the second child of Robert Webster (1680-1712) of Kendal was apprenticed to a packhorse saddle-tree maker on 12 June 1721, but did not complete the apprenticeship because he married Mary Nicholson, of Kendal, at Garsdale on 11 November 1725 and had children, Robert (next above, 1
June 1726); Mark (1729); Agnes (1732); Lidia (1735-1756) and Mary (1738). Their mother died in 1745. Thomas’s burial has not been found.

Robert Webster, baptised 18 May 1680 at Cockermouth, buried at Kendal on 11 April 1712, apprenticed as a shearman dyer at Kendal from 26 March 1696, and married Agnes Ellwood on 29 July 1703. As Agnes Atkinson in 1701 she had married Robert Ellwood who died in April 1703, and their daughter Margaret, born in 1702, was fully accepted as part of the Webster family. He became an innkeeper, apparently through his wife’s connections, and had two daughters Frances (1704) and Agnes (1709) and a son Thomas (1707, next above). Robert’s father was Robert Webster (died 1692/3).

Mr Robert Webster (c.1626 – buried 19 March 1692/3) was Bailiff of Cockermouth 1657 and Bailiff of the Five Towns (1664-1692). His baptism and marriages have not been found (Cockermouth registers start 1632 with gap 1650-1654 inclusive). By his first wife Jane – (buried 19 May 1673) he had daughters Jane (1657) and Joyce (1659-1661) noted in the parish registers, and sons Thomas and Richard mentioned in his will (probably baptised in 1650-1654 gap). By his second wife Frances he had: Isabel (1676); Elizabeth (1677-1681); Joyce (noted in will, baptism not found); Robert (1680-1712, next above); John (1682); Edward (1683) and Frances (1685). His father’s cupboard had initials T W I (1692/93 will), as if for Thomas Webster and wife.

This Thomas Webster was probably born about 1600 and married Joyce – probably about 1625. They had at least two sons (Robert next above and his nephew Robert’s father). Thomas was buried on 26 June 1646 and his widow remarried, before October 1647, to a widower Peter Murthwaite, the schoolmaster of Cockermouth who became vicar of Gilcrux from 1664 to his death in 1675. Her burial has not been found but it was probably in the Cockermouth register gap 1650-1654, as he married a third wife Ellin, who died in 1665.

Notes and References
1 This work was originally submitted as part of ‘Francis Webster and the Kirkland Tan-Yards’ (CW3, viii, 85-104). The first four paragraphs use Margaret’s own family records to guide broader searches.
2 J. W. was a son of John William Osborn of Morton by Bourne, Lincs., who had moved to become a carrier near Lancaster (Funeral card).
4 Ibid.
5 B. Tyson, ‘Francis Webster and the Kirkland Tan-Yards at Kendal’ (CW3, viii, 85-104).
6 For Ann Crosfield’s ancestry see B. Tyson, ‘Francis Webster and the Market House at Hawkshead, 1790’, Quarto (Abbot Hall, October 1993), 8-11.
7 After Robert (1726-1799) died his widow Ann had widow rights in a property at Mitchelfield, near Windermere. As their son Robert died in 1805, I discovered that when Ann died in 1814 in the manor court found that his widow, Ellen Webster (née Harrison) had ‘remarried some time ago’ and so forfeited her widow rights to the property. Her son John (1792-1843) was therefore admitted tenant. This evidence was the definitive proof to distinguish between Robert (1757-1805) and Robert (1785-1828) the eldest son of Thomas (1755-1792). I also discovered that the only marriage of an Ellen Webster in Cartmel, between 1805 and 1814, was on 17 January 1811 to John Strickland (not recorded in the Cartmel parish register, but only in the bishop’s transcripts). John Strickland was buried at Cartmel on 28 October 1819. These discoveries were not given due recognition in the CW3, vii article. Ellen died on 8 August 1833 aged 75 and was commemorated on her first husband’s gravestone.