

**GRINSDALE,
CARLISLE,
CUMBRIA**

**RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
AND EVALUATION
CP10402
19/03/2013**



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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by WA Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Electricity North West to undertake a programme of archaeological works prior to, and during, groundworks associated with new electricity infrastructure at the west end of the village of Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria (NY 368 579).

The groundworks were located on the south western edge of the projected line of Hadrian's Wall, which marked one of the frontiers of the Roman Empire. The international importance of the surviving remains has been recognised through its designation as a World Heritage Site. The location of the replacement electricity infrastructure is on a section of Hadrian's Wall designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM No.26113).

Due to the historic nature of the landscape in which the groundworks were located, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological work, in the form of a rapid desk-based assessment and a single evaluation trench prior to the work being carried out. It is proposed that archaeological monitoring in the form of a watching brief be carried out during any groundworks associated with the future upgrade.

The rapid desk based assessment identified a number of historic structures and features within the area of the proposed electric pole refurbishment work. Most notable of these was the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Hadrian's Wall and Vallum (SM No. 26115) both of which are part of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. The location of any groundworks had the potential to damage surviving sub-surface archaeological remains of Hadrian's Wall itself.

The monument in this area (Wall Miles 68 and 69) is defined as the section of Hadrian's Wall and its associated features between Grinsdale in the east and the field boundary south of the graveyard at the site of St Andrew's Church, Kirkandrews on Eden in the west. Hadrian's Wall survives as a buried feature throughout the whole of this section. Traces of the wall ditch are visible on the ground west of Grinsdale where it survives as a slight depression, up to 0.5m deep. Elsewhere in this section the course of the Wall and the wall ditch are not visible on the surface.

The probable site of Hadrian's Wall Milecastle 69 is located to the north-west of the site of the proposed groundworks. As with Milecastles 68 and 70, the site has not been established despite trenching and geophysical survey. The precise locations of Turrets 68b and 69a are also not yet confirmed. The course of the Roman road known as the Military Way, which ran along the corridor between the Wall and the Vallum linking turrets, milecastles and forts is also yet to be established in this area.

The evaluation trench was excavated by hand in close proximity to the location of the proposed works. A live, sub-surface, electric cable prevented it being excavated in the

exact location of the proposed works. The evaluation trench was excavated along a north west to south east alignment, close to the projected line of Hadrian's Wall. The trench measured 2m in length, 1m in width and 1m in depth. No significant archaeological remains were noted within the evaluation trench.

An archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks associated with the future upgrade will be the subject of a separate report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Chris Gilder of Electricity North West for commissioning the project. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd would also like to thank Mike Collins, English Heritage; Jo Mackintosh, Historic Environment Record Officer, Cumbria County Council; and Stephen White, Carlisle Library.

The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken by Fiona Wooler and the evaluation was undertaken by Angus Clark and Kevin Mounsey. The report was written by Fiona Wooler and Angus Clark, and the illustrations were completed by Adrian Bailey. The project was managed by Frank Giocco, Technical Director for Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd, who also edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Electricity North West to undertake a rapid desk-based assessment and field evaluation prior to groundworks associated with new electricity infrastructure to the west of the village of Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria (NY 368 579).
- 1.2 The groundworks are located close to the southern edge of the projected line of Hadrian's Wall, which marked one of the frontiers of the Roman Empire. The international importance of the surviving remains has been recognised through designation as a World Heritage Site. The location of the replacement electricity infrastructure is on a section of Hadrian's Wall designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument '*Hadrian's Wall between Grinsdale and the field boundary south of the site of St Andrew's Church, Kirkandrews on Eden in wall miles 68 and 69*' (SAM No. 26113). As a result of its statutory designation, the groundworks associated with the electricity replacement needs to be undertaken under Scheduled Monument consent, with an authorised route and trench dimension agreed following the findings of the archaeological evaluation.
- 1.3 Due to the historic nature of the landscape in which the groundworks were located, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological work, in the form of a rapid desk-based assessment and evaluation trench prior to any groundworks relating to the new electricity infrastructure at Grinsdale. A watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks associated with a future upgrade will be the subject of a separate report.

2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The small village of Grinsdale is located approximately three kilometres to the north-west of the city of Carlisle, on the north side of a bend in the River Eden, at a height of *c.*12m above mean sea level (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The electricity groundworks were located to the west of the village of Grinsdale, to the north side of the road, and on the north-east side of the projected line of Hadrian's Wall, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Figure 2).
- 2.3 The Countryside Commission places this part of Cumbria in a landscape character area known as the 'Solway Basin'. This is a broad, lowland plain landscape fringed by the low, rugged, relatively remote coastline of the Solway Firth and the Irish Sea. The soft horizontal form of this intensively managed, predominantly pastoral landscape contrasts markedly with the Cumbria High Fells (Countryside Commission 1998, 19).
- 2.4 The Solway Basin is underlain mainly by mudstones and sandstones of Permo-Triassic age ('New Red Sandstone'). The most important sandstone formation, the St Bees Sandstone, has been much quarried for use as building stone especially south of Carlisle. To the west of Carlisle, poorly exposed Liassic mudstones and limestones, of Jurassic age, overlie the Permo-Triassic rocks, forming a small outlier around Great Orton and Wiggonby. Erosion of the comparatively weak Permo-Triassic and Jurassic rocks reduced much of the Solway Basin to an area of low relief prior to the onset of the last glaciation. During this period thick ice-sheets crossed the sea from Scotland and the Lake District. These carried with them vast quantities of rock debris which was deposited as boulder clay (till), both beneath the ice and from within it as it melted (*ibid*, 21).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the archaeological works, a Project Design was submitted to, and approved by, Mike Collins of English Heritage. The project design set out the methodology for the scheme of archaeological works (Giecco 2012).

3.2 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

3.2.1 The rapid desk-based assessment involved the consultation of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), a database of known and potential archaeological sites within the county (excluding the Lake District National Park). This consultation involved the collection of information held within the database for a 1km radius centred on the proposed groundworks in order to achieve an understanding of the character of the historic landscape in this area of Cumbria, and to identify sites of archaeological interest within close proximity to the line of proposed works. The HER contains information on designated sites such as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM), Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and registered parks and gardens, as well as information on non-designated sites which are of archaeological or historical interest. Previous schemes of archaeological work which have been undertaken within and around Grinsdale were also consulted in the HER, and will be referred to below.

3.2.2 Following this, historic maps and published and unpublished material relating to area around Grinsdale were consulted at the local studies section of Carlisle Library. This included an assessment of early Ordnance Survey mapping, in order to gain an understanding of the historic landscape along which the proposed route will run. Secondary sources such as the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society were also consulted.

3.2.3 A search was also made of online sources, such as the Archaeology Data Service website (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>), for any additional information not already gained from the HER or other sources.

3.2.4 The desk-based assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (IfA 2011).

3.3 EVALUATION TRENCH

3.3.1 A single trench is to be excavated, measuring approximately 2m in length, 1m wide and 1m deep, as requested by Mike Collins, Hadrian's Wall Archaeologist, English Heritage. The trench will be positioned on the proposed location of the new electricity cable for the pole top connection, as the location is on, or adjacent to the projected line of Hadrian's Wall.

3.3.2 The trench will be excavated under close archaeological supervision, to either the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substrate, whichever is observed first. In the event of encountering solid masonry or any other significant archaeological deposits at a shallower depth, the excavation will be terminated. Following on from this work, a new position for the refurbishment work will be agreed, and the associated groundworks will be covered by an archaeological watching brief. If the evaluation trench records significant archaeological deposits relating to Hadrian's Wall, a second trench may be required to provide a new location for any proposed electricity groundworks. This second trench would only be located with full agreement of all parties.

3.3.3 In summary, the main objectives of the evaluation will be:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they are observed.
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces.
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes,
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- to establish if the potential electricity pole location is suitable for the scheme.

3.4 ARCHIVE

3.4.1 An archive for this project will be prepared in accordance with the recommendations in *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Brown 2011).

3.4.2 A copy of the final report will be deposited with Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service at Kendal, where viewing will be made available upon request.

3.4.3 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd and Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service support the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project (<http://www.oasis.ac.uk/>). The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. Details of this project have been included on the OASIS database under the identifier wardella2-145700.

4 RAPID DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 Information regarding known and potential archaeological sites within a 1km radius of the replacement electricity infrastructure groundworks at Grinsdale was obtained principally from the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER) database which is maintained by Cumbria County Council at Kendal. Some historical mapping and published and unpublished sources were consulted at Carlisle Library (local studies).

4.1.2 A full list of all the HER sites within a 1km radius of the proposed groundworks is provided in Appendix 1.

4.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.2.1 *Place Name Evidence:* as a place name, Grinsdale is first recorded as *Grennesdal(e)* in c.1180 in documents relating to Lanercost Priory, indicating that there may have been a settlement of some form in existence in the 12th century. It is recorded as varying spellings throughout the medieval period as, for example, *Grinesdale* (c.1240); *Gremesdale* (1279); *Grynsdale* (1485) and *Grenesdayle* (1541). The name is believed to derive from an Old Norse personal name *Grennir*, or *Grimr*, with the second element, *dalr*, also being of Old Norse origin meaning 'valley'; therefore Grinsdale is believed to mean 'Grimr's Valley' (Lee 1998, 39; Armstrong *et al* 1950, 140-141).

4.2.2 *Prehistoric (up to c.70AD):* a 1km radius search centred on the proposed groundworks has revealed one site, or more precisely a findspot, which may date to this period. The HER contains an entry for the findspot of a stone 'line sinker' [used in fishing] which was found in the garden of a property in Grinsdale, and subsequently donated to Tullie House Museum in Carlisle. The sinker has been classified as being of possible prehistoric date as it '*possesses features which suggest an object of some antiquity and potentially an important local find*' (Richardson 1998, 6; HER No. 19652).

4.2.3 *Romano-British (c.70-410AD):* there are five sites recorded in the HER within a 1km radius centred on the proposed groundworks which relate to this period, all of which are designated as, or form part of Scheduled Ancient Monuments:

- *Hadrian's Wall Milecastle 69 (HER No. 437):* probable site of Milecastle 69, located to the north-west of the site of the proposed groundworks on the projected course of Hadrian's Wall. As with Milecastle 70, the site of this milecastle has not been established despite trenching and geophysical survey. It has been suggested that the lack of evidence

may be due to the fact that the site has been totally robbed of its stonework. Trenching on the suggested site of Milecastle 69 did reveal part of the southern face of Hadrian's Wall.

- *Hadrian's Wall between Grinsdale and the field boundary south of the site of St Andrew's Church, Kirkandrews on Eden in wall miles 68 and 69 (SAM No. 26113):* this is the section of Hadrian's Wall on which the proposed groundworks are located. The monument consists of the buried remains of Hadrian's Wall, with traces of the wall ditch visible on the ground west of Grinsdale where it survives as a slight depression up to 0.5m deep. Elsewhere along this section the course of the Wall and the wall ditch are not visible on the surface. Although the exact location of Milecastle 69 has not been established, on the basis of the usual spacing it would be expected to lie approximately 200m east of Sourmilk Bridge. The precise locations of Turrets 68b and 69a are also not yet confirmed. On the basis of the usual spacing, Turret 68b is expected to be located west of Park Farm at Grinsdale, and Turret 69a midway between Sourmilk Bridge and where Holme Lane runs closest to the Wall. The course of the Roman road known as the Military Way, which ran along the corridor between the Wall and the Vallum linking turrets, milecastles and forts, has not yet been confirmed in this section.
- *Hadrian's Wall between the east end of Davidson's Bank and road to Grinsdale and Vallum between Davidson's Banks and dismantled railway in wall miles 67 and 69 (SAM No. 26110):* this section of Hadrian's Wall and associated features is located to the south-east of the proposed groundworks site at Grinsdale and forms the continuation of the projected line of the Wall from SAM 26113 heading towards Carlisle. The course of the Wall follows the crest of the river cliff overlooking the River Eden to the north. There was probably no wall ditch along this section as the steep river cliff, which is now being eroded back by the river, would have rendered a ditch here superfluous. The exact location of Milecastle 68 has not yet been confirmed, however on the basis of the usual spacing, it is expected to be located in the wood to the north of Boomby Gill. Surface remains of robber trenches were noted here in 1972. The exact locations of Turrets 67a, 67b and 68a have also not yet been confirmed. The course of the Vallum is known throughout most of this section. It survives as a slight intermittent earthwork visible on the ground as a low depression averaging 30m wide. The course of the Roman road known as the Military Way, which ran along the corridor between the Wall and Vallum, has not yet been confirmed in this section.

- *Hadrian's Wall Vallum between the dismantled railway south of Boomby Gill and the field boundary south-east of Mill Beck in wall mile 68 (SAM No. 26112):* the Vallum is a linear element of the Wall which was added as a defensive system to the south. This was a broad flat-bottomed ditch flanked by a pair of linear banks. It shadows the Wall for almost all its length, sometimes lying very close to it, but sometimes up to a kilometre away from it. The Vallum's main function was to act as a barrier to restrict access to the Wall from the south. It also had a function in linking the forts along the Wall with a method of lateral communication. In this section, which runs to the south-west of Grinsdale, the Vallum survives as a buried feature. A very slight depression at the west end of this section indicates the line of the Vallum ditch. Elsewhere in this section, the course shows up as a cropmark visible on the ground and on aerial photography at certain times of the year.
- *Boomby Lane 1 and 2 Roman Temporary Camps (SAM No. 26034):* this site is located to the south of Grinsdale village, between the course of the Wall and Vallum. The monument includes the two Roman temporary camps known as Boomby Lane 1 and 2, which survive as buried features clearly visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. These two superimposed camps are located on the summit and the south flank of a low hill, less than 100m from the west bank of the River Eden. Their position commands extensive views, especially across the lowlands to the north. Over 40 temporary camps of many different sizes, some still visible as earthworks, have been recorded in the vicinity of the Wall. These generally consisted of a rampart of earth quickly thrown up to surround a military installation. Occupation of these camps was generally short-lived, and while very few have been firmly dated, it seems probable that at least some were work camps used by troops involved in the Wall construction.

4.2.4 *Early Medieval (c.410-1066AD):* it has been noted above that the place name 'Grinsdale' is believed to have derived from an Old Norse personal name, and 'dalr' meaning 'valley' (see 4.2.1 above). Old Norse was the language spoke by Norwegians who colonised Iceland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Hebrides and north-west England from the 9th to the 12th centuries (Lee 1998). It is therefore possible that, due to the fact that the place name derives from this language, there may have been some form of settlement during this period in the vicinity of the modern village, however as yet there is no archaeological evidence for this.

4.2.5 The HER contains one entry within a 1km search radius of the site of the electricity groundworks which may relate to this period. St Kentigern's

- Church, located to the east end of the village (and detached from the modern settlement) is an 18th century building, however it has been suggested that there may have been a medieval and possibly an early medieval predecessor on the site, although, as yet, there is no archaeological evidence for such a structure (HER No. 3774).
- 4.2.6 *Medieval (c.1066-1540AD)*: it has already been noted above that as a place name, Grinsdale was first identified in documentation in 1180AD, indicating a settlement of some form as early as the 12th century (see 4.2.1 above). The HER entry for St Kentigern's Church refers to the site being mentioned in 1181AD when it belonged to Lanercost Priory (HER No. 3774), which may suggest that the church was serving a small community at that time, although there does not appear to be presently any evidence for earlier stonework within the standing building.
- 4.2.7 There is some physical evidence that Grinsdale may have been a medieval village, as suggested by the way the properties line both sides of the road, with possible remains of fossilised strip fields extending behind the properties on the street frontage.
- 4.2.8 At Edenholme Farm, located on the south side of the road through Grinsdale, at the west end of the village, archaeological work identified a possible enclosure of suggested medieval date, based on pottery finds, although no further information was gained as to what this enclosure may have surrounded, or indeed its function (HER No. 17934).
- 4.2.9 *Post-Medieval (c.1540-present)*: the earliest cartographic source consulted as part of this rapid desk-based assessment was Saxton's Map of Cumberland 1576, on which, although at a small scale, is clearly shown a representation of a church at 'Grinsdale' (Figure 3). The presence of a church may indicate that there was a settlement of some form at Grinsdale at the end of the 16th century, although the scale of the map does not allow for any detail of such a settlement to be shown.
- 4.2.10 Writing at the end of the 17th century, Thomas Denton simply referred to Grinsdale as '*a little parish and mannor within Brough [Burgh by Sands]*'. He noted: '*It is called Grinsdale for that the townfield was anciently a low-green bottom, or dale, by the River Eden*'. The only reference to any buildings or features at Grinsdale at this date was to 'the rectory' being sold in 1638 (Winchester 2003, 230-231).
- 4.2.11 St Kentigern's church at Grinsdale was constructed in 1738-40 '*on the old foundations*' (Hyde and Pevsner 2010, 391) which suggests an earlier building occupied the site prior to this rebuilding. In 1829, Parson and White noted that the church '*lay in ruins for many ages; for it was not till about the year 1743*

- that it was rebuilt by Joseph Dacre Esq. at his own cost* (Parson and White 1829, 374).
- 4.2.12 Hodkinson and Donald's Map of Cumberland 1774 was the earliest readily-available source to provide information on the form that the village of Grinsdale took historically. This map clearly shows it as a linear settlement, with properties lining each side of the road which runs through it towards the Church, which is represented by a small drawing. The course of Hadrian's Wall is shown running to the west side of Grinsdale, although at this date it was referred to as the 'Picts Wall'. A road shown leading off to the north side of Grinsdale would appear to represent a modern track known as 'Cherrim Lane'. Of interest on this map is the site of two 'Roman Forts' located near 'Knockupwards' (modern Knockupworth) Figure 4); these two sites are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Nowtler Hill 1 Roman Temporary Camp (SAM No.26032) and Nowtler Hill 2 Roman Temporary Camp (SAM No. 26033).
- 4.2.13 At the end of the 18th century, William Hutchinson provided the following description of the soil and location of Grinsdale Parish: *'The soil in general is a fine deep loam, in some parts a little gravelly and sandy; it produces every kind of grain, as also grass, clover and potatoes in great perfection. This parish consists of the church-town, and two or three odd houses. The common adjoins on the south of the town. The fields are well divided with good thorn hedges; they lay warm and have a good appearance. The situation is rather low, yet very pleasant, close by the side of Eden, in which, opposite the town, is a most fertile island, which grazes nine cows and a bull'* (Hutchinson 1794-97, 518).
- 4.2.14 Greenwood's Map of Cumberland 1823, which was also published at a small scale, continues to show Grinsdale as a linear settlement, with representations of properties to either side of the road which runs through the village. At the east end of the village a road is shown leading towards the site of the church, marked as '+', and another track appears to represent modern Coophouse Lane which leads towards fields at the east side of the village. Cherrim Lane is still represented heading off north from the main road, and a small spur of a track is shown at the west side of the village although this does not appear to still exist today. The line of Hadrian's Wall is still shown, along with the course of the 'canal' which was formerly located to the west of settlement.
- 4.2.15 In 1829, Grinsdale was described as 'a small village', lying on the south side of the River Eden, with the parish being crossed by the Carlisle Canal *'and the site of the great Roman wall, near which are the remains of two large square entrenchments'* (Parson and White 1829, 373). It is unclear if these two 'square entrenchments' refer to those located south of Grinsdale (SAM No. 26034),

or the two Roman forts at Knockupworth (Nowtler Hill 1 Roman Temporary Camp and Nowtler Hill 2 Roman Temporary Camp (SAM No's 26032 and 26033). As these two sites are shown on Hodskinson and Donald's Map of 1774 (Figure 4) it is likely at Parson and White were referring to the Nowtler Hill sites.

- 4.2.16 The 1829 trade directory indicates that the village of Grinsdale was largely agricultural in character in the early 19th century, with five farmers listed not including the farms of Mill Beck and Knockupworth (Parson and White 1829, 374).
- 4.2.17 Writing in 1860, Whellan provided the following information regarding the 'Roman Wall' which ran through Grinsdale Parish: *'The Roman Wall and Vallum pass through this parish. The Wall as it entered the parish on the east, came a little south of the footpath, which now leads from Carlisle to Grinsdale by the river side. Instead of bending with the footpath when it reaches the south end of the island, it held its direct course, and sought the high ground where the footpath now is between Grinsdale and Kirkandrews; and this footpath is the site of the wall, except where it passes through the Bleachhouse field, and here it was a little diverted from it a few years ago by Mr Thomas Sibson, who in straightening the path, removed the only remaining foundations of the wall. It leaves the parish here and enters Kirkandrews at Sour Milk Bridge. The traces of the vallum or ditch are not distinct in this parish'* (Whellan 1860, 168). This is an interesting description as it suggests that in 1860 there was very little of Hadrian's Wall standing in the area around the village of Grinsdale, with some of its 'foundations' being removed prior to this date.
- 4.2.18 Nearly 40 years later, Bulmer's Directory noted the following in relation to Grinsdale Parish: *'The soil is a deep loam, and is in an advanced state of cultivation. The commons were enclosed in 1808, previous to which time the southern portion of the parish (about 450 acres) was an unproductive marshy tract, but now under the careful hand of cultivation abundant crops are raised. The parish was intersected by the Roman Wall and vallum. All trace of the latter has been almost entirely obliterated, and the site of the former is now occupied by the footpath leading from Grinsdale, along the river side towards Carlisle. Some years ago, there were, near the site of the wall, the remains of two large square entrenchments, but they have been leveled and no traces of them are now to be seen'* (Bulmer 1901, 200). The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1901 shows the proposed development area as located on the western edge of the village of Grinsdale (Figure 6).

4.3 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

4.3.1 There have been five schemes of archaeological work which have been undertaken within the 1km HER search radius centred on the site of the groundworks at Grinsdale:

- *Edenholme Farm, Grinsdale - Archaeological Evaluation:* in advance of a proposed housing development, a single trench was excavated by Carlisle Archaeology Ltd in 1999 in order to assess and clarify the nature, depth and possible extent of any existing archaeology. The evaluation revealed that archaeological deposits were present, and consisted of a substantial ditch of uncertain date, and possibly of a defensive nature. Activity on the site in the 12th-14th centuries seems to have been indicated by the pottery, after which the site appears to have been abandoned for a long period of time (HER No. 17934).
- *Edenholme Farm, Grinsdale - Archaeological Evaluation:* Lancaster University Archaeological Unit undertook an evaluation in advance of the redevelopment of the farmyard at Edenholme Farm for housing in 2000. Three trenches were excavated, although only one revealed a feature of archaeological significance. In Trench 3 a ditch was revealed, aligned east to west, at the south end of the farmyard. The profile of the ditch suggested that it was not defensive in character. No structural evidence associated with the development of the farm on the site was observed, and no datable finds were recovered (HER Report Ref: 1/00/291).
- *Hadrian's Wall Milecastle 69 (Sourmilk Bridge) and 70 (Brae Lees), Cumbria:* English Heritage undertook an evaluation in order to establish the locations of these milecastles. Neither were located during the work, and it was noted that it was possible that the remains have both been almost totally robbed out (HER Report Ref: 3/01/326).
- *Edenholme Farm – Archaeological Watching Brief:* a watching brief was maintained by Headland Archaeology Ltd in 2002 during groundworks associated with a new residential development at Edenholme Farm, due to the proximity of the site to the projected line of Hadrian's Wall. No archaeological feature or finds were uncovered during the watching brief. The work did confirm that modern farm activities had caused major disturbance to the site, in some cases to a depth of 0.6m below present ground surface. Below this there was ubiquitous reddy brown clay, which was quite damp in some places (HER Report Ref: 1/02/401).
- *Archaeological Watching Brief at Grinsdale:* a watching brief was maintained by Gerry Martin Associates Ltd in 2011 during

groundworks associated with the laying of telephone cables along the road leading to Grinsdale from the south-west. The watching brief monitored groundworks excavated to a depth of 0.40m. No archaeological features or deposits were seen or recorded (Martin 2011).

5 EVALUATION TRENCH

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken on a single day, the 25th February 2013. The trial trench was located within a pastoral field to the north west of the village of Grinsdale, Carlisle. The trench was hand excavated within close proximity to the boundary fence and as close as possible to the location of the reconditioning works due to be undertaken on the electricity infrastructure. It was close to the projected line of Hadrian's Wall (Figure 2). The trial trench could not be excavated on the exact location of the future works due to the presence of a live sub-surface cable close by. Any groundworks during the actual refurbishment work itself will be subject to an archaeological brief .

5.2 RESULTS

5.2.1 The hand excavated trial trench was excavated along a north west to south east alignment and measured 2m in length, 1m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1m. The excavation of the trench revealed 0.30m of the firmly compacted mid grey, clay natural substrate (**101**) which was capped by 0.40m of a light brown, sandy/clay subsoil (**102**). This in turn was sealed by 0.30m of dark brown, silty/sand topsoil (**100**) (Plate 1).

5.2.2 No archaeological remains were noted within the trial trench.



Plate 1: Trial trench, oblique of south west facing section, looking north east

5.3 FINDS

- 5.3.1 A total of 11 artefacts, weighing 49g, were recovered from two contexts during the archaeological evaluation at Grinsdale, Carlisle.
- 5.3.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2008b). All artefacts have been boxed up, according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.
- 5.3.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and further work has been recommended on the potential for the material archive to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.
- 5.3.4 Quantification of finds by context is visible in Table 1.

Context	Material Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot-Date
100	Pottery	1	6	Medieval
100	Pottery	3	31	Post-medieval
102	Pottery	5	7	Roman
102	Pottery	1	2	Post-medieval
102	CBM	1	3	Post-medieval

Table 1: Finds Quantification by Context

5.4 POTTERY

- 5.4.1 A total of nine sherds of pottery, weighing 46g, were recovered from two contexts. Four sherds, weighing 37g, were recovered from the topsoil (**100**) and six sherds, weighing 9g, were recovered from the subsoil (**102**).
- 5.4.2 Five sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 7g, were recovered from subsoil (**102**). The sherds are in poor condition and are heavily abraded. The fabrics were examined and assigned a code from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998) or assigned an alpha-numeric code based on this system. The quantification of Roman fabric types is depicted in Table 2 complete with a fabric identification key.

Fabric Type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Date Range
CSA OX	3	6	2 nd – 3 rd Century AD
CO OX	2	1	1 st – 4 th Century AD

Table 2: Quantification of Roman Fabric Types

Fabric key:

CSA OX: Carlisle/Scalesceugh Oxidised

CO OX: Unidentified Oxidised Ware

- 5.4.3 Three sherds of Roman pottery (Table 2), weighing 6g, consist of a hard-fired, mid-orange oxidised fabric type with a fine clay matrix and poorly-sorted quartz and flint inclusions. These sherds are likely to comprise locally-sourced coarseware and they match the fabric type for Carlisle/Scalesceugh Oxidised Ware (CSA OX). A general date for Carlisle/Scalesceugh Oxidised Ware comprises the 2nd to 3rd Century AD. It was not possible to discern a vessel type for these sherds.
- 5.4.4 Two sherds of Roman pottery (Table 2), weighing 1g, comprise Unidentified Oxidised Ware and are heavily abraded. As such, the pottery sherds have been given a general date of 1st to 4th Century AD. It was not possible to discern a vessel type for these sherds.
- 5.4.5 A single body sherd of medieval pottery, weighing 6g, was recovered from the topsoil (100).
- 5.4.6 The sherd is heavily abraded and comprises a wheelthrown, hard-fired, grey and cream-coloured fabric with well-sorted, frequent sandy inclusions. Despite the high level of abrasion, a light green glaze is evident on the external surface. It is likely that, due to the fine inclusions, this sherd dates from the mid-14th Century. It was not possible to discern a vessel type for this sherd, although it is likely to have derived from common forms of medieval vessels such as jars, bowls or jugs (Laing 2003, 88).
- 5.4.7 Four sherds of post-medieval pottery, weighing 30g, were recovered from the topsoil (100) and the subsoil (102).
- 5.4.8 Two body sherds and one base sherd, weighing 20g, comprise coarse, domestic red earthenware with a dark brown manganese glaze. One body sherd weighing 10g, comprises coarse, domestic red earthenware with a yellow-cream glaze. Common vessel forms for this style of pottery include bowls, jars, pans, pitchers and plates. The vessel walls would have been fairly heavy and would have reflected the utilitarian nature of the pottery. This type of pottery was produced predominantly in the late 18th and 19th Centuries (Laing 2003, 118).

5.5 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL (CBM)

5.5.1 A single hard-fired, orange-red fragment of ceramic building material, weighing 3g, was recovered from the subsoil (102). The fragment is heavily abraded with well-sorted sandy inclusions. It is likely to be of post-medieval date.

5.6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.6.1 All of the artefacts were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil and as such are likely to be residual. This small assemblage is therefore of minimal archaeological interest and no further work is recommended on the artefacts.

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 The rapid desk-based assessment has revealed that the immediate area around the site of an electric pole refurbishment on land near Grinsdale has a wealth of sites of archaeological interest. This is particularly the case for the Roman period. The electric pole requiring refurbishment lies close to and possibly on the projected line of Hadrian's Wall a World Heritage Site and Scheduled Ancient Monument. Associated with the Wall are the incorporated mile castles and turrets, along with the Vallum and Military Way.
- 6.1.2 The excavation of a hand dug trench close to the site of future refurbishment work on the electric pole revealed no surviving subsurface archaeological features. Roman activity in the area was confirmed by the recovery of five sherds of Roman pottery from the top and sub-soils.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 Any future refurbishment work on the electric pole will by necessity be carried out in an area of high archaeological potential and sensitivity. Although the hand excavated evaluation trench revealed no sub-surface archaeological features it could not be excavated on the exact site of the future groundworks due to an existing, live, sub-surface cable. It is therefore recommended that any future work be subject to an archaeological watching brief which would be the subject of a separate report.

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Maps (all consulted at Carlisle Library)

Saxton's Map of Westmorlandia et Cumberlandia 1576

Hodkinson and Donald's Map of Cumberland 1774

Greenwood's Map of Cumberland 1823

Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1901 (6" to 1 mile scale)

APPENDIX 1: HER SITES WITHIN A 1KM RADIUS

HER Sites within a 1km radius of the electricity groundworks at Grinsdale:

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Grid Ref.	General Period
437	Hadrian's Wall Milecastle 69	Probable site of Milecastle 69. Maclaughlan mentions a "greater quantity of foundation stones than usual" and concludes milecastle might have been here. Milecastles 60 and 70 are two of 13 of these installations on Hadrian's Wall under regular or intermittent ploughing. Neither milecastle has been located in the field, and two possible locations for 69 have been postulated. Geophysical survey on the two proposed sites of milecastle 69 and the measured site of milecastle 70 failed to locate the sites, probably because they have been totally robbed. Trenching on the measured location of 69 picked up part of the southern face of Hadrian's Wall	E:336570 N:558100	Roman (Hadrianic)
3774	St Kentigern's Church, Grinsdale	Mentioned in 1181 when it belonged to Lanercost Priory. Church may have early medieval origins. St Kentigern was born 603AD, and evangelised Cumberland. Church ruined in 1703, repaired in 1740	E:337240 N:558040	Early Medieval Post Medieval (Georgian)
17934	Edenholme Farm Enclosure	In advance of a proposed housing development, as an initial stage, a single trench was investigated on the southernmost boundary of the proposed site. The projected position of Hadrian's Wall lies immediately south of the southern boundary of the farm and the village still retains a pattern of medieval holdings.	E:336870 N:557870	Medieval

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Grid Ref.	General Period
		<p>The aims of the evaluation were primarily to assess and clarify the nature, depth and possible extent of any existing archaeology within a very limited area. Conclusions and recommendations: the interpretation of the site and the dating of the finds remain speculative, although it can be clearly stated that archaeological deposits are present, and that they survive both along the slope and on the flat plateau directly above it. It would appear that a substantial ditch of uncertain date was strategically located along the base of the slope. The proportions of this feature suggest that it may have been defensive and its location suggests that it is unlikely that the bank has receded much since the feature was initially excavated. The location of the ditch is consistent with the assumed position of the ditch in front of Hadrian's Wall, but the fact that it occupies part of the natural slope throws some doubt on the interpretation. The alternative view is that the ditch is defending something further north, perhaps a medieval enclosure. This could make the two groups of postholes that were found, if they are contemporary with the ditch, internal features, possibly associated with a rampart. Activity in the 12th-14th centuries seems to be indicated by the pottery, after which the site appears to be abandoned for some time, allowing the accumulation of a deep deposit which is</p>		

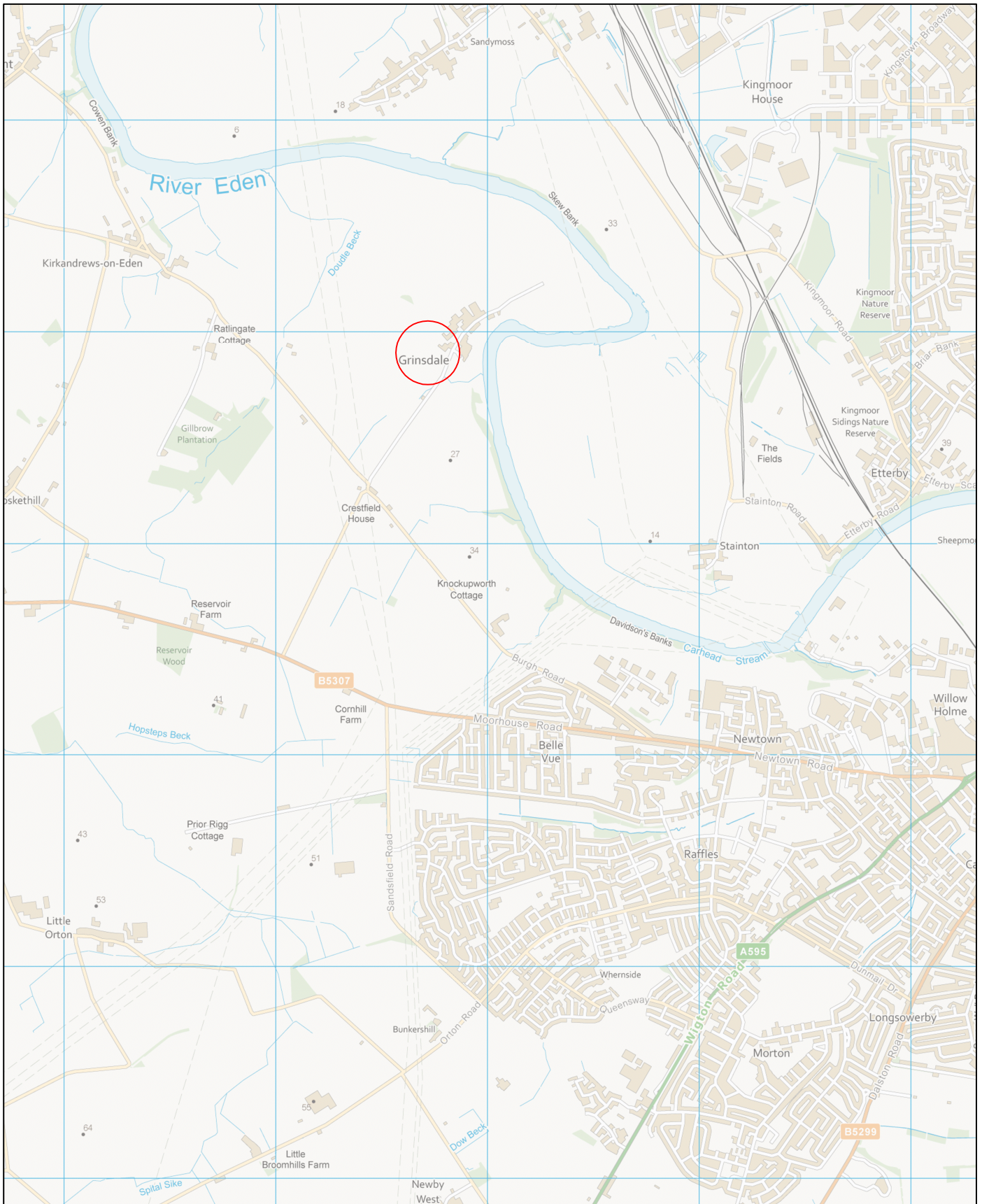
HER No.	Site Name	Description	Grid Ref.	General Period
		<p>occasionally disturbed by a series of later intrusions. The results of this evaluation have demonstrated the existence of archaeological remains on the peripheral areas of the site, and provide clear evidence for the need for further evaluation work.</p> <p>An evaluation was carried out in 2000 in advance of the redevelopment of the farmyard for housing, when three trenches were excavated. A shallow ditch was found aligned east-west at the southern end of the farmyard. The profile of the ditch suggested that it was not used for defensive purposes. No structural evidence associated with the development of the farm on the site was observed in any of the trenches and no datable finds were recorded</p>		
19652	Sinker Find	<p>A triangular-shaped stone which has probably been used as a line-sinker was found in the garden at the donor's house in Grinsdale. It has been classified as 'prehistoric' as it possesses features which suggest an object of some antiquity and is therefore a potentially important local find. The stone has a rounded 'butt' at one end and gradually tapers to a blunted point at the other. There are ancient flake scars on the edges and surfaces which are weathered to the same colour as the rest of the stone. Macroscopic examination indicates a volcanic tuff of Group VI with grey-green core. Deep edge flaking close to the broad en</p>	E:336800 N:558100	Prehistoric

HER No.	Site Name	Description	Grid Ref.	General Period
		has produced two diametrically opposed notched which would have held the line in place and prevented slippage		

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT TABLE

Context	Context Type	Description
100	Deposit	Topsoil
101	Geology	Natural Substrate
102	Deposit	Sub-Soil

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES



WA Archaeology Ltd
2012

PROJECT: Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria
 SCALE: 1:25 000 at A4
 REPORT No: CP10402
 CLIENT: Electricity North West
 DRAWN BY: FW
 DATE: March 2013
 FIGURE: 1

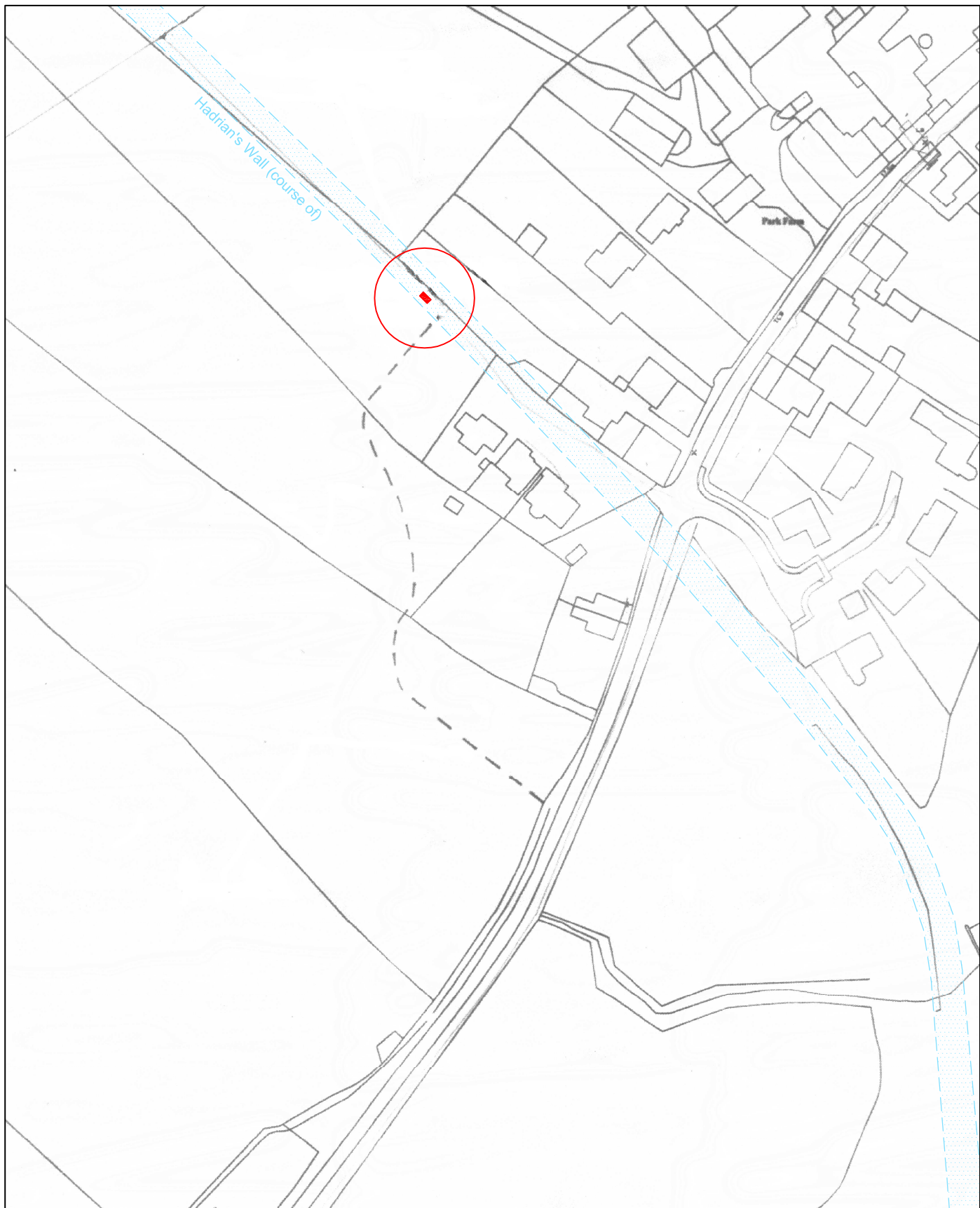
KEY:

 Site Location



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Figure 1: Site Location



WA Archaeology Ltd
2012

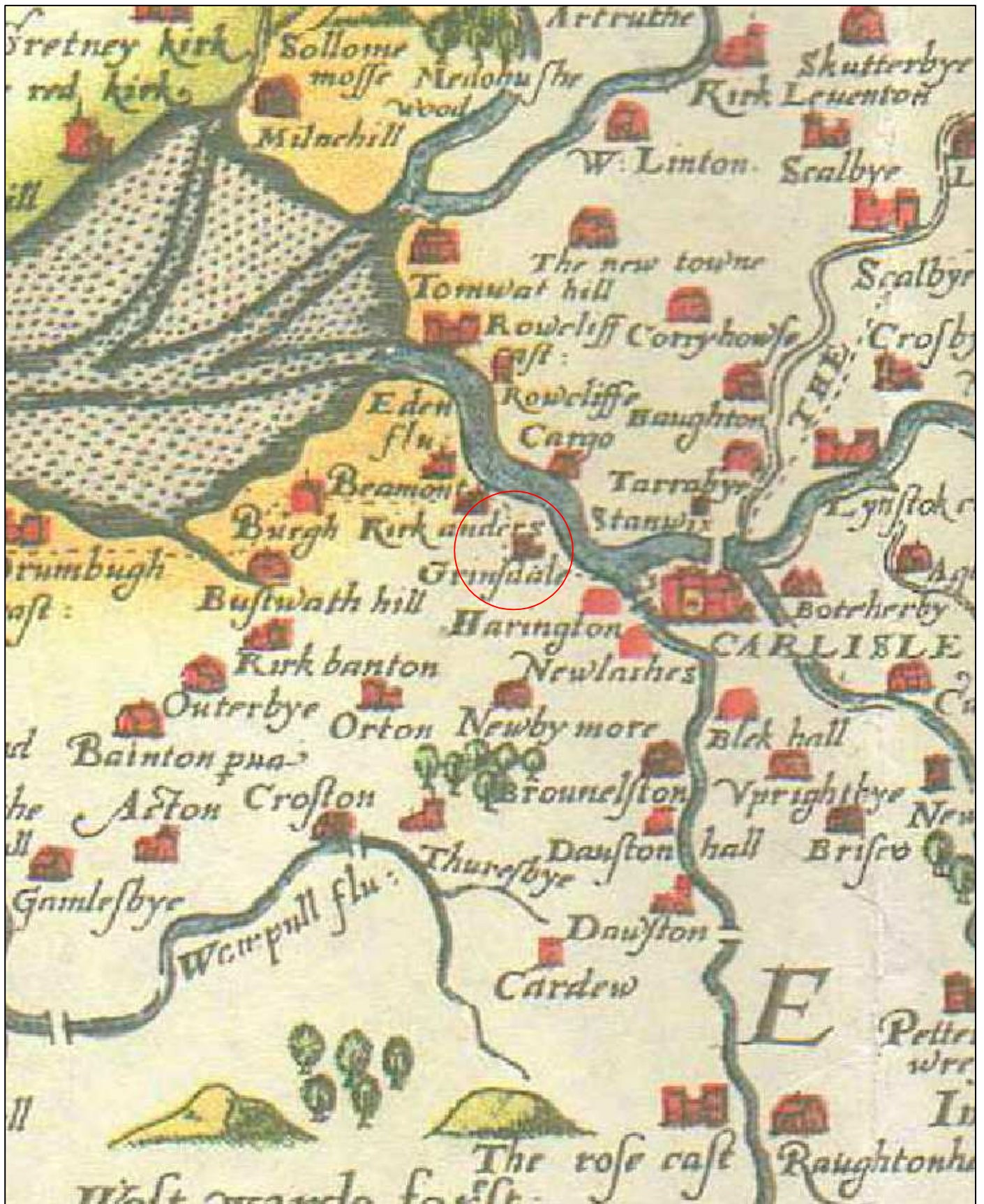
PROJECT: Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria
 SCALE: 1:2,000 at A4
 REPORT No: CP10402
 CLIENT: Electricity North West
 DRAWN BY: AB
 DATE: March 2013
 FIGURE: 2

KEY:



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Figure 2: Trench location






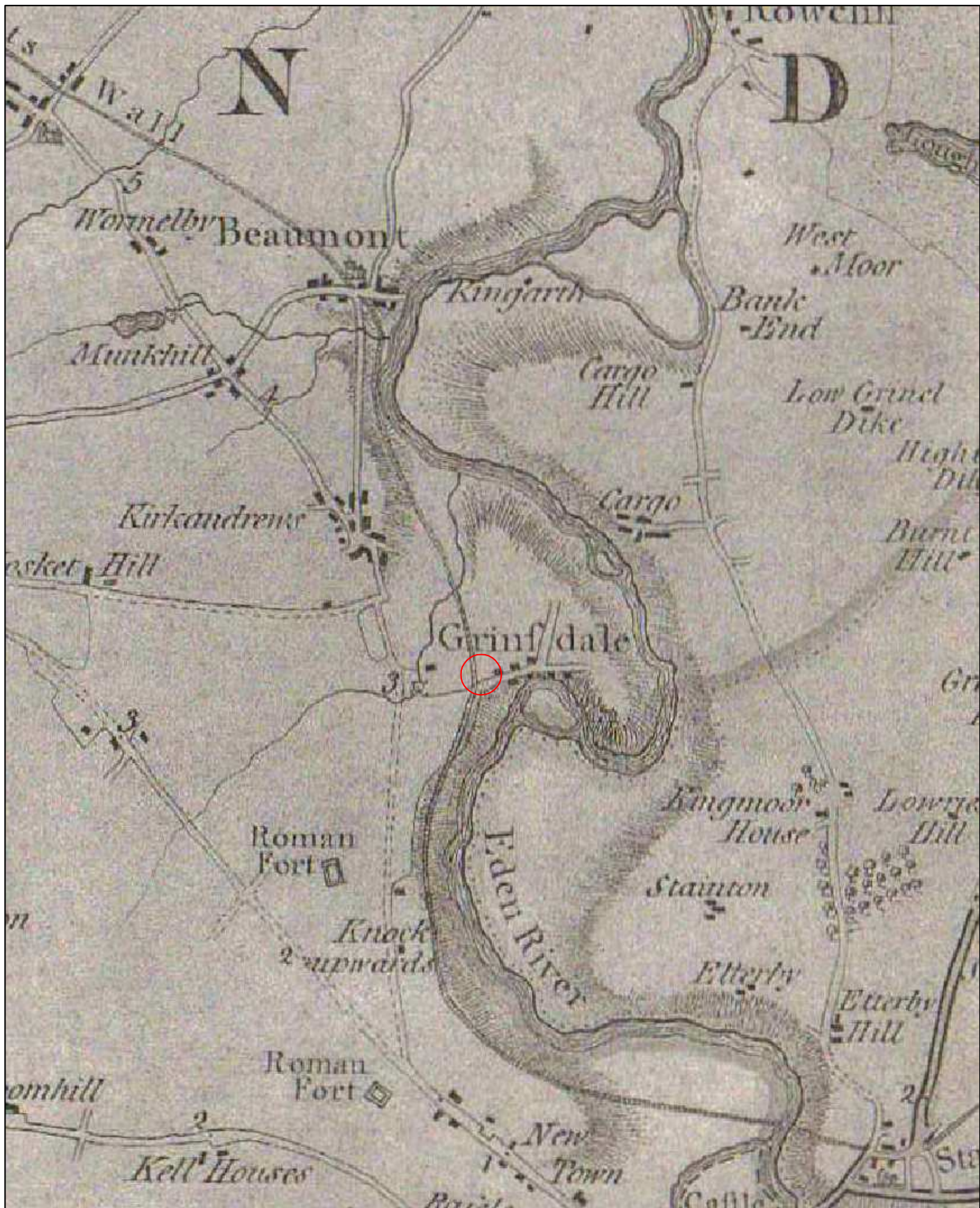
 <p>WA Archaeology Ltd 2012</p>	PROJECT:	Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria	KEY:	 Location of Grinsdale 
	SCALE:	Not to Scale		
	REPORT No:	CP10402		
	CLIENT:	Electricity North West		
	DRAWN BY:	FW		
	DATE:	March 2013		
	FIGURE:	3		

Figure 3: Extract from Saxton's Map of Cumberland 1576






 <p>WA Archaeology Ltd 2012</p>	PROJECT:	Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria	KEY:	
	SCALE:	Not to Scale	 Approximate Location of Groundworks	
	REPORT No:	CP10402		
	CLIENT:	Electricity North West		
	DRAWN BY:	FW		
	DATE:	March 2013		
	FIGURE:	4		

Figure 4: Extract from Hodkinson and Donald's Map of Cumberland 1774






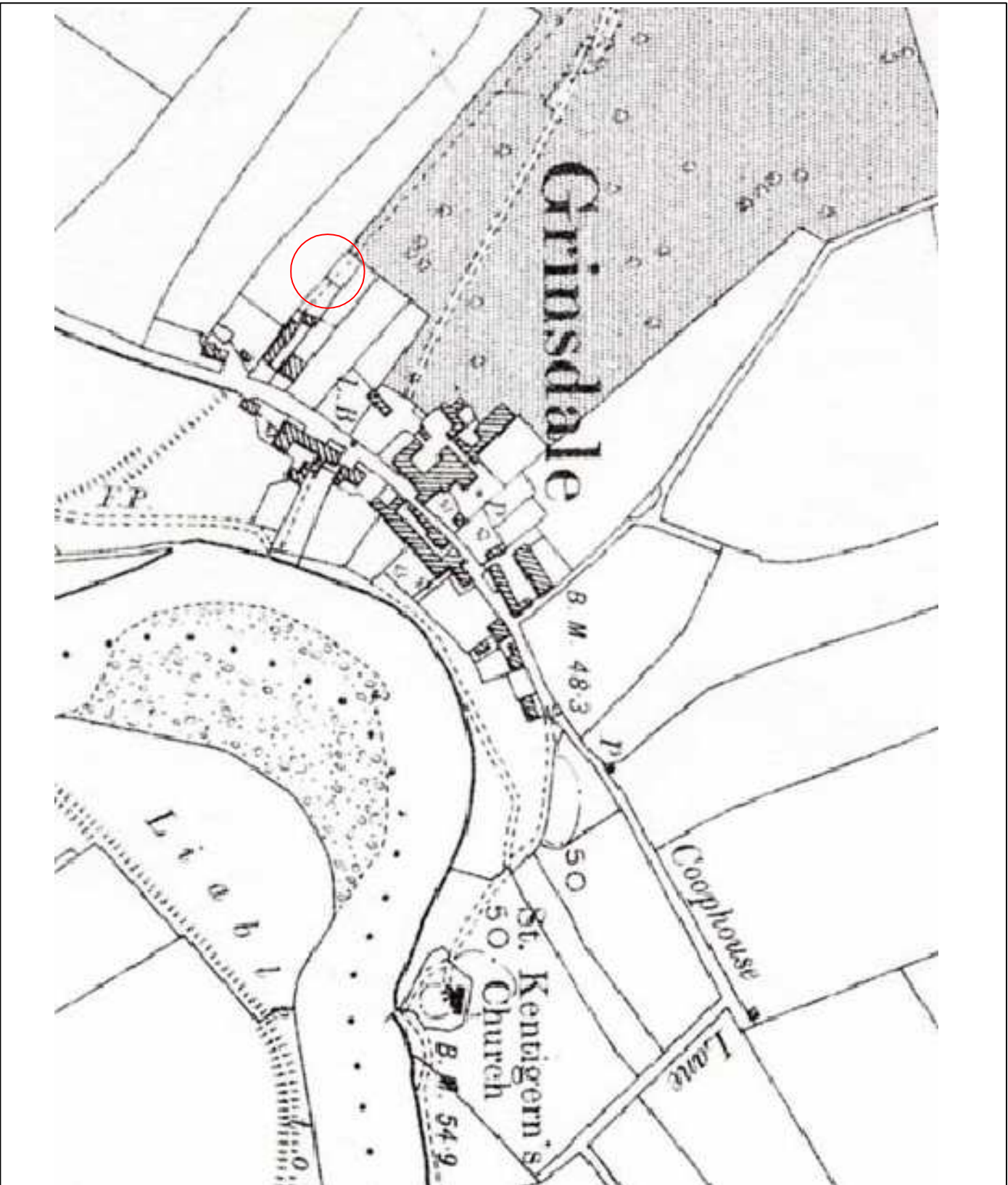
 <p>wardell armstrong archaeology</p>	<p>PROJECT: Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria SCALE: Not to Scale REPORT No: CP10402 CLIENT: Electricity North West DRAWN BY: FW DATE: March 2013 FIGURE: 5</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Approximate Location of Groundworks</p>	
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Figure 5: Extract from Greenwood's Map of Cumberland 1823



WA Archaeology Ltd
2012

Grinsdale, Carlisle, Cumbria

CLIENT:

Electricity North West

SCALE:

Not to Scale

DRAWN BY:

FW

DATE:

March 2013

KEY:



Location of Groundworks



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REPORT No:

CP10402

FIGURE:

6

Figure 6: Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1901