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Lakeland Building Design

Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria

Archaeological Evaluation

January 2014

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**LAND AT WILSON FARM,
DEARHAM,
CUMBRIA**



**RAPID DESK-BASED
ASSESSMENT AND FIELD
EVALUATION REPORT
CP 10742
20/01/2014**



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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 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology were commissioned by Lakeland Building Design to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria (NGR NY 07132 36413; Figure 1), prior to the construction of four new dwellings. The site lies within 100m of the Grade I listed medieval church of St Mungo's (HER 804; LBSMR 22846). The church is of 13th century date but there are suggestions that there was a pre-Norman church, which would have formed the centre of the pre-Norman settlement at Dearham.

Prior to the commencement of groundworks, a rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to place the site of this part of Wilson Farm into its historical and archaeological context. This assessment has highlighted the potential for traces of an early medieval or medieval settlement at Dearham, based around a predecessor of the extant 13th century church, to survive within the development area. Additionally, buildings and features relating to the post-medieval utilisation of the land for agriculture have been identified on the Dearham Tithe Map of 1838, and the First and Second Editions of the Ordnance Survey maps, dating to 1867 and 1900. The field evaluation had the potential to encounter these features.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over two days between the 13th to 14th January 2014. The evaluation involved the excavation of two trenches totalling 108m² providing a 5% sample of the 0.2ha development area. No significant archaeological remains were observed.

As this archaeological evaluation was conducted as part of a condition in association with a residential development, no further work is deemed necessary. However, given the high archaeological potential of the area, it is recommended that any future work be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would like to thank Paul Boustead of Lakeland Building Design for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would also like to thank Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service.

The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken by Cat Peters. The field evaluation was undertaken by Scott Vance & Sue Thompson. The report was written by Cat Peters & Scott Vance and the figures were produced by Adrian Bailey. The project was managed by Frank Giecco, Technical Director, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, who also edited the report.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology were commissioned by Lakeland Building Design to undertake an archaeological field evaluation on land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria (NGR NY 071 364; Figure 1), prior to the construction of four new dwellings. The site lies within 100m of the Grade I listed medieval church of St Mungo's (HER 804; LBSMR 22846). The church is of 13th century date but there are suggestions that there was a pre-Norman church, which would have formed the centre of the pre-Norman settlement at Dearham.
- 1.2 Prior to the commencement of the groundworks, a rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to set the site of Wilson Farm, Dearham into its historical and archaeological context. This assessment primarily involved the consultation of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER) database, which is maintained by Cumbria County Council. Documentary and cartographic sources were also assessed in order to provide information on the historical developments of the area of the proposed construction.
- 1.3 All groundworks associated with this work were excavated under full archaeological supervision and all stages of the archaeological work were undertaken following approved statutory guidelines (IfA 2008, 2012), and were consistent with the specification provided and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.4 This report outlines all investigation undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

2.1.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation was submitted by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in response to a request by Lakeland Building Design for an archaeological evaluation of the study area (Giecco 2013). The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Prior to the commencement of groundworks, a rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to provide historical information relating to the site at Wilson Farm and its immediate environs. The assessment primarily involved the consultation of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), a database of sites of historical and archaeological interest which is maintained by Cumbria County Council.

2.2.2 Following the consultation of the HER, historical mapping and documentary sources were assessed for any additional information on the landscape around Wilson Farm.

2.2.3 The rapid desk-based assessment was undertaken following *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (IfA 2012).

2.3 THE FIELD EVALUATION

2.3.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of two trenches covering 108m² of the proposed 0.2 hectare development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to calibrate the results of the desk based study, in particular the presence or absence of remains associated with any medieval occupation that could be situated within the development site. All work was conducted according to the recommendations of the Institute for Archaeologists (2008).

2.3.2 In summary, the main objectives of the field evaluation were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were 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.
- 2.3.3 Turf and topsoil was removed by mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features were investigated and recording according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2012).
- 2.3.4 All deposits encountered were deemed unsuitable for environmental sampling, and therefore no samples were retained.
- 2.3.5 The evaluation trenches were backfilled following excavation and recording.
- 2.3.6 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Edition, 1991).

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited within Carlisle Archive Centre, with copies of the report sent to the County Historic Environment Record at Kendal, where viewing will be made available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier **WAA13, WFD-A, CP 10742**.
- 2.4.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology and Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service support the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, as a part of this national project. The Wilson Farm, Dearham OASIS identification number is wardella2-16879.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1.1 The development area lies within Wilson Farm, located within the northern part of the settlement of Dearham. Dearham lies c. 4km to the east of Maryport, and c. 40km south-west of Carlisle, on the coastal plain of north-west Cumbria (Figures 1 & 2). Dearham retains the essence of medieval crofts and tofts, which radiated east and west from the north-south orientated main street.
- 3.1.2 Presently, the development area comprises wasteland to the north of Wilson Farm buildings, in agricultural land between the farm buildings of Home Farm to the west, and St Mungo's Church to the east.

3.2 GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 The solid geology of the area consists of Triassic Sherwood Sandstone for the coastal areas to the north, and Carboniferous Westphalian Coal Measures elsewhere (Jones 2003, 4). Throughout the area around the River Ellen, well-drained loams of the Wick Association overlie the solid geology. Away from the river valley, the solid geology is masked by Devensian tills upon which are soils chiefly of the Clifton and Brickfield Associations (Hodgkinson et al 2000).

3.3 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.3.1 *Introduction:* this historical background is compiled mostly from records held in the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (HER), summarised in Table 1 below, and from readily-available published and unpublished sources, including historical mapping.
- 3.3.2 *Prehistoric (up to c.72AD):* evidence for prehistoric activity in the area comes from the find of a Neolithic polished stone axehead (HER 803), ploughed up in 1872 in a field called 'Roughfield' on the Row Hill Estate, currently held at Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.
- 3.3.3 *Roman-British (c.72-410AD):* Roman activity in the area is attested to by the presence of a Roman road, the east-west orientated A594 (HER 10721), which lies to the south-west of the development area. It is thought that this road linked the forts of Maryport and Papcastle, as part of the second century frontier defence system (Jones 2003, 7). It is unclear whether any Roman period settlement was situated around the road in the Dearham area, and archaeological evaluation at Craika Road, revealed no Roman archaeological finds (*ibid*).
- 3.3.4 *Early Medieval (c.410-1066AD):* the name Dearham, first documented in 1160, probably means "homestead or enclosure where deer are kept" (Mills 2003).

Clues to the general pattern of Early Medieval settlement in Cumbria can be gleaned from place-name evidence, although some names were not established until the 12th century (Newman ed. 2004). Clusters of settlements with their names ending in 'ham' have been noted from north western England, usually in areas of good agricultural quality, suggesting early foci, perhaps permanently cleared in the Roman or later prehistoric periods (Newman ed. 2004).

- 3.3.5 *Medieval (c.1066-1540AD)*: the main body of the Church of St Mungo's (located only 100m to the east of the development area), dates to the 12th century, though the presence of a pre-Norman sculpture suggests an even earlier origin. It consists of a fine cross (late 10th century) with a wheel head and three other Anglo-Danish fragments of sculpture are now located inside the church, including the Kenneth Cross (depicting a man on horseback) and the Adam Stone (a grave slab with a runic inscription) (Calverly 1881; 1899). Stone sculpture from the pre-Viking era is rare in Cumbria, with examples more commonly dating from the 9th century onwards. There is also documentary evidence for the existence of an earlier church. Bulmer (1901), writes that, "vestiges of this first stone fabric were discovered during restoration [1882], and a careful examination showed the original building to have been of very limited dimensions, and probably of very rude workmanship. The present edifice displaced the old Saxon one during the Norman period...". An earlier settlement is likely to have been linked to this earlier church. Extensive alterations were made to the chancel of the church during the 13th century and to the pele tower in the 14th century. This implies that there was a thriving community at Dearham during this period.
- 3.3.6 Documentary evidence is scant, though there is an 18th century reference to earlier documents stating that Dearham town, manor and church being given by Alan, second lord of Allerdale, to Simon Sheftlings, who took the name de Dearham, and of other lands coming to the Multons, during the reign of King Henry III (Nicolson and Burn 1777). The tithe map of 1838 (Figure 4) shows surviving strip fields laid out at right angles from the main streets, indicative of the medieval origins of the village. To the north and north-east the development area, medieval ridge and furrow and walled field systems (HER 16639; HER 16638), have been identified, and to the east, a ridge and furrow and a house platform (HER 16637) have been noted, all from aerial photography. The area was heavily exploited and utilised during this period.
- 3.3.7 *Post-Medieval (c.1540 onwards)*: the evidence shows that Dearham continued to develop during the post-medieval period. By the end of the 17th century, employees of Sir John Lowther were testing the sustainability of clays around the Dearham area for the manufacture of earthenware pottery (Sibson 1991). The earliest reference to a pottery at Dearham relates to the building of Whistling Syke by Aron Wedgwood in 1708 (Kelly 1980, 4). The other main

industry from the 18th century onwards was coal mining. Prior to 1750, coal had been worked on a small scale at Dearham, on the property of the Christians and the Senhouses (Fletcher 1877). As demand increased, a number of pits were sunk soon after 1760 (Davies and Wooler 2005, 16). Hodskinson and Donald's map dates to about this time, and illustrates the church, the hall and a number of dwellings at Dearham at this time (Figure 3). By the mid 19th century, there were three coal pits situated in the vicinity of Dearham, two shafts called the Lonsdale Pit (HER 10735) and the Lowther pit, which may be the same as the Gillbank Mine (HER 10738). A third smaller pit, known as the Orchard Pit was also worked. By the 19th century the pits were served by railways, like the Dearham Tramway (HER 10736), which linked the Lonsdale Pit and the Gillbank Mine to the main railway lines to the north and west (some are depicted in Figure 6). By 1900, coal mining was the "chief means of livelihood of the inhabitants" [of Dearham] (Bulmer 1901, 718). The decline of the coal industry in the second half of the 20th century caused a population decline in Dearham.

- 3.3.8 The earliest map depicting the development area in any detail, found during the archaeological desk-based research, is the Tithe Map of 1838 (Figure 4). This shows the streets and buildings of Dearham, and the field outlines. At this time the development area consisted mainly of agricultural land, including a field numbered 162, and the north-western edge of the adjacent field to the south. The extreme western edge of the development area seems to include a building fronting the north-south orientated road. The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1867 indicates little change in the intervening twenty nine years, more clearly showing a building, presumably relating to what is now known as Home Farm, on the street frontage, lying with the present development area (Figure 5). The bulk of the site is comprised of fields 240 and 241, possible surviving tofts of the medieval period. The building has been demolished at some point since the publication of this map. In addition, the modern field layout means that, at the time of the evaluation, the development area lay within one field, and formed part of Wilson's Farm.
- 3.3.9 The late 19th century brought further changes to the development site. The building on the street frontage remains unchanged between 1867 and 1900, as shown on the second edition Ordnance Survey Map of that year (Figure 6). However, a new building, along the north-western boundary of the development site, relating to Home Farm has been constructed in the intervening years. Traces of this map survive sub-surface. The field-boundary across the site seen on the first edition map (Figure 5) no longer exists by 1900 (Figure 6). Traces of this field boundary may also survive sub-surface.

HER No.	Site Name	Site Type	Period	NGR
803	Row Hall Axe Find	Findspot	Neolithic	305, 536
804	St Mungo's Church	Grade I Listed Building	Medieval	307230, 536370
10721	Dearham Road Road	Road	Roman	305, 53656
10735	Lonsdale Pit	Colliery	Post-medieval	NY03NE
10737	Fair Winds Engine	Engine House	Post-medieval	30588, 5366
10738	Gillbank Mine	Mine	Unknown	30675, 5361
16638	Dearham Hall Field Systems	Earthworks	Unknown	3073, 5370
16639	Rowmoor Farm Field System	Earthworks	Medieval	30795, 53675
40704	Home Farm, Dearham	Farmstead	Post-medieval	30707, 53643
40756	Dearham Hall	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval	306651, 535243

Table 1 : Summary of HER sites referred to in the text above

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken over two days between the 13th and 14th January 2014. All trenches were excavated using a 3 tonne tracked excavator. Trench locations are depicted in Figure 7.

4.2 RESULTS

4.2.1 *Trench 1:* Trench 1 was located in the southern area of the development site and was aligned north-west/south-east (Figure 7). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m revealing mid greyish yellow sandy clay natural substrate (101) below 0.15m of mid brownish grey silty clay subsoil and 0.35m of dark brownish grey clayey silt with frequent inclusions of building rubble (102). It is possible that deposit (102) related to the demolition of the Wilson Farm barn and the subsequent leveling of the site (Plate 1).



Plate 1: Trench 1. Looking north. 1m & 2m scale.

4.2.2 Foundations of a demolished structure were observed within the east facing section of Trench 1 in the form of brick structure {104} & hewn sandstone block {103} (Plate 2). The brick structure was filled with compact light brownish grey coarse sand and rubble (114) that contained inclusions of modern plastic and the fragmented remains of a ceramic pipe. It is likely that sandstone block {103} was a corner stone of a farm building, with structure {104} representing a brick drain. Postholes [105] & [107] were observed to the north of brick structure {104} and are thought to relate to the former farm complex.



Plate 2: Brick structure {104} and hewn sandstone block {103}. Looking west. 1m & 2m scale.

4.2.3 No significant archaeological features were noted within Trench 1.

4.2.4 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was located toward the northern most extent of site and was aligned north-west/south-east (Figure 7). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.10m revealing a mid greyish yellow sandy clay (206) below c.0.36m of mid brownish grey silty clay subsoil (205), c.0.40m dark brownish grey clayey silt made-ground with frequent inclusions of building rubble (205) and 0.22m of dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (200) (Plate 3).



Plate 3: Trench 2. Looking south-east

4.2.4 A field drain [204] was observed within the centre of Trench 1 one that was aligned north-east/south-west. No archaeological features were noted within Trench 2.

4.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

4.3.1 No archaeological finds were recovered, and no environmental samples were retained during the archaeological investigation.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 During the archaeological field evaluation at Wilson Farm, Dearham, two trenches were excavated, covering 108m² of the proposed 0.2ha development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity, the evaluation trenches being located to provide a representative sample of the development area. All trenches were excavated down to the top of the natural substrate.
- 5.1.2 Both trenches were devoid of any significant archaeological features or deposits. The sandstone and brick structure observed within Trench 1 related to the corner of a north-east/south-west aligned farm building shown on the First & Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps (Figures 5 & 6). Figure 8 shows Trenches 1 & 2 overlaid on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map in relation to the former complex of Home Farm.
- 5.1.3 The results obtained during the present evaluation, suggest that the development area has not been extensively used in the past other than for the site of Wilson/Home Farm.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 As the purpose of this archaeological field evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground remains at Wilson Farm Dearham as specified by Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, no further work is deemed necessary associated with the present study. However, given the significance of previous archaeological discoveries within the immediate vicinity of the study area, it is recommended that any future invasive work be subject to a similar programme of archaeological investigation.

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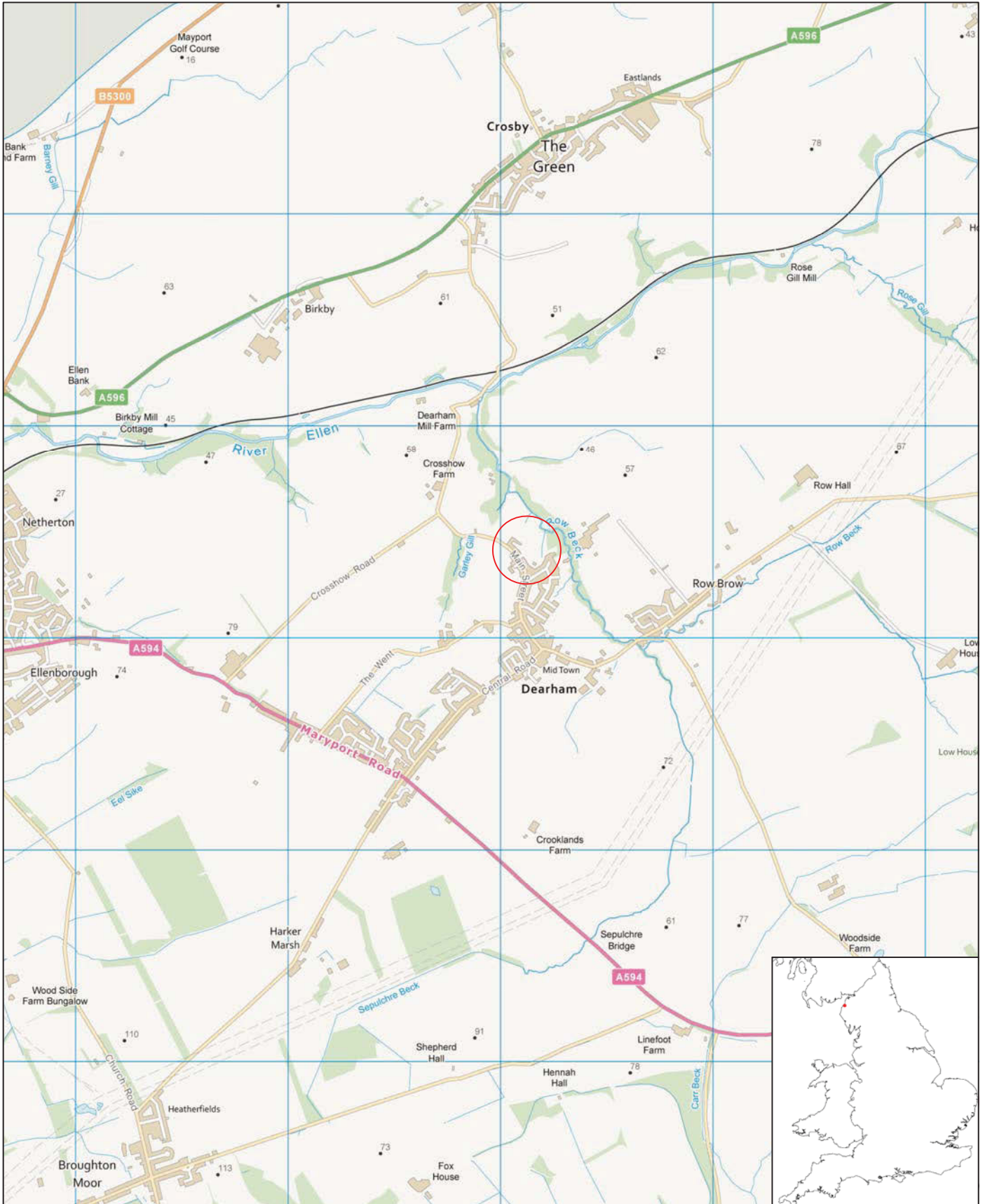
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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Context Type	Description
100	Deposit	Made ground
101	Deposit	Natural substrate
102	Deposit	Subsoil
103	Masonry	Hewn sandstone block
104	Masonry	Brick structure
105	Cut	Cut for post-pad {106}
106	Masonry	Post-pad
107	Cut	Cut for post pad {109}
108	Deposit	Concrete fill around post-pad {106}
109	Masonry	Post-pad
110	Deposit	Natural deposit of sandy clay with coal inclusions
111	Cut	Construction cut for brick structure {104} & hewn sandstone block {103}
112	Deposit	Fill of posthole [107]
113	Deposit	Fill of posthole [105]
114	Deposit	Fill of brick structure {104}
200	Deposit	Topsoil
201	Deposit	Made ground
202	Deposit	Fill of field drain [204]
203	Pipe	Field drain
204	Cut	Cut for field drain
205	Deposit	Subsoil
206	Deposit	Natural substrate

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES






 <p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014</p>	<p>PROJECT: Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: 1:25,000 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP10742</p> <p>CLIENT: Lakeland Building Design</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: January 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 1</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Site location</p>	 <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100019512</p>
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Figure 1: Site location.





	<p>PROJECT: Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: 1:750 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP10742</p> <p>CLIENT: Lakeland Building Design</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: January 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 2</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Site boundary</p> <p> Proposed development</p>	
<p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014</p>			<p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100019512</p>

Figure 2: Detailed site location.





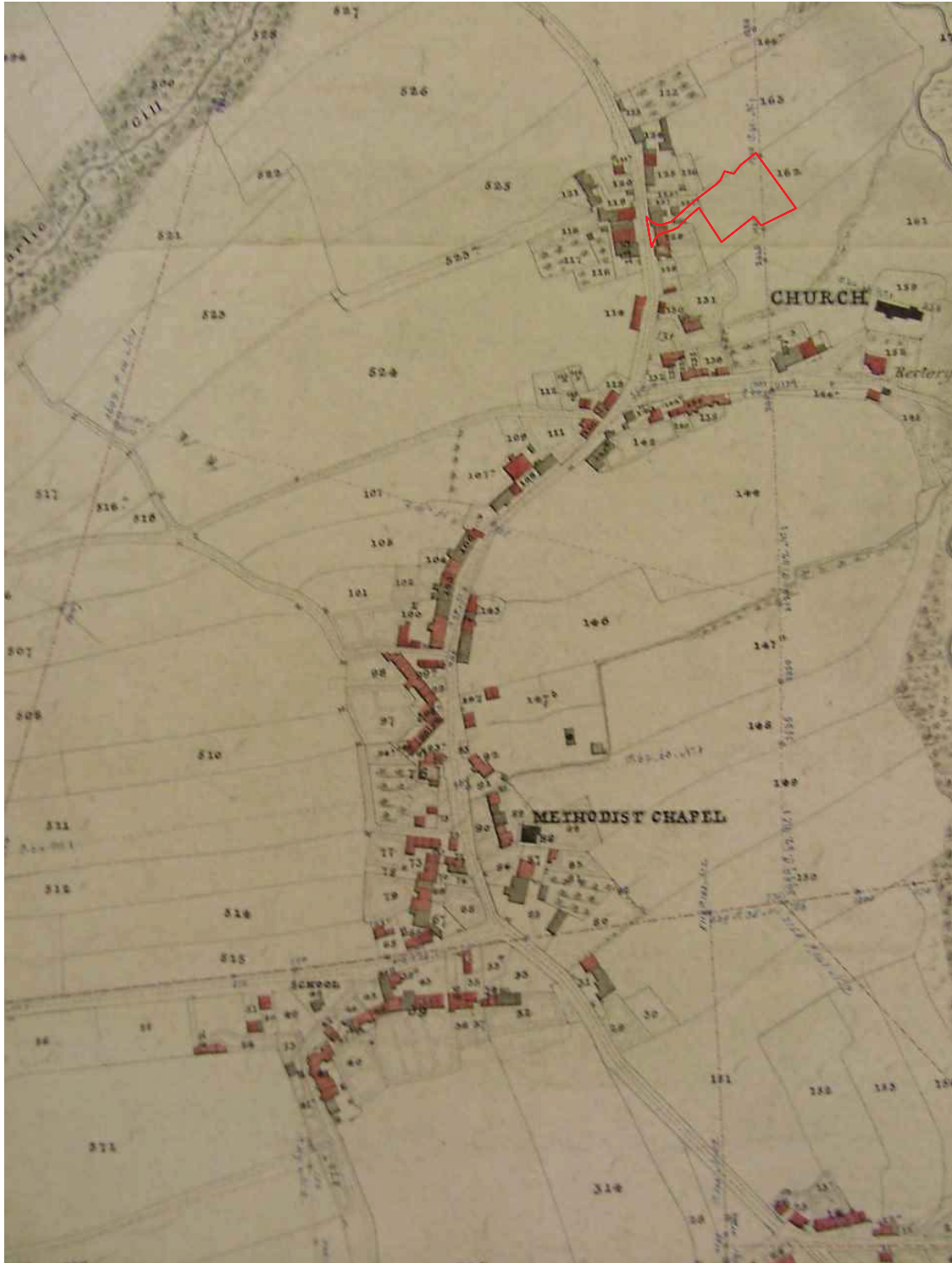
	<p>PROJECT: Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: Not to scale</p> <p>REPORT No: CP10742</p> <p>CLIENT: Lakeland Building Design</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: January 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 3</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <p> Site location</p>	
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Figure 3: Extract from Hodkinson and Donald's Map of Cumberland, 1774.






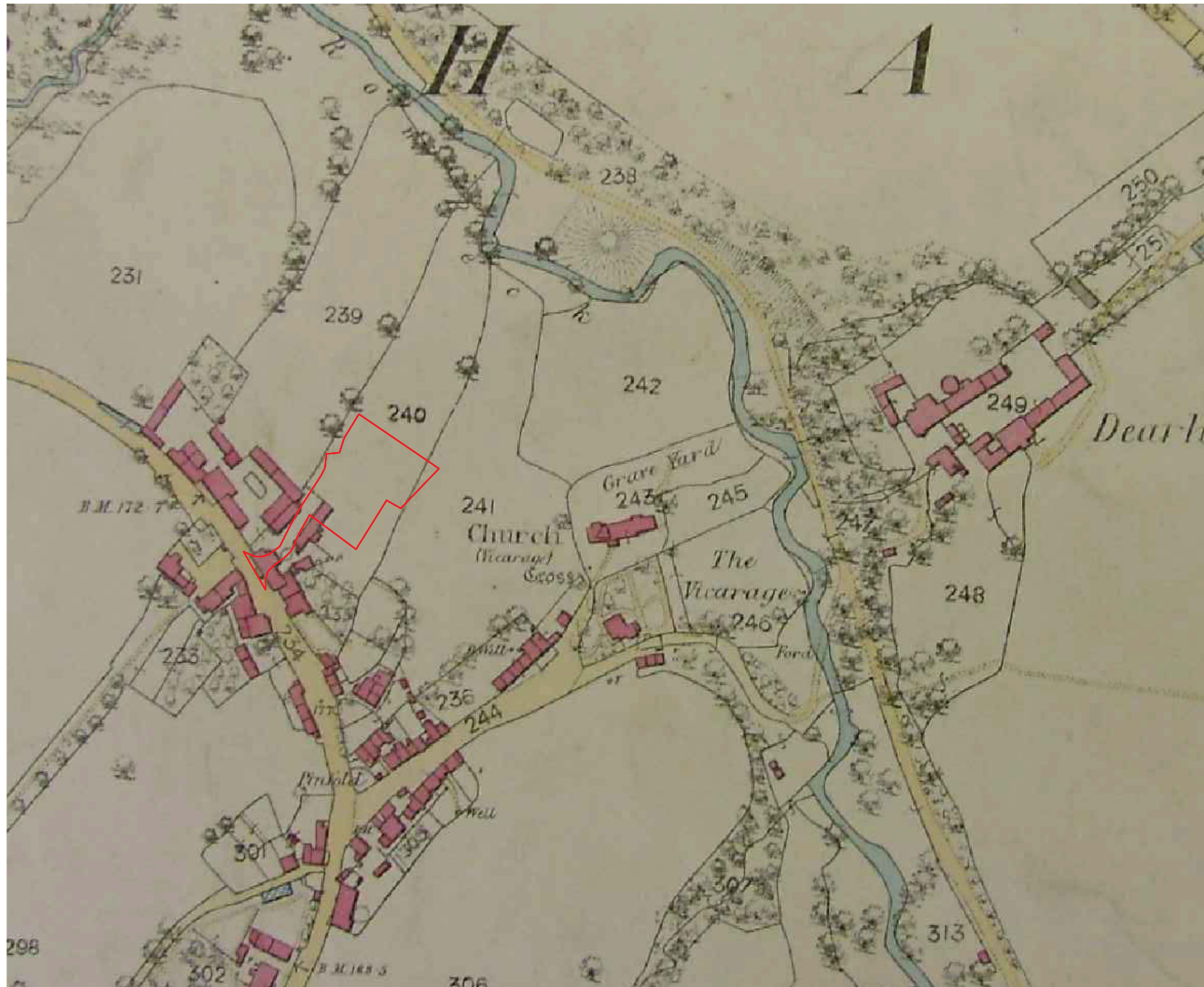
	<p>PROJECT: Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria</p> <p>SCALE: 1:4,000 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP10742</p> <p>CLIENT: Lakeland Building Design</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: January 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 4</p>	<p>KEY:</p>  Site boundary	
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Figure 4: Extract from Dearham Tithe Map, 1838.



PROJECT:

Land at Wilson Farm,
Dearham, Cumbria

CLIENT:

Lakeland Building Design

SCALE: 1:2,500 at A4

DRAWN BY: AB

DATE: January 2014

KEY:



REPORT No:

CP10742

FIGURE:

5

Figure 5: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1867.



PROJECT:

Land at Wilson Farm,
 Dearham, Cumbria

CLIENT:

Lakeland Building Design

SCALE: 1:4,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: AB

DATE: January 2014

KEY:

 Site boundary



REPORT No:

CP10742

FIGURE:

6

Figure 6: Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1900.






0 50m



Wardell Armstrong
Archaeology
2014

PROJECT: Land at Wilson Farm, Dearham,
Cumbria
SCALE: 1:750 at A4
REPORT No: CP10742
CLIENT: Lakeland Building Design
DRAWN BY: AB
DATE: January 2014
FIGURE: 7

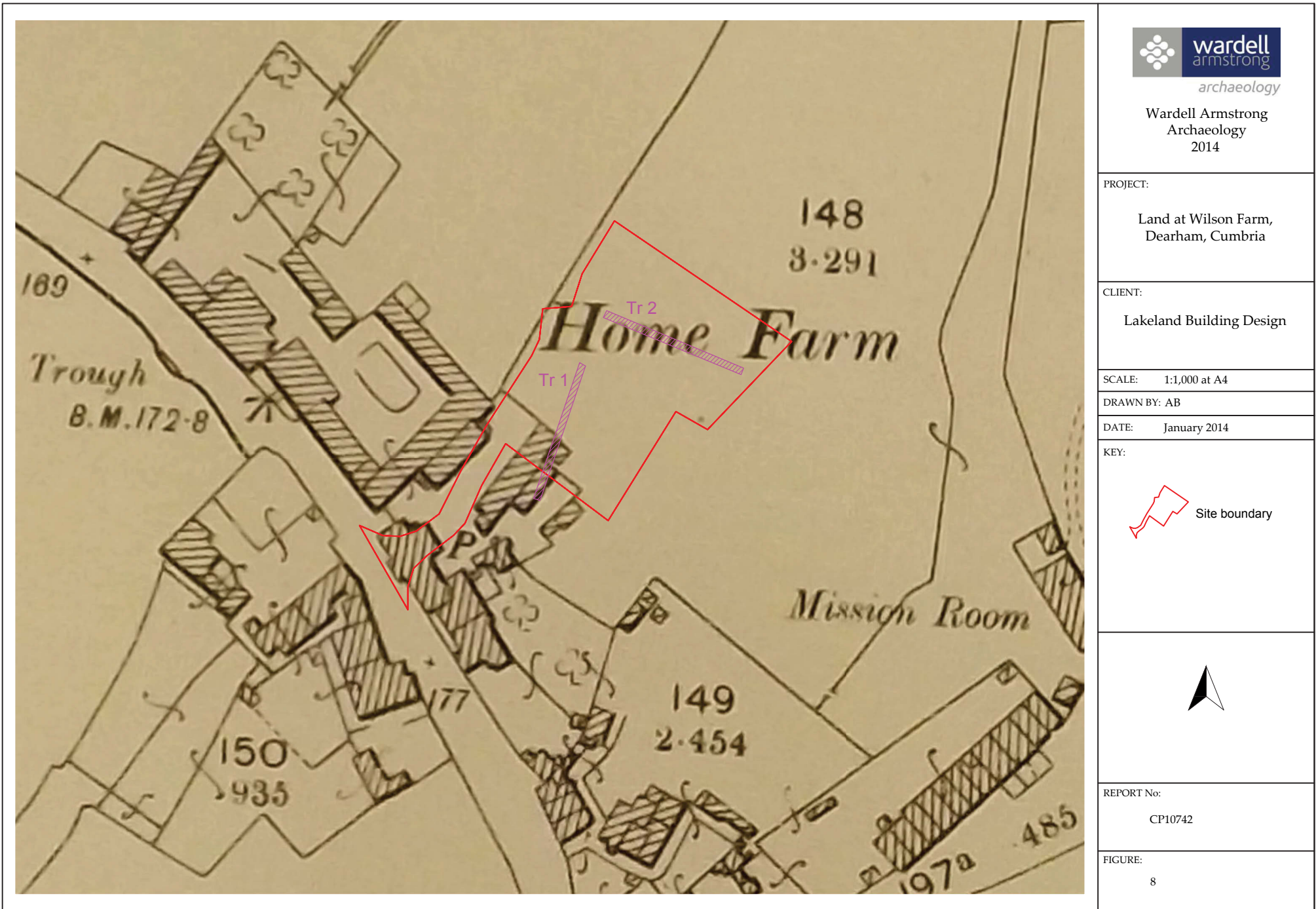
KEY:

-  Site boundary
-  Proposed development
-  Evaluation trenches



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Figure 7: Trench location plan.



Wardell Armstrong
Archaeology
2014

PROJECT:

Land at Wilson Farm,
Dearham, Cumbria

CLIENT:


Lakeland Building Design

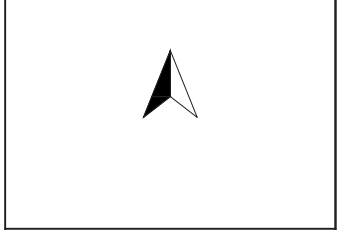
SCALE: 1:1,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: AB

DATE: January 2014

KEY:

 Site boundary



REPORT No:

CP10742

FIGURE:

8

Figure 8: Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, showing location of evaluation trenches.

APPENDIX 3: PROJECT DESIGN

WA ARCHAEOLOGY

Project Design No CP/10742

**PROJECT DESIGN FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
FIELDWORK
ON LAND
AT
WILSON FARM,
DEARHAM,
CUMBRIA.**

**FOR
LAKELAND BUILDING DESIGN**



WA ARCHAEOLOGY
COCKLAKES YARD,
CUMWHINTON,
CARLISLE,
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TEL: (01228) 564820

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 WA Archaeology have been commissioned by Paul Boustead of Lakeland Building Design to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation on land to at Wilson Farm, Dearham, Cumbria (NY 071364), prior to the construction of 4 new dwellings. The town of Dearham lies c4km east of Maryport and c40km southwest of Carlisle, on the coastal plain of northwest Cumbria. The village, though now fairly modern in terms of its housing stock, appears to have originated in the crofts-and-tofts, which radiated east and west from the north-south aligned main street. The Grade I listed medieval church of St Mungos (HER 804, LBSMR 22846) lies to the north of the village and in the vicinity of the current development area. The current church is of 13th century date but there are hints that there was a pre-Norman church on the site that would have been the nucleus of the pre-Norman settlement at Dearham.
- 1.2 The proposed development could possibly damage any archaeological remains that may be present. As a result of Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service CCCHES has requested a programme of archaeological fieldwork.
- 1.3 The work will consist of an archaeological desk based assessment followed by an archaeological evaluation of the site. A copy of this report will be consulted prior to any fieldwork taking place.

2 METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 A programme of 5% archaeological trial trenching on the site of the 4 new dwellings will follow a desk based assessment.
- 2.2 The desk-based assessment will involve the consultation of the County Historic Environment Record in Kendal in the first instance. This will include the collection of all available information held within the HER database, in order to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site. Aerial photographs for the area will be examined in order to gain an adequate understanding of the context of the archaeological fieldwork.
- 2.3 Following this the County Records Office in Carlisle will also be consulted in order to study maps and documents relevant to the study area. This will include the collection of historic maps, including Tithe or Enclosure maps and early Ordnance Survey maps. Early cartographic evidence, such as surveys and terriers, will be consulted in order to achieve an understanding of the medieval and early post medieval landscape, 18th and 19th century mapping will also be consulted. Several secondary sources and journals, such as the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, will also be consulted.

- 2.4 The desk-based assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (IFA 1994).
- 2.5 The overall aim of the evaluation by trial trenching is to calibrate the results of the desk based survey, in particular the presence or absence of remains associated with any medieval occupation that could be situated within the development site. Where archaeological remains are present the evaluation by trial trenching will inform upon the significance of the potential impacts of the development. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform upon the requirement for any further archaeological work.
- 2.5.1 The general aims of the evaluation are to:
- Determine the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the proposed development site.
 - Determine the character, date, extent and distribution of any archaeological deposits and their potential significance.
 - Determine levels of disturbance to any archaeological deposits from plough damage or from any other agricultural/industrial practices.
 - Disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of reporting
- 2.5.2 Two trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m will be excavated using a mechanical excavator under the close supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist. This approach will provide 108m² of trenching (5% of 0.2 hectares) as specified by Jeremy Parsons of CCCHES. The mechanical excavator will be fitted with a toothless ditching blade and will remove undifferentiated topsoil to the first archaeological horizon. The mechanical excavator will not be used to excavate arbitrary trenches to natural subsoil without regard for archaeological stratification.
- 2.5.3 The mechanical excavator will mound all spoil neatly beside each trench, allowing a minimum of 1m between the base of the mound and the trench edge. Topsoil and subsoil deposits will be separated to assist reinstatement following on from the fieldwork programme.
- 2.5.4 All subsequent excavation following the exposure of archaeological deposits will be by hand by a team of experienced archaeologists. The field team will carry out all excavation, cleaning, recording and sampling of surfaces and archaeological features within the trial trenches using appropriate hand tools. Investigations within trial trenches will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation.
- 2.5.5 Features will be recorded (in plan and section) with sampling as appropriate. A minimum of 50% of identified archaeological features will be excavated and complete features, such as pits and postholes, will be excavated by half-section and linear features, such as ditches and gullies, will be sectioned appropriately (sampling no less than 25% of the feature). Particular attention will be paid to the intersections of linear features.

- 2.5.6 It will be the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to backfill the trenches as dug at the completion of the archaeological fieldwork and agreement of Planning Archaeologist.
- 2.5.7 All written records will utilise the WAA pro-forma record sheets. Plans and sections will be drawn on water resistant permatrace. Plans will be drawn to a scale of 1:20 and sections at 1:10. A combination of multi and single context planning will be utilised. A full photographic record in monochrome and digital formats will be maintained. All electronic survey work will be undertaken using a TST and will be transferred into a CAD environment. The site will be levelled with respect to the Ordnance Datum, and the excavation will be tied into the National Grid.
- 2.5.8 Finds will be managed by Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds and Archives Officer. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology will undertake first aid conservation, but if further conservation is required there will be extensive consultation with appropriate specialists. All non-modern finds will be collected and retained for processing. Ceramics and animal bone will be collected in bulk and recorded by context. Significant *in situ* finds will be recorded in three dimensions prior to collection. A metal detector will be utilised both to scan excavated spoil, and to maximise the recovery of metal finds from alluvial deposits. All appropriate procedures will be followed in the event of the discovery of artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.
- 2.5.9 Any environmental evidence found during the work will be sampled as recommended by the English Heritage regional Scientific Advisor, and undertaken according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd standard sampling procedure and nationally agreed procedures (English Heritage 2002), the recommended sample sizes for dry deposits being 30-60 litres and for wet deposits the sample sizes should be approximately 5 litres.
- 2.5.10 Should any human remains be encountered, CCCHES, the client, the police and the Coroner's office will be informed immediately upon the discovery of the remains. The removal of any human remains will be done under a Section 25 Licence obtained from the Ministry of Justice and Environmental Health Regulations. The relevant English Heritage guidelines, in particular the recently published '*Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England*' (English Heritage 2005), will be adhered to at all times.
- 2.6 Finds**
- 2.6.1 Finds assessment will be under the direction of Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds and Archives Officer. WAA will undertake first aid conservation, but if further conservation is required following the production of an assessment report, there will be extensive consultation with appropriate specialists, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service and the client.
- 2.6.2 Assessment of each category of artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material will be undertaken by suitably qualified archaeological specialists as soon as

possible following the completion of the fieldwork. Specialist services may be provided, as necessary by:

- Prehistoric Pottery Blaise Vyner, Archaeological Consultant
- Lithics David Jackson, WAA
- Roman Pottery Louise Hird, Archaeological Consultant
- Medieval Pottery Ian Miller, Oxford Archaeology North
- Post Medieval Pottery Jo Dawson, Greenlane Archaeology
- Glass Hugh Wilmott, University of Sheffield
- Wood Ian Panter, York Archaeological Trust
- Leather Tim Padley, Tullie House Museum
- Textiles Eleanor Palmer (Lancashire Museums Service)
- Conservation Archaeological Services, Durham University

2.7 **Environmental**

2.7.1 Detailed work on environmental samples will take place at the unit's premises at Carlisle. Further specialist services will be utilised at the University of Durham, if required. Any environmental evidence found during the work will be sampled in agreement with CCCHES under the guidance of Sue Stallibrass, English Heritage Regional Scientific Adviser, North-West Region, and undertaken according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology standard environmental sampling procedure and nationally agreed procedures (English Heritage 2002 *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recording to Post-Excavation*).

2.7.2 Any wooden structures identified will be recorded *in situ* where possible, and sampled in accordance with English Heritage recommendations (English Heritage 2010 *Waterlogged Wood: Guidance on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*). Representative samples will be selected in order to answer specific questions, including species identification, environmental conditions, and for dendrochronological dating, in agreement with CCCHES. Large timbers will be lifted and stored on site, until they can be delivered to York Archaeological Trust for specialist conservation if required.

2.7.3 Environmental samples will be processed under the direction of Don O'Meara, WAA Environmental Officer, in consultation with Sue Stallibrass. The sampling is likely to take the form of bulk samples of 30 litre volume. This is in order to assess the environmental potential of deposits across the site, including the fills of ditches, gullies, pits and postholes, buried soils, silts and occupation layers. Don O'Meara will also assess any animal bone recovered during the evaluation. Articulated human remains will be assessed by Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds and Archives Officer, who is a professionally trained osteoarchaeologist.

2.7.4 The fieldwork programme will be followed by an assessment of the data, the process being adopted as set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd Edition, 1991).

2.8 Project report

2.8.1 This process will culminate in the production of a bound report with each page and paragraph numbered, following the guidance set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd Edition, 1991), including:

- A location plan showing the proposed development area, related to the national grid.
- The dates on which the project was undertaken.
- A concise, non-technical summary of the results
- A summary of the historical and archaeological background
- A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and results obtained
- Digital photographs where appropriate
- A description of archaeological features and deposits identified during the watching brief
- Plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing the position of excavated deposits
- A list of, and spot dates for, any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified
- A description of any environmental or any other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained
- A table summarising the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and any spot dating of significant finds
- Recommendations for further analysis if applicable
- A copy of the Written Scheme of Investigation/Project Brief
- The associated OASIS reference and Planning Application Number

2.8.2 Recommendations for further analysis and/or mitigation if applicable will be set out in a separate annexe to the main report.

2.9 Archive and Publication

2.9.1 Three copies of the final report will be sent to the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Office. A copy of the report will also be sent to

Persimmon Homes. A digital copy of the report (in pdf format) will also be made available.

- 2.9.2 The project will also be registered with the **Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS)**.
- 2.9.3 Project archive will be completed following the production of the report, following the WA Archaeology standard procedure following the WAA Guide to Project Archiving (Railton 2006), and as set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd Edition, 1991). Ultimately it is recommended that the curation of both finds and the site archive should be vested in a local relevant specialist museum.
- 2.9.4 Depending on the final results of the project, a summary report on the results of the watching brief will be produced for inclusion in the Notes section of the 2014 edition of the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological and Antiquarian Society. This would be subject to a separate costed project design.

3 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology is fully compliant with HSE guidance and legislation. It is the duty of all personnel, under the Health and Safety at Work Act etc 1974, to take reasonable care for the health and safety of him/herself and other persons who may be affected by his/her acts or omissions at work. He/she must also co-operate with the Technical Director regarding any duty or requirement imposed on the Technical Director or any other person by or under any of the relevant statutory provisions so far as it is necessary to enable that duty or requirement to be performed or complied with.
- 3.2 Any personnel contravening relevant statutory provision may be prosecuted in a Sheriff Court (Scotland) or Magistrates' Court. All personnel taking part in field work have a responsibility to adhere to sensible standards of behaviour. Personnel are made aware that fieldwork activities have inherent hazards which staff members minimise with appropriate safety precautions. However, the potential dangers make it imperative that personnel co-operate by behaving responsibly in order to reduce the risk of accidents.
- 3.3 WA Archaeology Health and Safety Statement conform to the provisions of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM) Health and Safety Manual. Field projects are undertaken according to the SCAUM Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (SCAUM 1986) and according to the Wardell Armstrong Standard Safety Procedure. Risk assessments are undertaken prior to any fieldwork taking place and staff are fully briefed regarding on site hazards and safe working procedure. Full consideration will be given to health and safety issues during all fieldwork for this project..

4 THE COMPANY

- 4.1 WA Archaeology (WAA) is the archaeological division of Wardell Armstrong LLP.
- 4.2 The work will be undertaken under the direction of Frank Giecco, BA Hons, DipArch, MIFA, WAA Technical Director. He will be assisted by fully qualified WAA staff to complete the archaeological watching brief and reporting. All staff are highly experienced archaeologists with significant experience of both urban and rural sites throughout Cumbria.
- 4.3 The evaluation will be undertaken by David Jackson WAA Supervisor and up to two fully trained site assistants.

5 WORK TIMETABLE

- 5.1 The project can be implemented after the acceptance of the project design by the Jeremy Parsons of CCCHES.
- 5.2 The desk based study will be undertaken over a five day period.
- 5.3 The evaluation will be undertaken over one week.
- 5.4 Copies of this report will be deposited within the Cumbria SMR, Jeremy Parsons of CCCHES and the WAA archive no later than three months following the completion of all fieldwork.

6 PUBLICATION

- 6.1 Depending on results, the findings of the evaluation will be published in summary form in the *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*. A separate costing will submitted in a updated project design should the results warrant such an article.

7 ARCHIVE, OWNERSHIP AND STORAGE OF FINDS

- 7.1 All finds belong to the landowner, but initially they will be transferred to the WA Archaeology's premises at Carlisle. Agreement will be sought on the final deposition of finds prior to the fieldwork commencing.
- 7.2 During and after the excavation, all recovered artefacts will be stored in the appropriate conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (this will include controlled storage, correct packaging, regular monitoring of conditions, immediate selection for conversation of vulnerable materials). All work will be carried out in compliance with IFA Guidelines for Finds Work and those set by UKIC.
- 7.3 Ultimately it is recommended that the curation of both finds and the site archive should be vested in Whitehaven museum.

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