

**SCAR NAVVY CAMP, SCAR HOUSE RESERVOIR**

**NIDDERDALE, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SURVEY**



JB Archaeological Services

On behalf of

**NIDDERDALE AONB**

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## **SCAR NAVVY CAMP, SCAR HOUSE RESERVOIR**

### **NIDDERDALE, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

#### **HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SURVEY**

##### *Summary*

*The site of Scar House Village lies on the southern side of upper Nidderdale, North Yorkshire almost adjacent to the dam of Scar House Reservoir. The settlement was created in order to house the thousand plus workforce and their families, who were engaged in building the reservoir between 1921 and 1936. The village was carefully planned and built from lightweight materials (mainly corrugated iron and timber) over concrete bases and it is the remains of these bases which can still be seen today. Scar Village contained all the facilities of a small town from a hospital and mortuary through to a school, shop, bake house, church and sports facilities. With the completion and opening of the reservoir in 1936 the buildings of the village were sold off and dismantled for use elsewhere, leaving the bases to mark their locations.*

*The results of the assessment show that, although there is a certain level of information available about the settlement, particularly in the form of historic photographs, there are elements of the detail of the layout which are unclear. This coupled with the steady deterioration of the site due to weathering means that eventually it will not be possible to recover any additional detail of form and nature of the buildings.*

*The unique nature of the site along with its high level of public visibility and relatively robust nature means that it would be a very good site for detailed interpretation.*

*The large quarry to the south of the village was dug in order to supply the stone for the dam at Angram reservoir to the west. The assessment of the remains showed that, as well as the quarry itself, there are extensive areas of spoil dumping along with evidence for stone extraction, transportation and possible a number of buildings on the quarry floor. The spoil dumps extend for many hundreds of meters to the east, west and south of the quarry and potentially elements of the eastern end of Scar Village may have been terraced into some of the spoil. As well as the quarry for Angram dam, the quarry for the building of Haden Carr dam lies a little to the west and the site inspection shows that the two may have actually be linked. In addition to the stone extraction, documentary evidence for earlier coal working shows that there is an older, more wide spread industrial landscape within and under the later one.*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 As part of the development of the Upper Nidderdale Landscape Partnership Scheme (a Heritage Lottery Fund project that focuses on Upper Nidderdale), historic environment surveys are being undertaken on a total of five sites in the Upper Nidderdale area. These sites are anticipated to become ‘flagship’ heritage sites as part of the Landscape Partnership scheme and as such will have a central role in the overall project. The sites are:

- Fish Pond Wood & Bewerley Grange Chapel, Bewerley
- Scar House Navy Camp; Scar Reservoir
- Prosperous Lead Mines & Smelt Mill, Ashfoldside
- Wath Mill, Wath
- The settlement at Lodge, Scar Reservoir

This report presents the results of the survey on Scar House Navy Camp.

1.2 The historic environment survey is anticipated to provide an assessment of the significance of the site in its local and national context, and identify historic environment features of interest within the site boundary through a combination of desk based assessment and site visits. It will also try to establish the potential for, and significance of, any buried archaeological remains that may lie within the boundaries of the site.

1.3 The assessment of historic environment features of interest will then inform conservation of the flagship heritage sites; repair and/or consolidation; and future management. In addition, the survey will inform the Upper Nidderdale Interpretation Plan, ensuring that the most significant elements of the site and its stories are interpreted for visitors.

1.4 Research into the site was undertaken in July/August 2013 and site visits were undertaken on the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2013. The site visit was to establish the current nature of the site and to ascertain the visible potential of the historic and/or archaeological features to present. The visit also carried out a rapid visual assessment of the surrounding area with a view to the possibility of the survival of other archaeological features which may have an impact upon the site.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **Location**

2.1 Scar House village is just to the east of the dam for Scar House Reservoir in Upper Nidderdale (NGR SE07407670). The northern boundary of the site is formed by the metalled track which runs up this part of the valley and the remainder of the site is surrounded by open moor land with no formal boundaries. The site lies in Stonebeck Up civil parish in Harrogate District, North Yorkshire (Figures 1 & 2).

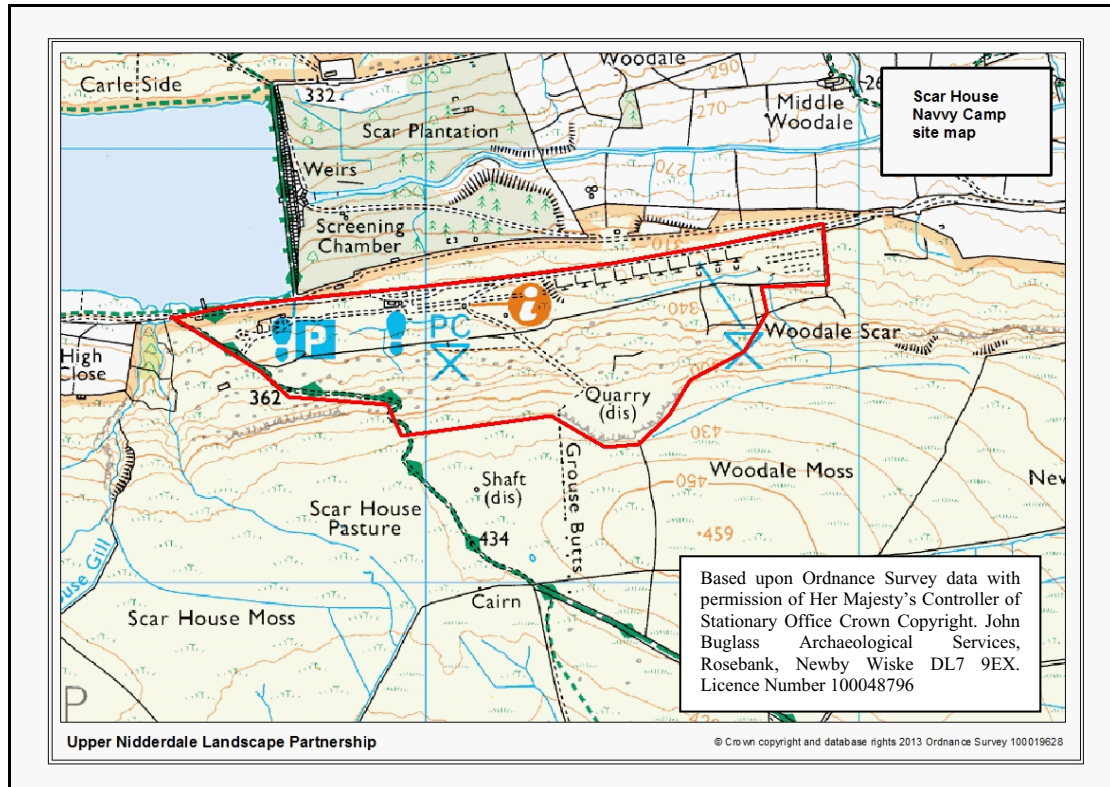


Figure 1. General Site Location.

### Geology and soils

- 2.2 The underlying geology of Bewerley and the surrounding area is the Namurian ‘millstone grit series’ of the Carboniferous period (British Geological Survey, 2001). Overlying this, the quaternary geology is currently unclassified by the British Geological Survey (British Geological Survey, 1977). The soils of the area have been classified as the Wilcocks 1 association which is a slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soil (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

### Topography and land-use

- 2.3 The site lies on the southern side of Upper Nidderdale with many of the features of the site terraced into the hillside which runs from *c.*300m up to *c.*430mOD. The site is surrounded open moor land primarily given over to grazing and shooting.

### Historic Background

- 2.4 Prior to the construction of the reservoirs at Angram and Scar House, this part of Upper Nidderdale had only seen a low level of human activity spread over a wide area. The majority of the land from the Conquest onwards seems to have been held between the Cistercian abbeys of Byland and Fountains (Lancaster University, 2000, 39 *et seq*), both of whom had a number of granges and farmsteads dotted along the valley (for example at Lodge, Angram, Haden Carr). The whole of the valley was used for a range of agriculture from crop production in the bottom to grazing on the moor land at higher altitudes. Large areas were also used for hunting during the medieval period, notably by Roger de Mowbray (IBID). During the post-medieval period after the Dissolution,

the land was divided between a number of owners (notably the Yorke and Wood families) and some areas saw the beginnings of mineral exploitation.

- 2.5 The single biggest event in the valley was the construction of the two reservoirs. The first of these was Angram Reservoir (which was completed in 1919) followed by the construction of Scar House Reservoir between 1921 and 1936. In order to house the work force and their families for the construction of Scar Reservoir, the previous settlement at Angram was dismantled and moved down the valley to Scar House where it was rebuilt and considerably expanded. Fuller details of the history and development of Upper Nidderdale and the surrounding area see Jennings, 1992; Lancaster University, 2000, 37 *et seq*; Grainge, 1863 and Speight, 1894.

### **3.0 METHODOLOGY AND INFORMATION SOURCES**

3.1 The principal aims of the desk-based assessment were to:

- identify known archaeological and historic sites within or immediately adjacent to the site
- identify any areas with the potential to contain any unrecorded archaeological remains
- assess the significance of the identified historic and archaeological sites
- propose measures, which could be built into the management plans for the site which would enhance the understanding of the site and help allow for the long term stability of the features identified

3.2 This report is based upon the review of readily available documentation relating to the site and its environs. The study area for the investigation was generally up to the boundaries of site with any obvious features in adjoining fields being noted. In order to produce this report, research was undertaken at:

- North Yorkshire Heritage Unit
- North Yorkshire Archives
- Nidderdale Museum
- Nidderdale ANOB
- English Heritage National Monuments Record

3.3 The following data sources were researched for the assessments:

- North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER)
- North Yorkshire Archives
- Nidderdale Museum Archives
- published and unpublished historical and archaeological studies
- cartographic sources (including historic Ordnance Survey maps)
- National Monuments Record

3.4 A walk-over survey of the site was carried out on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2013. The inspection was carried out with two principle objectives - firstly to confirm the

nature and extent of the site and secondly to identify possible areas for the survival of archaeological remains.

#### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL POTENTIAL**

- 4.1 Archaeological and historic sites recorded within the 250m radius study area of the site are summarised in Table 1 below. The sites are identified by a site number, which is correlated with the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record entries (MNY), scheduled monument (SM), listed building (LB) and Lancaster University Survey (LU) where relevant. A central grid reference for, suggested classification and a date are provided for each site, which are graded in archaeological significance as of 1 (national), 2 (regional) and 3 (local) importance and N as no significance. This is based upon professional judgement and the criteria in Annex 6 of PPG16. The location of the sites is shown on Figure 2.
- 4.2 A total of 36 archaeological and historic sites were recorded within the study area. Of these the vast majority are the components of Scar Village, which can be considered to be of regional significance. The remainder of the sites are considered to be of local significance but many of them relate to the development of the area around the reservoir (e.g. the quarry associated with Haden Carr dam). Therefore, when considered as a group, their collective importance has a much greater significance when considering the development of this part of Nidderdale.



**Table 1: Archaeological sites within a c.250m radius of the site**

<i>Site Number</i>	<i>Reference Number</i>	<i>Grid Reference</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Period/Date</i>	<i>Grade</i>
1	MNY 14994 MNY 29880	SE 0640 7668	Struck flints	Prehistoric	3
2	MNY 23182 MNY 23182	SE 0650 7660 SE 0656 7656	Coal bunkers West View bungalows	Post-medieval Post-medieval	3 3
4	--	SE 0654 7654	Possible trod	?Medieval	3
5	MNY 22763 LU 2133	SE 06445 76435	?barn	Unknown	3
6	MNY 22780 LU 2150	SE 06627 76562	Wall	Post-medieval	3
7	MNY22794 LU 2164	SE 08247 76746	Wall	Post-medieval	3
8	--	SE 0670 7642	Old road to Middlesmoor	?medieval/PM	3
9	MNY 23182	SE 0668 7660	Blondin No 1 crane	Post-medieval	3
10	MNY 22762 LU 2132	SE 06496 76407	Wall/bank?field system	Post-medieval	3
11	--	SE 0680 7650	2ft inclined railway to Haden Carr quarry	Post-medieval	3
12	MNY 22782 LU 2152	SE 06849 76368	Quarry/coal workings	Post-medieval	3
13	MNY 23182	SE 0694 7660	Tradesmans houses	Post-medieval	3
14	MNY 23182	SE 0694 7664	The Crescent bungalows	Post-medieval	3
15	MNY 22781 LU 2151	SE 07013 76404	Quarry/coal workings	Post-medieval	3
16	MNY 23182	SE 0710 7650	Possible remains of earlier haulway etc.	Post-medieval	3
17	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Church	Post-medieval	3
18	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Cinema	Post-medieval	3
19	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Reading room	Post-medieval	3
20	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Canteen	Post-medieval	3
21	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	School	Post-medieval	3
22	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Bake House	Post-medieval	3
23	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7660	Laundry	Post-medieval	3
24	MNY 23182	SE 0728 7658	Sub station No 3	Post-medieval	3
25	MNY 23182	SE 0736 7648	Dump of worked stone	Post-medieval	3
26	MNY 23182	SE 0730 7632	Peat cutting	?Post-medieval	3
27	MNY 22798	SE 0734 7634	?Buildings	Post-medieval	3
28	MNY 22798 LU 2168	SE 07462 76380	Old Scar Quarry	Post-medieval	3
29	MNY 22798	SE 0748 7634	Un-quarried stone stack	Post-medieval	3
30	MNY 22788	SE 07674 76458	Spoil tip Woodale Moss	Post-medieval	3
31	MNY 22796 LU 2166	SE 07742 76523	?structure	Unknown	3
32	MNY 22797 MNY 29873 LU 2167	SE 07801 76500	Flint scatter	?Prehistoric	3
33	MNY 22795 MNY 29907	SE 07906 76639	Sheep fold	Post-medieval	3
34	MNY 23182	SE 0750 7670	Single male hostels	Post-medieval	3
35	MNY 23182	SE 0784 7674	East View houses	Post-medieval	3
36	MNY 15205 MNY 29874	SE 0675 7660	Struck flints	Prehistoric	3

See Figure 2 for site locations

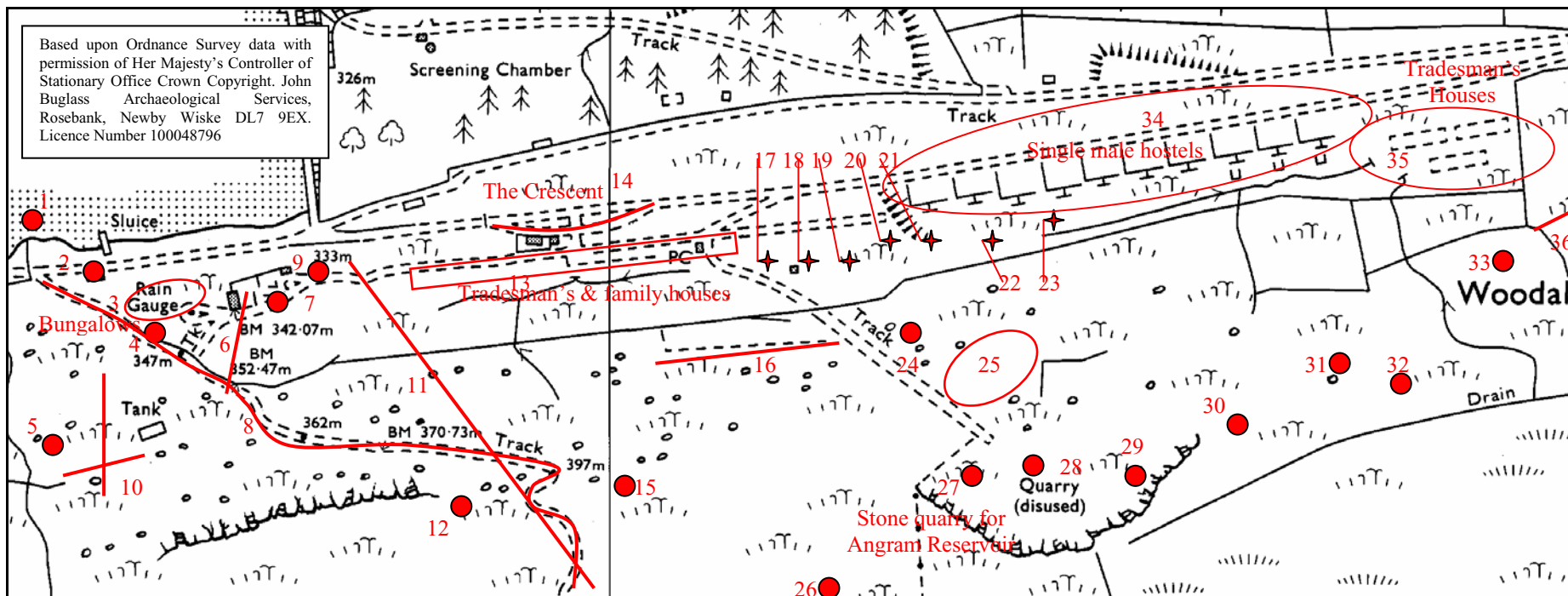


Figure 2. Locations of features within the study area.

### **Prehistoric and Roman**

- 4.3 Currently there are three recorded sites which have the potential to be prehistoric (flint scatters at Sites 1, 32 and 36). These records are derived from antiquarian accounts and they are not considered to be wholly reliable. This does not mean that they can be discounted and it does not preclude prehistoric evidence being found in the future. The nature of the topography of the area means the bottom of the valley may have been used as a route through the region since the end of the last ice age and as such will have been used by the nomadic hunter gatherer societies in the earlier Stone Age. It is unlikely the any early agricultural communities were present in the vicinity of the site due to its exposed nature.
- 4.4 As with the prehistoric period there is currently very little evidence for Romano-British activity in the area, with the most frequently cited event being the discovery of lead ingots at Greenhow some miles away. See Lancaster University, 2000, 37 *et seq* and Jennings, 1992 for a more detailed development of this topic.

### **Anglo-Scandinavian and Medieval**

- 4.5 From the limited background research undertaken into this site there is little specific evidence into the nature of the holding and any use the land in this area was put to. Almost undoubtedly shortly after the Conquest and the Harrying of the North, the site was part of the holdings for one of the two great Cistercian Abbeys in the area – either Byland or Fountains. As such the landscape would have been used primarily for sheep grazing and probably hunting. For details of the development of this part of Upper Nidderdale see Jennings, 1992 & Lancaster University, 2000, 37 *et seq*.
- 4.6 The ‘old road to Middlesmoor’ (Site 8) shown on Figure 3 could be the route of the medieval (or even earlier) track between the now submerged Haden Carr and Middlesmoor. The site visited recorded that the track-way appeared to have the remains of a surface, which had been cobbled with small water rolled stones (Figure 4) in a very similar manner to Carle Fell Road (Buglass, 2011). It also appeared to have the remains of a possible stone trod (Figure 4) along the north-eastern side of a section of the track – again very similar to the one seen on Carle Fell Road. It is possible that this line of stones is the remains of a dry-stone wall along the side of the track. However this would not seem to be the case here. Firstly, there was not the amount of tumbled stone that would normally be expected if this was the case, and secondly, the stones appear to be spaced slightly too far apart to be from a wall base. If these two features are similar to Carle Fell Road and therefore possibly contemporary, it is quite possible that they have a medieval origin, as has been suggested for Carle Fell Road.
- 4.7 It is possible that other medieval features survive within the landscape but they have been obscured or obliterated by the extensive post-medieval activity associated with the various dams.

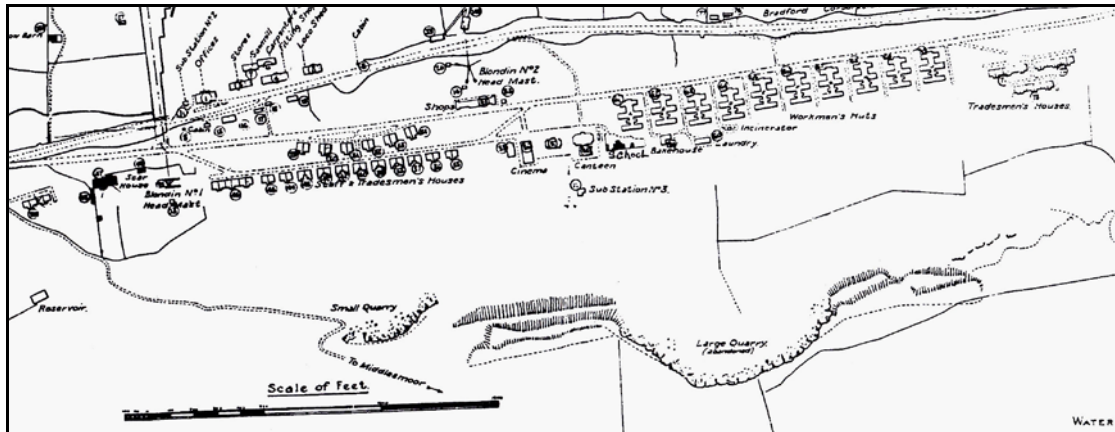


Figure 3. Extract from Bradford Corporation Waterworks. Scar House Reservoir  
Taken from Scar Village Remembered – Calvert et al (1991) Nidderdale Museum Archives



Figure 4. Old Middlesmoor Road with remains of cobble surface and possible trod on left hand side

### Post-medieval

- 4.6 With the Dissolution of Monasteries the lands around Scar House passed into private ownership. There was probably very little change in the way the land was exploited until the 18<sup>th</sup> century. During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries various types of mineral resource started to be exploited in the area (e.g. coal at Woodgill). Although the area is dotted with various shafts and quarries, they are all generally of small scale workings apart from those associated with the reservoirs.

- 4.7 After the complete of Angram Reservoir in 1919, work started on the construction of Scar House Reservoir in 1921. Scar House Reservoir was the last to be built in Nidderdale – the earlier Gouthwaite Reservoir had been completed in 1901 (Bolt, 2007, 4). With the start of the construction of Scar House Reservoir some of the buildings that had been in use for the construction of Angram Reservoir to the west were dismantled and moved to the new site – e.g. the corrugated iron church/mission hall (Moody, 2009, 6). However, this did not provide enough accommodation for the ever growing workforce. Many were travelling daily from the workhouse in Pateley Bridge, using the specially constructed Nidd Valley Light Railway which had originally served the construction Angram Reservoir (Moody, 2009, 2 & Bolt, 2007).
- 4.8 The village at Scar was destined to have a short life, as the completion of the dam and reservoir in 1936 meant that the workforce no longer had a purpose. The various buildings of the village and associated works were sold off at a two-day auction in 1937 (Moody, 2009, 13). Many of them were dismantled and re-erected – for example the bungalows went to Norwood, the mission hut to Heaton (IBID) and the canteen which is now the Darley Memorial Hall (opened in 1947) (Bolt, 2007, 77). In addition to the various buildings associated with the current day to day functioning of the reservoir, one building from the settlement does still survive. This is the village garage constructed from corrugated iron over an iron frame (Bolt, 2007, 92), though this lies outside the study area of this report.
- 4.9 Like all settlements, no matter how short or long lived, the village at Scar would have undergone various changes and alterations over time. The earliest form of the village would have been the buildings bought down from Angram. These would have then been supplemented with the planned settlement that is widely recorded in a series of plans and historic photographs (Moody, 2009 & Bolt, 2007). How this pattern of the settlement evolved is currently not discernable from the visible remains, though it is possible that archive records hold some clue to this. Unfortunately it appears that all the readily available archive material is currently retained by Yorkshire Water and is not available to the general public.
- 4.10 From the current examination of the readily accessible material it would appear that the most comprehensive source for information is the volume by Bolt (*A Walk in the Past*, 2007) with some significant additional information in the booklet produced by the Nidderdale Museum (Moody, 2009, *Scar House Village*). In addition to these there are at least three, subtly different plans showing the village (the one reproduced in Bolt and Figures 3 and 5). Many of the difference are probably due to differing levels of accuracy required when they were originally drawn up and the buildings are actually the same but their locations are slightly at odds with reality. However, it may be that some of the differences represent different phases of the settlements development. From the site visit it was also noted that there is much more detail to the buildings and associated infrastructure than is shown on these plans. It should be noted that Bolt's volume does include detailed plans of many of the individual structures of the village. It may be possible to unravel



elements of this by carrying out a detailed map regression over a modern OS digital map base. This would highlight any differences that could then be investigated on the ground.

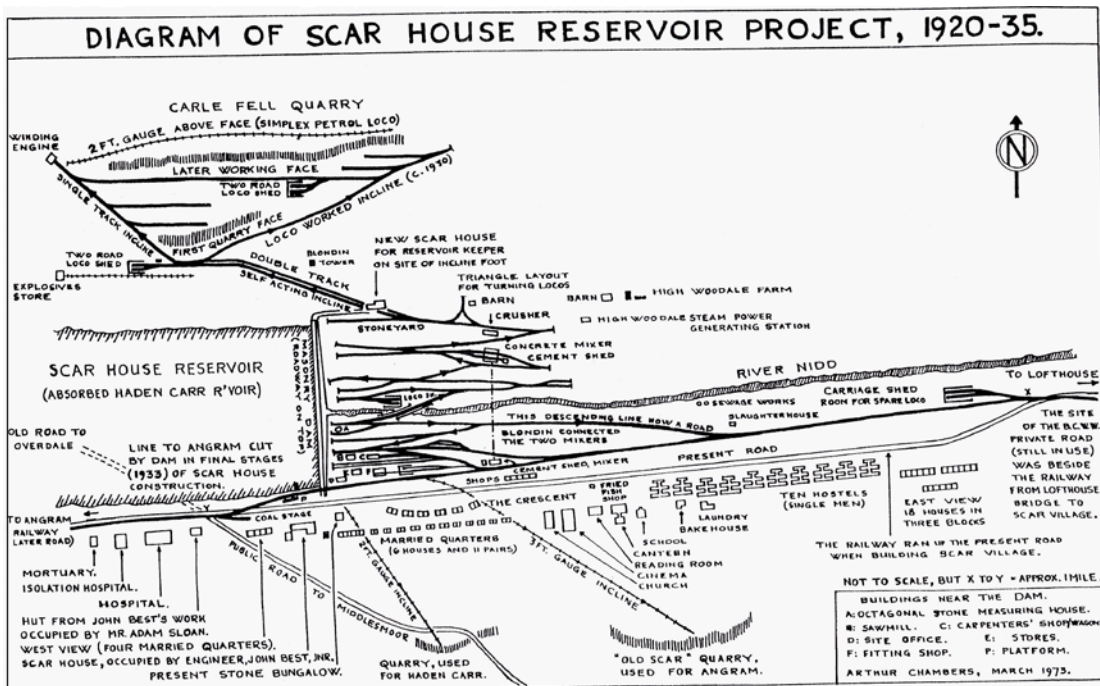


Figure 5. Plan of Scar Village

Nidderdale Museum Archives

- 4.11 Due to the lack of readily available archive material this assessment has concentrated on trying to establish the degree of survival of the buildings shown of the various plans. It has also tried to identify particular buildings or groups of buildings that are either indicative of the settlement or significant to the construction of the reservoir.
- 4.12 Although there was little information in the archives about the actual form and development of the village, there was quite a considerable amount of information on the social history side of the settlement (e.g. Calvert *et al*, 1991, *Scar Village Remembered* and the copies of the village newspaper held at the Nidderdale Museum). This would bear further investigation into the daily life of what is essentially a unique settlement.

## 5.0 SITE VISIT

- 5.1 A walk over survey of the site was carried out on 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> August 2013. The inspection was carried out with two principle objectives - firstly to confirm the nature and extent of the site and secondly to identify possible areas for the survival of archaeological remains. The walk-over attempted to cover as much of the site as possible, though the steep slopes and unconsolidated nature of spoil heaps in places meant that access to some areas was very restricted. A re-assessment of these areas may well identify additional sites and features.

*Scar Village*

5.2 On the site visit it was immediately obvious that a substantial amount of evidence for the layout and form of the buildings of the village remains. From west to east these include:

- West View Bungalows – Site 3 (Figure 6)
- Married quarters (six houses and 11 pairs) – Site 13(Figure 7)
- The Crescent (six pairs of bungalows) – Site 14 (Figure 8)
- The church – Site 17 (Figure 9)
- The Cinema – Site 18 (Figure 10)
- The Reading Room – Site 19
- The Canteen – Site 20 (Figure 11)
- The School – Site 21
- The Bake House – Site 22
- The Single Male Hostels – Site 34 (Figure 12)
- East View Houses (18 houses in three blocks) – Site 35 (Figure 13)



Figure 6. Foundations for West View Bungalows – Site 3, looking west





Figure 7. Foundations for Married Quarters – Site 13, looking west



Figure 8. The Crescent – Site 14, looking north-east





Figure 9. The church – Site 17, looking south



Figure 10. The Projection Hut for the Cinema – Site 18, looking south



Figure 11. The Gents Urinal of the Canteen – Site 20, looking north-east



Figure 12. The Single Male Hostels – Site 34, looking west





Figure 13. East View Houses – Site 35, looking north-west

5.3 In addition to the domestic buildings there is also evidence for both construction activities and elements of the infrastructure for the settlement. These included:

- Coal Bunkers – Site 2 (Figure 14)
- Blondin No 1 Crane – Site 9 (Figure 15)
- Electricity Sub Station No 2 – Site 24 (Figure 16)
- Water and fire hydrant supply system (Figures 17 & 18)



Figure 14. Coal Bunkers – Site 2, looking south-east



Figure 15. Blondin No 1 Crane – Site 9, looking ESE





Figure 16. Electricity Sub Station No 2 – Site 24, looking north



Figure 17. Part of water supply system, scale 1m





Figure 18. Part of fire hydrant supply system

- 5.4 These features show that, although the settlement does more or less stand as a discrete entity within the landscape, there are elements of the dam construction activity all around it. This means that any study of the settlement will have to take into consideration at least some elements of the infrastructure of the dams' construction. The best examples of this are the Blondin No 1 crane (Site 9) at the western end of the site and the Sub Station No 3 (Site 24) to the south of the hostels. In the case of the crane this was solely for the construction works whilst the sub station provided hydro-electricity for both the settlement and the construction works.
- 5.5 Overall the majority of the remains of the settlement can be classified as being in a fair condition. This said, due to the location of the site high up in Nidderdale and its exposure to constant weathering, there is extensive evidence for an increasing rate of decay (Figure 19). This means that unless repair and consolidation is undertaken the site as a whole will continue to steadily approach a point where it will no longer be possible to define the extent of the many of the features.



Figure 19. Recent loss of structure in one of the hostels, scale 1m, looking SE

#### *Scar Quarry*

- 5.6 Lying to the south of the settlement and covering a significant part of the hillside are the remains of a number of extraction sites. Several of these are old coal workings (Sites 12 and 15) but the majority are for stone for the various dams at this end of the Nidderdale. The coal workings appear on the historic OS mapping and predate the construction of the reservoirs and are part of the exploitation of the mineral resources within the valley in the 18/19<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 5.7 The first dam was started in 1894 for Haden Carr Reservoir as a temporary measure to establish a steady supply for Bradford whilst Angram Reservoir was being built. The stone for Haden Carr dam was taken from a quarry at the western end of the study area and moved down a 2ft wide inclined railway (Site 11) into the bottom of the valley. The downslope area around the quarry is covered by extensive tips of stone waste (background of Figure 7), which obscure any earlier features. The second dam built was for Angram Reservoir (completed in 1919) further to the west. The stone for this dam was taken from the quarry, which can be seen directly to the south of the row of hostels (Figure 20). The material from here was bought down a 3ft gauge incline (Figure 21) to the light railway which ran along this side of the valley up to the Angram site. The site visit to the quarry noted the remains of part of the winding gear for the incline (Figure 22), sections of railway lines (Figure 23) along with fragments of a bucket (Figure 24) possibly used within the workings.





Figure 20. Scar Quarry, looking west



Figure 21. Incline for moving the stone from the quarry to Angram





Figure 22. Remains of part of the winding gear for the incline, scale 1m



Figure 23. Fragment of railway line in one of the spoil tips, scale 1m





Figure 24. Fragment of riveted bucket from Scar Quarry

- 5.8 Within the quarry itself there are several obvious features. The first of these is the large stone tower (Figure 25) which was used for the winding gear for the gravity railway. The second obvious feature is the stone stack which has been left un-quarried (Figure 26). Currently there is no obvious reason for this, though it once may have acted to secure bracing cables for the main tower. Less obvious features include the remains of a concrete base (Figure 27) and possible building remains (Figure 28) which could be sub station no. 4 (Bolt, 2007, 74).



Figure 25. Stone tower for winding gear, looking north-east





Figure 26. Un-quarried stone stack on south side of the quarry, looking NE



Figure 27. Remains of concrete base, scale 1m, looking south





Figure 28. Area of possible buildings at the western end of the quarry

- 5.9 An examination of the hillside around the quarry showed that there had been widespread and systematic dumping of quarry waste forming a series of terraces (Figures 29 & 30). These spoil tips appear to cover the whole of the hillside extending a considerable distance to the east and, in places, appear to continue all the way down the hillside to Scar Village itself. It may even be the case that the parts of the settlement from the church eastwards are actually terraced in to spoil from this quarry (Figure 12).



Figure 29. Ends of three spoil tips to the east of the quarry, looking NW

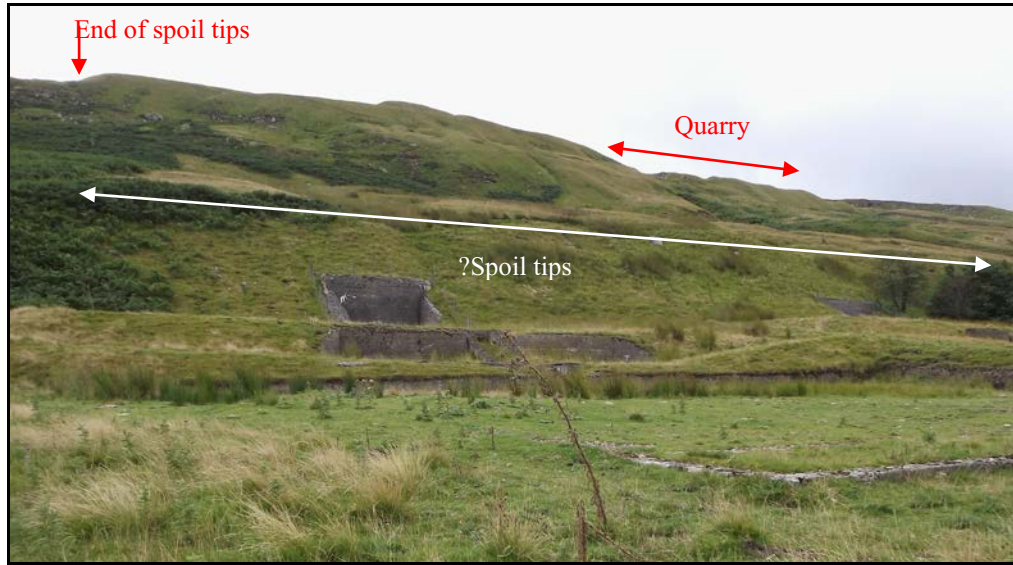


Figure 30. Extent of spoil dumping south of the hostels

- 5.10 One unusual feature of the quarry is that there is no evidence for the stone extraction having been carried out by benching – as can be seen in the quarry on the opposite side of the valley which supplied the stone for Scar Reservoir dam. The use of benches in large quarries by this time would have been common practice and the lack here would seem to suggest one of two situations. Firstly, the stone was extracted from a simple vertical face. This would not have been a safe manner to do so as the stratigraphy of the rock has a number of softer layers within it, which would have caused a high degree of instability (Figure 26). Secondly, the evidence for the benches has been covered by dumping the spoil from the final phase of stone extraction. The latter situation would seem to be the most likely as the size of the quarry as seen today does not seem to be large enough to have generated both the vast amount of spoil surrounding it and sufficient stone to have built Angram dam. Other evidence for this suggestion can be seen in the significant amount of worked stone blocks visible partway down the hillside on the eastern side of the incline (Site 25, Figure 31), which may mark the level of an earlier quarry floor.
- 5.11 If this is the case, then the quarrying was carried out by backfilling the lower benches with waste as the working face cut deeper into the hillside. This could explain why the tower in the quarry has large gaps opening up as the base of it is on unconsolidated spoil. It would also explain why the stone for Scar dam was quarried on the opposite side of the valley as the Angram dam quarry would have been too congested with spoil to obtain enough new stone.





Figure 31. Stone blocks possibly from lower level of bench working, scale 1m

#### *Other Features*

- 5.12 As well as the remains of the village and quarry, a number of other finds and features were noted. In addition to the sections of railway line seen in and around the quarry, the remains of an iron bedstead were located within a poorly built grouse butt (Figure 32). Although by no means provable, it would seem quite likely that it could have come originally from Scar village. Other grouse butts were noted along the top and within the quarry itself (Figure 33).



Figure 32. Remains of an iron bedstead, probably from Scar Village



Figure 33. Grouse butts within the quarry, looking north-west



## 6.0 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 From the results described above it can be seen that the landscape around Scar village has been very heavily modified both in order to build the settlement itself and, in the earlier extraction, to supply large amounts of stone for the building of Angram dam. These activities have left a landscape which probably bears little resemblance to how it originally looked and is a relic industrial landscape, which probably covers a much larger area than is currently thought. It would also appear that some elements of the village have been terraced into some of the earlier spoil tips from the quarry. From observations made during the site visit there appears to be little or no break between the quarry for Haden Carr dam and the much larger quarry for Angram dam. This suggests that the stone extraction for the dams was probably more widespread than was originally thought. A more detailed study would be required to try to understand full sequence of the various extractive industries along this part of the valley.
- 6.2 Scar village is an unusual settlement in that it was created in a very short period of time to serve a very specific function i.e. to house the workforce for the construction of a single dam. This means that it was designed for a short existence and was not built to last. The dismantling and removal of the buildings appears to have started before the official opening of the reservoir in 1936. An aerial photograph dated to 1935 in the Nidderdale Museum collection (reference number 942306) shows that at least one pair of houses in the row of married quarters (Site 13) had already been demolished by then. The temporary nature of the construction means that the remains that are left are deteriorating at an increasing rate and, although a great deal of detail is already known about the buildings, there is still potentially more to understand before they are lost.

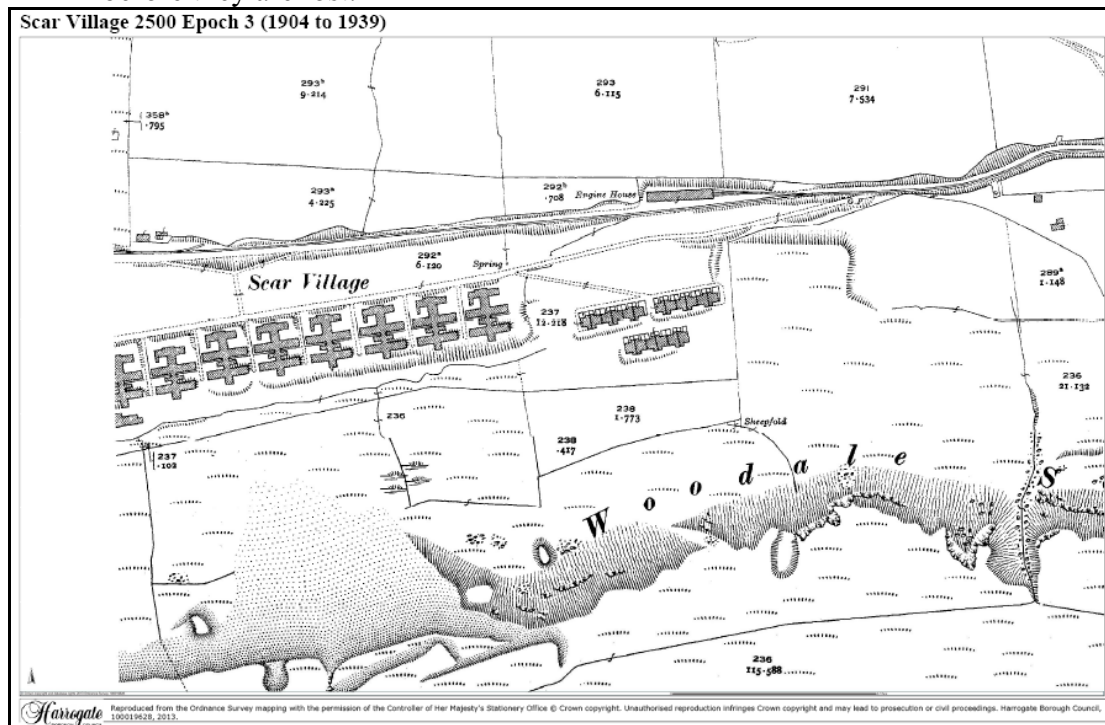


Figure 34. Eastern end of Scar Village on historic OS mapping



## 7.0 CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 From the results of the survey discussed above it can be seen that there is a widespread and complex industrial landscape centred on Scar village. The nature and complexity of this landscape is such that in order to try to understand how the various elements relate to each other, further investigation would need to be carried out. The high visibility and good survival of many elements of the site also mean that it is a very good candidate for interpretation and presentation.
- 7.2 In order to further understand these sites and confirm or refute the arguments set out above, the following is suggested as possible avenues of investigation/additional recording and interpretation:

### *Site History*

- Check the Nidderdale Museum collection for pictures of Angram Quarry.
- Approach Yorkshire Water Archives and negotiated the extraction of historically significant material from the otherwise sensitive data held by them.
- Archival research to try to determine if there is any evidence for an earlier lay out of the buildings – particularly those re-used from Angram.
- Map regression of all available cartographic sources which, in conjunction with the site history, should help date the remains visible.

### *Site Investigations*

- Topographic survey of the various quarries and associated works to try to establish a chronology of extraction in relation to Haden Carr and Angram dams. This would determine the extent of spoil dumping from the quarries and its impact upon the settlement
- Carry out a survey of the remains of the settlement which can be related to modern digital OS map base to aid both site management and interpretation/understanding of the village
- Investigate the hydro electric/water supply and water management of hillside behind village to help in the management of the site as water erosion could destabilise the spoil mounds.

### *Site Management*

- Collate all known historic photographs and attempt to replicate the same view as the remains survive today to provide a photographic baseline of condition
- Use of *pro forma* recording sheets to catalogue all surviving structures and features. This would allow re-survey at regular intervals which would give directly comparable data for site management.
- Systematic photographic record of all the surviving features from recorded locations. As with the documentary record this would allow re-survey at regular intervals which would give directly comparable data for site management.

- Ascertain if there are detailed plans of the building complexes in Yorkshire Water archives and if not attempt to retrieve the surviving evidence on site of the internal layout of the various building types.

#### *Reconstruction/consolidation*

To help stabilise and interpret the remains, the following could be considered for reconstruction/consolidation.

- Repair/stabilise the tower in the quarry.
- Expose and/or outline key buildings – e.g. church, cinema, school etc. along with an example of each of the different sets of accommodation (Crescent bungalows, hostel, West and East View houses).
- Re-instate benches in the quarry along with an interpretation board.

#### *Safety Considerations*

- Assess the stability of the tower in the quarry
- In a small number of areas within the settlement there are a number of open pits/drains partially covered with vegetation which should be covered or fenced off

7.3 In conjunction with the suggestions above, particularly if preservation costs are prohibitive, a detailed programme of interpretation should be developed. This could include concepts such as:

- One obvious route is to develop a web-based resource as a long term presence. This could be used to house the ‘fly through’ (see below) but also more detailed material such as an archive of historic mapping/images, links to other related sites etc. Downloadable education packs and self guided tours could also be housed in a web site.
- 3D recording of structures to use in ‘fly through’ web pages. This could have a starting point at either end of the settlement to replicate a site visit and, although this approach may be ambitious, it could be worth exploring (X-Box type games which follow a similar format are very popular. There are currently archaeologists using the gaming programmes to do exactly this for recreating the lost landscapes of Doggerland). The way this would work is that as you ‘fly’ through the site, different elements of the site/building process are highlighted and you would then click on it to get more detail. This would include structural elements (buildings, equipment etc.) and social history (use of tools, terminology, living conditions etc.). It may be worth considering doing some ‘talking head re-enactment’ to add to this, particularly taking some of the first hand testimony available in books such as *Scar Village Remembered*.
- It would also be worth considering producing academic papers or possibly even a monograph style publication in tandem with a popular booklet and articles in publications such as *Current Archaeology*, *British Archaeology*, *Yorkshire Life*, *Dalesman* etc.
- One way of making information about the site readily accessible on the site would be to use QR patches on specific structures (such as the hostels or quarry tower) or at view points. These would then be linked directly to the web page for information or could be used at specific locations (e.g. on the public information board) to provide the viewer with the historic image

to compare with the current setting before them. An advantage here is that the patches are cheap to locate/maintain and not intrusive in the landscape.

- Opportunities should also be explored for public engagement in some aspects of the recording (e.g. drawing, photography). This could be by running specific training courses in various levels of surveying and/or using ready trained volunteers for recording and historic research example.
- Develop circular walks and/or guided walks around the various remains,

7.4 As part of creating a lasting record of what survives, suitable resources should be provided to allow for the enhancement of the NYCC Heritage Section and Nidderdale AONB Historic Environment Records.

### **Brief Assessment of Sources Consulted**

#### *North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER)*

A limited amount of information on the village and reservoir is held in the HER and it mostly appears to be repeated in other sources – e.g. Bolt, 2007. The HER does have copies of a number of archaeological interventions carried out in recent years around the Upper Nidderdale area as a whole and in the vicinity of Scar Village itself.

#### *North Yorkshire Archives*

No additional information seemed to be available here that was not lodged in other locations. Though more extensive research may locate additional documentation.

#### *Nidderdale Museum Archives*

The museum archives contained a total of 427 historic images attributed to Scar. From a brief examination of a sample of these a number related to other locations around Scar Reservoir such as Angram and Lodge. There also appeared to be a number of potential duplicate images as well. The images covered the whole of the span of the village and the creation of the dam. A number of images show the area just as work is commencing and there are images through up to almost the present day. An important task for future research would be catalogue the images more comprehensively to determine a chronological sequence along with location, direction of view and identification of the subject matter.

A limited amount of information on the village and reservoir was held in the museum archives and it mostly appears to be repeated in other sources – e.g. Bolt, 2007. The primary information about the site appears to be retained by Yorkshire Water. Since the original research at the museum further information has come to light at the museum but there has not been time to assess this and this could be seen as a priority for any future work.

#### *National Monuments Record*

This contains a basic level of information very similar to that held in the NYCC HER.

### **Acknowledgements**

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### *Picture and mapping credits*

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