Skiddaw Massif National Mapping Programme

Management Summary and Project Review

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- 1. NewHIS Event record ID: 1346599.
- 2. NewHIS parent Collection record ID: 1347771.
- 3. The total number of NewHIS records created or amended by the project was 214.
- 4. The percentage of those 214 records newly created in NewHIS is 76.6%; the percentage of amended records is 23.4%
- 5. Appendix I charts new and amended NewHIS records by period.
- 6. The total time taken to complete the mapping and recording phase of the project was 226.5 person-days. Of this 67.3% was spent on mapping and interpretation while 21.8% was spent adding and enhancing NewHIS records.
- 7. The total time for project completion was 257 days. This figure includes data checking, map printing and various project housekeeping tasks.
- 8. The initial proposal was for a four-map, four-person project to fill a projected void between the end of the Vale of York project and the start of Hadrian's Wall. Because of the postponement of the Hadrian's Wall project the Skiddaw proposal was reassessed and expanded to cover all of the Skiddaw Massif (10 maps). It was possible to do this because the photo cover search had been requested for all of the massif not just the four planned maps. The revised timetable starting in early August, allowed 18 weeks for completion, with a finish before Christmas 2001. In fact the first map was begun in June as a team member became available and three further team members started at the end of August/start of September.
- 9. The proposal document stated that "this project will be a valuable re-introduction to AS survey in upland areas prior to starting the Hadrian's Wall survey." Staff had a mixed response to the success of this objective. This is in part attributable to the apparent paucity of new prehistoric/early Medieval sites in the low fell/upper enclosure zone. Though this could relate to a failure to identify sites, it is more likely to be a true reflection of settlement patterns and/or past and present land use. Methodologically the project succeeded in that it refined and developed the working practices that will be applied to the Hadrian's Wall project.
- 10. Projected/required staffing levels could not be maintained due to extended periods of sick leave for two members of the Aerial Survey team in York. Regardless, the mapping and NewHIS recording were completed by 31 December 2001.
- 11. Concordance with SMR data was not achieved (see 13 below). This is a failed commitment of the project but the solution (supply of SMR data) was beyond the control of the project team.
- 12. Though the percentage increase of new records (80.7%) over the pre-project number of records held in the NMR for this area was substantial, the project is unlikely to have changed the perceived distribution of sites for Skiddaw (this assumption is made without knowledge of the SMR). The three scheduled late

prehistoric enclosures on Aughertree Fell can now be seen in the context of their associated field system. The recent interpretation by EH of the near by enclosure on Green How as Neolithic is strengthened by the mapping of the surounding archaeology. The extensive surface remains of mining are mapped consistently for the first time with many early features recorded from photographs that pre-date their destruction during the 1960s and 1970s re-working of some sites. Prehistoric lynchets, cairn fields and traces of settlement were mapped on the lower fells north of the Carrock Fell hillfort. A group of pillow mounds on the south-eastern slopes of the massif are the first recorded in this part of Cumbria.

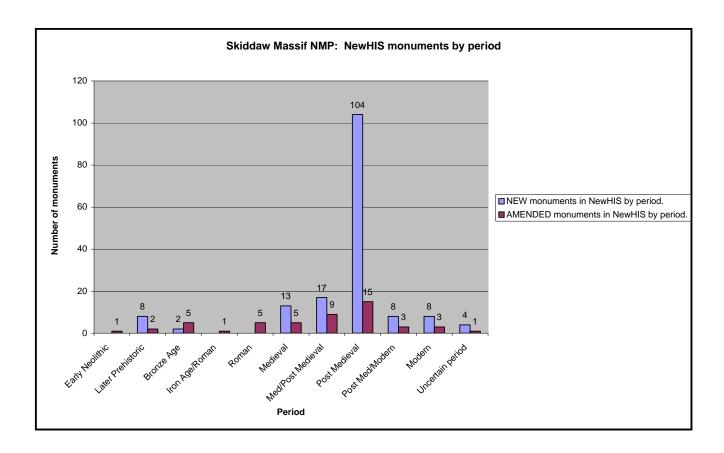
- 13. Data exchange with the SMRs (LDNP, Cumbria) did not take place before or during the project. Despite an initial undertaking by the LDNP archaeologist to provide this data and repeated subsequent requests for its supply, EH received nothing from this primary data source. No explanation has been forthcoming but it is thought that pressures of work were a factor. Plastic film copies of the maps have been promised to both the county SMR and the National Park authority and will be supplied via the NMRC. Both authorities have also been told that the mapping can be supplied in a digital format suitable for inclusion in their GIS packages. The digital drawings are cross-referenced to NewHIS via the AutoCAD MAP attached data table so the authorities should be able to effect concordance with the SMR data.
- 14. Warren Alison, a member of the Mines of Lakeland Exploration Society (MOLES) who has spent many years investigating the mining history of the Skiddaw massif, supplied data to the project team. This data was mainly in the form of comprehensively annotated, 1st edition OS maps and proved invaluable for the identification and mapping of mining remains.
- 15. Mapping was carried out in a wholly digital environment, a development of the Vale of York NMP Project methodology. Photographs were rectified using AERIAL 5.18 and archaeology was mapped from the rectified images in AutoCAD MAP®. Full use was made of OS digital height information (OS Land-Form PROFILETM) and 1:10,000 map tiles. The height data in particular was essential and saved an incalculable but no doubt considerable amount of time that would otherwise need to have been spent manually digitising terrain models.
- 16. Building on experience gained from the Vale of York NMP project some refinements and changes were made to the way in which data was organised and recorded. Several new layers were introduced to the AutoCAD drawings (see appendix II). The content of most layers is easily understood but two need some clarification. The EXTENT OF AREA layer was used to outline some of the industrial features. These included brickworks, various extractive pits and some quarries, ore works and peat cutting. Quarries were also commonly depicted on the CUTFEATURE layer as filled polygons. The STONEWORK layer was used to depict aerial ropeways (stanchion bases of), buildings (inc. functionally named), enclosures (stone banks or walls), lime kilns and the hillfort on Carrock Fell. Some team members felt that the re-introduction of a STRUCTURE layer for the depiction of buildings and other features (e.g. concrete standings, engineered roads, stanchion bases) should be considered, leaving the STRUCTURE to the generally older stone-dump constructions.

- 17. Data was successfully imported from NewHIS into AutoCAD. One of the new AutoCAD layers contains simplified polygonal representations of the interpretative groupings of features for export to HSIS. This should partially counter the inability of HSIS to accurately reflect the spatial relationships of monument groups via the NewHIS NGR table. The polygon layer has not yet been tested in HSIS.
- 18. The attached data table in AutoCAD in which the NewHIS UID is recorded for every drawn object was expanded to include PERIOD, TYPE and basic photo referencing. This was a recommendation from the Vale of York management report. This inevitably added to the time required to make entries to the data table.
- 19. Experience from the Vale of York project showed that it can be difficult to identify and acquire images for presentations and publications after the photo loan has been returned to the NMRC. For this reason photo references and the compilation of a set of illustrative images were noted as essential from the outset.
- 20. Field visits to allow staff to familiarise themselves with the project area and do basic ground proofing of specific sites were not possible due to the foot and mouth restrictions (Skiddaw was one of the hardest hit areas). A post-project field visit is planned for late February. Some NewHIS records may be updated as a result of ground observation.
- 21. Liaison was largely internal with MPP, NW Region and Field teams all consulted/informed about the project. External liaison was with the LDNP archaeologist, Cumbria SMR officer and MOLES. The first and only liaison meeting held at the LDNP offices in Kendal on 5 June 2001 was attended by Margaret Nieke and the local MPP field worker, John Hodgson for the LDNP, Warren Alison (MOLES) and three Aerial Survey team members. Others invited but not in attendance included the Cumbria SMR officer, the EH inspector and the FMW for the area. All these parties have been invited to participate in all or part of, the February field visit in lieu of a formal post-project liaison meeting.

22. Products and archive deposition

Product	NMR	AS York	AS Swindon
	Archive		
Digital AutoCAD drawings		\checkmark	\checkmark
Hardcopy of AutoCAD maps on film overlay		√	
Project Specification		√	
NMR photograph coversearch and loan lists		√	
CUCAP photograph loan lists		√	
Liaison documentation		√	
MAPS database (digital)		√	√
Annotated paper OS 1st ed.maps (MOLES)		√	

Appendix I



Appendix II

AutoCAD MAP®

The following are the core layers for Skiddaw in AutoCAD MAP®. Any other layers will be deleted at the end of the project.

Core Layer	Use
BANK	For banked linear or closed polygon features.
	Closed polygon features to be solid-hatched.
CUTFEATURE1	For cut linear or closed polygon features. Closed polygon features to be solid-hatched.
CUTFEATURE2	For cut area features which cannot be closed, eg: some quarries.
EXTENTOF	For outlining areas of features not to be drawn in detail including airfields.
	Also to be used for extent of higher level field surveys (attach term 'Field Survey' via 'Type' field in Attach Data Table).
METALWORK	For linear or closed polygon metal features. Closed polygon features to be solid-hatched.
PITALIGN	Schematic convention for pit alignments.
POLYGON	To roughly define the area of a monument for transfer to HSIS. Use either circles for single or small monuments, or rectangles or polygons for larger monuments. The NewHis HOBUID should be attached to these shapes via the standard 'Attach Data' route.
R+F	Conventions and use as before.
STONEWORK	For linear or closed polygon stone/concrete features. Closed polygon features to be solid-hatched.
TIMBER	For linear or closed polygon timber features. Closed polygon features to be solid-hatched.

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