

NOTES

1. *Recent finds of Roman coins in Cumbria*
BY DAVID SHOTTER

A: Hoards

1. Old Penrith: A small collection of nine *denarii* has been reported; it was evidently found in the vicinity of the Roman road to Carlisle, and may be a complete small hoard, or a part-hoard. There was no sign of a container and, when found, the coins were scattered over a small area. The collection ranges in date from an issue of the deified Faustina I (A.D. 141+) to one of Julia Sohaemias, the mother of the fanatical emperor, Elagabalus (A.D. 218-222):

Faustina I	1	<i>RIC</i> (Antoninus), 356ff
Commodus	1	<i>RIC</i> 54ff
Crispina	1	<i>RIC</i> (Commodus), 283
Septimius Severus	2	<i>RIC</i> (266, 458)
Julia Domna (under Severus)	2	<i>RIC</i> (Septimius), 539a; the second coin was illegible
Plautilla	1	<i>RIC</i> (Caracalla), 363a
Julia Sohaemias	1	<i>RIC</i> (Elagabalus), 241

There are few Severan hoards from north-west England; of the more than two hundred coin-hoards reported from the north-west counties (Shotter, 2000, 183) only six terminate with a coin issued by a member of the Severan dynasty (A.D. 193-235).

2. Whitehaven: Thirty-three Roman coins have recently been presented for examination to the Senhouse Roman Museum at Maryport. The collection appears, in fact, to consist of two hoards (17 Radiate copies of the third century; 12 fourth-century issues), which were recovered, probably from the site of the former Whitehaven Castle, when the hospital was built there in the 1920s. A full discussion of the coins and the circumstances of their discovery is provided elsewhere in this volume by Ian Caruana and the present writer.

B: Casual Finds

1. Arnside: Four Roman coins have been reported as having been found in 2004 in the vicinity of Arnside Knott; they are as follows:
 - a) AR *antoninianus* of Herennius Etruscus (Rev. CONCORDIA AVGG: *RIC* 138 of A.D. 250-251).
 - b) AE Helena Augusta, minted at Siscia (Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE: *LRBC* I. 735 of A.D. 324-330).

- c) AE Decentius, minted at Lyon (Rev. VICTORIAE D D N N AVG ET CAE: *LRBC* II.224 of A.D. 351-353).
- d) AE Arcadius, minted at Nicomedia (Rev. SALVS REIPVBLICAE: *LRBC* II.2408 of A.D. 383-392). The finding of such a late coin in this location may be thought to point to the importance attached to the continuing surveillance of the north-west coast in the later years of Roman occupation (Shotter, 2004, 195ff).
2. Barrow-in-Furness: A *denarius* of Julia Domna, the wife of Septimius Severus (*RIC* (Septimius), 587 of A.D. 196-211), was found on Walney Island in 2002.
3. Beaumont: Two *denarii* have been reported as found in recent years; they are issues of Marcus Antonius (32-1 B.C.; *Crawford* 544) and Trajan (A.D. 103-111). The extreme wear exhibited by the coin of Antonius suggests that its loss should be placed no earlier than the late-second or even the early-third century. Because of the persistent view in antiquity that these coins were of base metal, they escaped attempts made over the years to recall “old silver”. This longevity in circulation is a sharp reminder that the “power of spin” is not a new phenomenon: it was probably Octavian (the future emperor, Augustus) who had originated such false rumours to discredit his opponent in the civil war.
4. Beckfoot: A very worn *dupondius* of Hadrian (probably *RIC* 598 of A.D. 119-121) was found on the beach in 2001. In 2003, a very worn *as* of Vespasian (“Eagle-on-Globe” type: *RIC* 497/528 of A.D. 71-72) was also reported as found on the beach.
5. Carlisle (Durranhill): A copy of poor quality of an *as* of Claudius I was reported as having been found in woodland in 2003; its prototype is the LIBERTAS AVGVSTA SC issue (*RIC* I². 97). A possible significance of finds in north-west England of copies of Claudian *aes*-issues is discussed in Shotter 1994 and 2001. For a discussion of such copies, see Sutherland, 1937, 10ff.
6. Clifton (Westmorland): *Denarii* of Trajan (A.D. 103-117) and Geta (two coins; A.D. 198-212) were reported in 2003. The coins of Geta, the younger son of Septimius Severus, were both broken in half, suggesting perhaps an attempt by supporters of his brother, Caracalla, to demonetise them following Geta’s murder by Caracalla in A.D. 212.
7. Crosby-on-Eden: Two coins have been reported as having been found in a private garden “close to the Church”. One is a silvered “reformed” *antoninianus* of Probus; the coin, which was minted in Ticinum, was a moderately worn example of the PROVIDENT AVG issue (*RIC* 553 of A.D. 276-282). Coins of “legitimate” emperors between A.D. 270 and 310 are relatively uncommon finds in Britain, suggesting that the bulk of the coinage in circulation was probably made up of older issues and copies of the “rebel-coinage” of the *Imperium Galliarum* (A.D. 259-273) and of the British usurpers, Carausius and Allectus (A.D. 287-296). Even beyond that, the false claim of Constantius I that his family was descended from Claudius II (A.D. 268-270) led to the persistence in circulation of the latter’s coins and copies of them. The other coin was a very worn example of the FEL TEMP REPARATIO

(Galley-type) issue of Constans; it was probably minted in Trier (*LRBC* II.43 of A.D. 346-350).

8. Houghton: In 2004, a damaged copper coin was recovered from this location to the north of Carlisle and a little to the east of the road from Netherby; it appeared to be a debased *antoninianus* of Gordian III (A.D. 238-244).

9. Kirkby Lonsdale: A *denarius* of Trajan (*RIC* 219 of A.D. 103-111) was found in 2002 near Whoop Hall.

10. Kirkby Thore: Twenty-two coins have been recorded as found in recent years in various locations in and around the village; there is no suggestion that any of these formed part of a hoard. One of the coins is now in the collection of Penrith Museum – a *sestertius* of Marcus Aurelius (*RIC* 910 of A.D. 164-5); in addition, a *denarius* of Trajan (*RIC* 129), which was found in 1994 (Shotter, 1995, 35; 2000, 35) has now been donated to Penrith Museum. The remaining finds are:

Republic	2	(AR, including <i>Crawford</i> 494, 2c)
Vespasian	2	(AR, including <i>RIC</i> 29)
Trajan	2	(AR)
Hadrian	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 137)
Lucius Aelius Caesar	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> (Hadrian), 436)
Antoninus Pius	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 286?)
Diva Faustina (I)	2	(AR, <i>RIC</i> (Antoninus), 356ff; 382ff)
Commodus	1	(AR)
Septimius Severus	2	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 53, 141A)
Julia Domna	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> (Severus), 559)
Caracalla	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 80ff)
Elagabalus	2	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 32, 56)
Severus Alexander	2	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 155, 187)
Constantine I	1	(AE, <i>LRBC</i> I. 352)

The large number of *denarii* dating from the Trajanic to the Severan period is suggestive of some kind of special status for Kirkby Thore in the later-second and early-third centuries.

11. Maryport: In 2003, a very worn *as* of Vespasian was recovered from a *vicus*-location, evidently close to the find-spot of the “Serpent-stone” (Coulston, 1997, 121-3). The coin has been donated to the Senhouse Roman Museum (Acc. No. 2003-24).

12. Natland: A very worn *denarius*, probably of the reign of Severus Alexander, was found in 2001; no further details are available.

13. Netherby: In 2004, a *sestertius*, probably of Hadrian, was found; the surface of the coin was in a poor state, making identification difficult. It is possible that it was the COS III SC type depicting on the reverse the seated figure of *Roma* (*RIC* 636 of A.D. 125-8).

14. Old Penrith: In addition to the possible hoard, cited above in Section A of this Note, eleven other coins have been recovered in recent years from a variety of locations in the area:

Domitian	1	(AR)
Antoninus Pius	1	(AR)
Commodus (as Caesar)	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> (Marcus), 661ff)
Commodus	1	(AE, <i>sestertius</i>)
Septimius Severus	1	(AR)
Elagabalus	1	(AR, <i>RIC</i> 28)
Tetricus I	2	(AE, including <i>RIC</i> 76)
Diocletian	1	(AE, <i>RIC</i> VI (Trier), 515)
Constantine I	2	(AE, including <i>RIC</i> VII (Lyon), 15)

15. Papcastle: Two coins, which were found in the village in 2004, have been presented for examination; both were *denarii* – one of Trajan (*RIC* 165ff of A.D. 103-111); the other, which was in a fragmentary state, was the CONSECRATIO-issue of A.D. 161 for Antoninus Pius (*RIC* (Marcus), 436). In addition, a radiate of Gallienus (*RIC* 465a of A.D. 259-268) has recently been reported, although the coin itself was found some years ago. Its condition suggests that it was found at Papcastle, although some doubt persists as to whether it may, in fact, have come from Old Carlisle. The coin was minted at Mediolanum (Milan), and has a variant obverse noted at that mint – GALLIENVS P AVG.

16. Ravenglass: An *as*, which was found recently at Ravenglass, has been presented to the Senhouse Roman Museum at Maryport (EF 96); the coin, which appears to have been found close to the area excavated in the 1970s by Lancaster University (Potter, 1979, 1ff), is in a poor state of preservation and has been pierced for suspension. It is evidently an issue of Nero's reign.

17. Stanwix: A moderately worn *denarius* of Julia Mamaea, the mother of Severus Alexander (A.D. 222-235), which was found in 2004 in Rickerby Park, has been presented for examination. Although the reverse is hardly legible, the coin may depict Juno (*RIC* 340).

18. Ulverston: *Denarii* of Augustus (*RIC* I². 207 of 2 B.C.) and Hadrian (*RIC* 137 of A.D. 119-122), together with an *aes*-issue of Magnentius (as *LRBC* II. 53 of A.D. 350-1) were found in 2002.

19. Watercrock: Two coins from this site have recently been presented to Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery (Acc. Nos. 2002. 1782.1 and .2); they are a *dupondius* of Domitian (*RIC* 326a of A.D. 86) and a *sestertius* of Hadrian (possibly *RIC* 861 of A.D. 134-8). The coins were evidently found many years ago by the late Mr R. G. Plint, a former Hon. Treasurer of The Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society; he passed them to the late John Gillam of the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The coins have recently been located amongst John Gillam's effects and presented to Tullie House.

Acknowledgements

I am happy to acknowledge the help of “my informants” in the preparation of this note – Ian Caruana, Paul Flynn, Nick Herepath, Terry Keefe, Tim Padley, Malcolm Ridley and Faye Simpson.

Abbreviations

Crawford: Crawford, M. H., *Roman Republican Coinage* (Cambridge, 1974).

LRBC: Hill, P. V., Carson, R. A. G. and Kent, J. P. C., *Late Roman Bronze Coinage* (London, 1960).

RIC: Mattingly, H. *et al.*, *The Roman Imperial Coinage* (London, 1923-81).

References

Coulston, 1997: Coulston, J. C. N., “The Stone Sculptures”, pp. 112-131 in Wilson, R. J. A., (ed.), *Roman Maryport and Its Setting* (Kendal).

Potter, 1979: Potter, T. W., *Romans in North-West England* (Kendal).

Shotter, 1994: Shotter, D. C. A., “Rome and the Brigantes: Early Hostilities”, *CW2*, xciv, 21-34.

Shotter, 1995: Shotter, D. C. A., *Roman Coins from North-West England: First Supplement* (Lancaster).

Shotter, 2000: Shotter, D. C. A., *Roman Coins from North-West England: Second Supplement* (Lancaster).

Shotter, 2001: Shotter, D. C. A., “Petillius Cerialis in Carlisle: A numismatic contribution”, *CW3*, i, 21-29.

Shotter, 2004: Shotter, D. C. A., *Romans and Britons in North-West England* (3rd edition) (Lancaster).

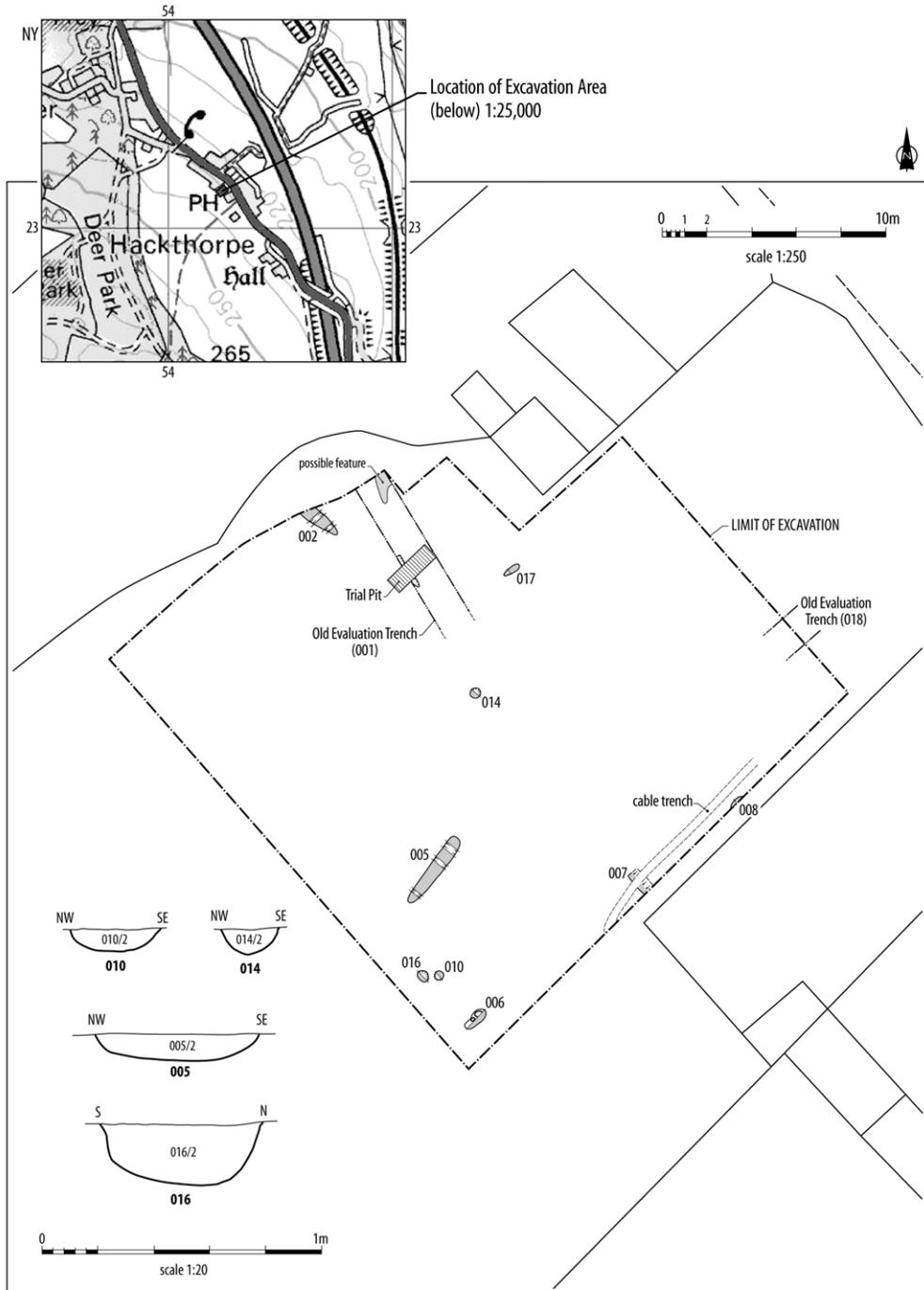
Sutherland, 1937: Sutherland, C. H. V., *Coinage and Currency in Roman Britain* (Oxford).

2. *Medieval finds at Hackthorpe, Penrith*

BY MELANIE JOHNSON

An archaeological excavation was undertaken in October 2003 by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) at Hackthorpe, Penrith, Cumbria (NY 542 231) in advance of a proposed housing development. The work was commissioned by Story Homes.

The development area lies to the west and north-west of Lowther Castle Hotel in the heart of Hackthorpe, a village with medieval origins. A desk-based assessment and trial trenching evaluation were undertaken by Oxford Archaeology (North) in 2001.¹ Two evaluation trenches revealed features of archaeological interest: a possible structural beam slot or boundary ditch; a pit containing charred plant remains and pottery dateable to the 12th to 14th centuries; and another pit containing industrial residues which was considered likely to be of medieval date, although no dating evidence was recovered. As a consequence of the evaluation results, further excavation work was requested by Cumbria County Council



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FIG. 1.

Archaeology Service. An area measuring 28 m by 24 m was stripped of topsoil by machine and hand-cleaned to identify features.

A small number of features were discovered during the excavation. A shallow linear ditched feature may be the remains of a former field boundary ditch or a beam slot. Three small pits were morphologically distinct, did not appear to form any pattern and did not contain any datable material apart from one piece of bottle glass from the fill of one.

A small number of finds were recovered during the excavation, consisting of shards of late 19th/early 20th century bottle glass, a cattle tooth, and pottery datable to the 12th-14th centuries together with more recent ceramics. During the evaluation pottery dateable to the 12th to 14th centuries was also recovered. None of the finds recovered during the excavation were from securely stratified contexts.

The date of the features recorded during the evaluation and excavation is, with one exception, unknown, but it is likely that none of the features is earlier than the 12th-14th centuries. It is impossible, on morphological or spatial patterning grounds, to group the features and hence it would be unwise to assume that they are contemporary or that they all are indicative of medieval settlement remains.

Notes and References

- ¹. Heawood, R. 2001 Land at Hackthorpe, Penrith, Cumbria. Draft Evaluation Report. Issue no. 2000-2001/116, Oxford Archaeology (North).

3. *A group of 17th century Tyneside clay pipes from Cumdivock*
BY IAN CARUANA

During the course of preparing a report on the finds, mainly of early to mid-seventeenth century date, recovered at Rose Castle during a small excavation in 1994 it became apparent that clay pipes were reaching the region in reasonable quantities before the indigenous industries had begun to be established in the late 17th century.¹ None of the material from Rose Castle was stamped but from a comparison of the bowl forms it appeared unlikely to be from a Bristol or London source, and a Tyneside origin was suspected. A cursory examination of the literature on local sites of comparable date and an examination of the Tullie House collections revealed no other Tyneside pipes found in Cumbria. In the absence of detailed examination of the clay the argument could not be taken forward.

In 1998 the author was asked to examine some finds picked up during field-walking at Cumdivock (Dalston parish, NY 337488) by a group led by Jan Walker. The main interest in the collection was a group of clay pipe fragments, of mainly 17th century date. Among them were two makers' stamps on stem fragments, both of which are identifiable as well-known Tyneside makers.

The Stamps

1. Edwards Craggs (Fig. 1.1)
Edward Craggs worked in Gateshead from c.1678 until his death in 1717. His work

appears mainly on Type 8 bowls but given the start date of his career one could reasonably expect some earlier bowl types. This example appears to be of his die no.3.² The layout and letter forms are similar although the border appears more rounded, but this may be distortion from when they were placed on the stem.

2. Leonard Holmes (Fig. 1.2)

Leonard Holmes was another Gateshead maker active from c.1671 to 1707. The stamp is similar in style to his die no.1 but from a different die. Holmes' stamps appear on Type 6 bowls.³

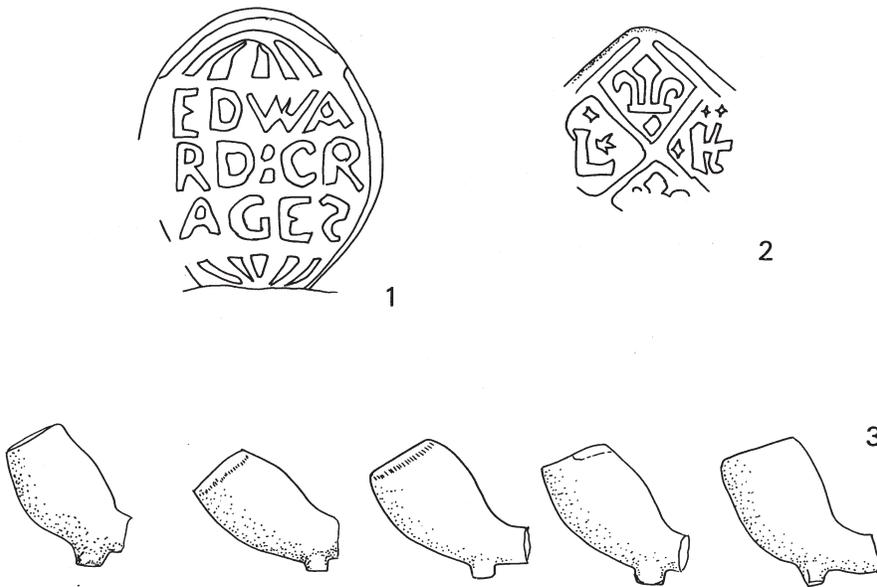


FIG. 1. 17th century Tyneside clay pipe bowls (1:2) and die stamps (2:1).

The Bowls

The stamps did not occur in isolation and five of the most complete bowls found during field-walking are also illustrated (Fig. 1.3). They conform to Edwards' Tyneside Type 6, datable c.1650-80.⁴ The first bowl on the figure still has a slightly chinned appearance of Type 5 which is marginally earlier.

References

- ¹. Weatherill, L. and Edwards, R., "Pottery Making in London and Whitehaven in the late 17th Century", *Post-Medieval Archaeology* 5 (1971), 160-81.
- ². Edwards, L., *The Archaeology of the Clay Tobacco Pipe. XI. Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Tyneside Pipe Makers and Tobacconists* B.A.R. 192 (1988), 36-7.
- ³. *Ibid.*, 43-4.
- ⁴. *Ibid.*, 8-9 and Table 3.

4. *Stephen Farish, a Whitehaven Mariner*
BY DANIEL DARWISH

O Most Holy Blessed and Glorious Trinity. three Persones and One God: have Mercy upon me a Miserable Sinner. And pour upon me thy holy Spirit of Wisdom, Grace and Understanding. And if it be thy Blessed Will to Protect and Govern me from this Day forth, for ever More. And Help me in this Work that I am going to begin with. Which is part Arithmetick, and Part Navigation & c. and send me Help in everything that is good wherein I am at a Loss. Through Jesus Christ my Blessed Lord and Saviour

Amen

Amen

Amen

Wrote by Stephen Farish when aged 20 years and a 11 months and 5 days, November the 21st 1748

So begins, the only surviving journal of Stephen Farish, who was baptised in St Nicholas's Church, Whitehaven on 27 December 1727, the son of Mary Farish.¹

Apart from the above inscription, the first 168 pages of his journal, or ship's log, are taken up with conversion tables for weights and measures and problems of arithmetic and geometry. Unfortunately there are few clues as to Farish's early life and training, although the journal recounts three separate voyages, in reverse order beginning with the last.

His first recorded voyage began on 16 May 1752 from Whitehaven in the *Carlisle*, with a Captain John Towers, bound for Cape Henry, Virginia, via Waterford in Ireland. The ship reached its final destination in Hampton on 9 August, and returned in December, in a little under one month, with a cargo of tobacco and staves, for making casks. Whilst the journal is substantially taken up with observations of the weather, difficulties in navigation are also touched on, such as his entry for 23 May:

A little after 8 last Night we spook² a Snow³ from New York Bound to London. He toold us that he observed in the Lattd of 50°: 30', that day and yett he was steering NNE for London. We told him his Misstake but he would not believe us but strove to persuade us that we were in the King's Chanel. But he has found the Misstake and has keep'd Company with us ever since . . . A little before they Bore away they sent, or veered on Board of us a 5 gallon Kegg of Rum and a Quart bottle with a letter in it, for the kindness we had done unto them.

The journal makes it clear that Farish was the ship's navigator, and he appeared in a similar role on the second, and earlier voyage, on board the *Britannia* under the command of Captain Robert Bowman. On this occasion their destination was the Baltic, and Boldera, which was the anchorage for Riga. The voyage had started on 10 May 1751, from Whitehaven.

There are passing references to matters of topographical interest in this account, such as a description of the three Spires on Goree Island, on the approach to Rotterdam, where the second spire is described as being "like the tobacco pipe of Whitehaven".⁴ The journal's entries for some 55 days of this voyage are inexplicably missing, and it is inferred that the ship reached Boldera in early August. Further, supplementary notes indicate that the Captain died off Riga, and a James Bowman subsequently took over command.

On the return leg of the voyage the ship called in at what Farish refers to as "Reperwick", which has been identified as, "Ribevik", or Ribe in Denmark. Although there are no references as to their cargo, gin had certainly been purchased in Rotterdam on the outward journey, amounting to five hogsheads. A hogshead

contained 52¹/₂ imperial gallons, and from the division of part of this amongst the crew, the suggestion is that there were at least eleven crewmembers. The ship returned to port safely on 4 October, after nearly five months.

Farish's third and earliest account in the journal, details the latter stages of a voyage from either the Baltic or Denmark, and covers a brief period between 13 August to 10 September 1750, ending with the ship's return to Whitehaven. The earlier part of this voyage is referred to as being "in another book", and so neither the name of the ship nor its captain are recorded.

As to Farish's life, when not at sea, the evidence indicates that his mother's family originally moved from Abbeytown to Whitehaven in the early 1690s and that Farish's grandfather Richard, had been by occupation a smith.⁵ The parish register for St. Nicholas, the family's church, reveals that Farish was born illegitimate, and no records have been traced to indicate that his mother, Mary, ever subsequently married.

On 9 June 1757 Farish married Elizabeth Batemen at the Holy Trinity Church in Whitehaven in the presence of witnesses Henry Bragg, and Mary Bateman, and together Stephen and Elizabeth went on to have seven children, all of whom were baptised at that church.⁶ At least one of their three sons, Joseph, continued the maritime tradition, and on 23 May 1787 their second daughter, Mary, married a Captain Isaac Robinson, sometime Master of the *Commerce*, at Trinity Church, Whitehaven.⁷

In 1768 Farish commissioned a portrait of himself (Plate 1). This reveals a man dressed in a brown coat with dark hair, a ruddy complexion and a slight paunch. The painting is signed, and appears to read "Theo Capriore 1768".⁸

On 19 April 1771 Farish completed his Will in the presence of three witnesses, one of whom was Henry Bragg. The Will consisted of a single page, and provided for the entirety of his estate amounting to a "real value" of £300 to pass to his "dear loving wife".⁹

Farish's seafaring was still continuing in 1775, when the owners of the Brig *Assistance*, a 180 tonne vessel which had been built in Whitehaven some ten years earlier, presented him with an engraved silver tankard on 7 June, in gratitude for some service.¹⁰ Certainly by 1776, Farish had become captain of the *Assistance*. The registration of the vessel's ownership as "Captain & Co.", and briefly in 1781-82 as "Fairish & Co" indicates that Farish was the majority, though not sole, shareholder of the ship. The Lloyd's Register makes it apparent that in 1776 the *Assistance* was bound to travel from Whitehaven to Norway and, in 1778 and 1779 to Ireland. It is also evident that in 1782 Farish captained the renamed *Assistance*, now the *Laurel*, which when surveyed in June of that year was destined to sail from Gibraltar to Whitehaven.¹¹

On 29 March 1785 the *Cumberland Pacquet* recorded Farish's death with the simple announcement "Yeasterday, in Lowther Street Capt. Stephen Farish, very worthily regretted". The funeral took place at the Holy Trinity Church two days later, but curiously, his Will was not proven until 29 April 1792.

Some nine months after Farish's death, his son Joseph married a Miss Jones of Ware. The *Cumberland Pacquet* for 14 December 1785 carried the news, and referred to him as "Captain of the *Assistance*". Evidently seven years later, Joseph was still at the head of his father's old ship, and the *Cumberland Pacquet* now recorded the



PLATE 1. Portrait of Stephen Farish 1768. (Photograph courtesy of Rupert Bowen).

following amongst its death notices: “The 2nd of July [1792], at sea, within a few days sail of Alexandria, Virginia, Capt Josph Farish, of the *Assistance*, of and from this port. His remains were interred in Alexandria, on the vessel’s arrival there”.¹²

Elizabeth Farish outlived her husband by 32 years and died at the age of 90 in 1817, in Ponsonby. The Will provided for her estate to be divided between her three surviving daughters, Eleanor, Mary and Jane, with the remainder in trust for two grandchildren.¹³

Finally, the provenance of the journal can be traced back to Farish through his female descendants, before passing to Captain Gerald Bowen RN, the writer’s grandfather, who transcribed the journal. Copies have recently been deposited at the Cumbria Record Office in Whitehaven.¹⁴

Notes and References

- ¹ All references to births, deaths, and marriages in this note have been helpfully identified by Mr Andrew Plunkett of the Whitehaven Record Office.
- ² The term “Spook” means “happened upon” or “startled”.
- ³ A “Snow” was a type of vessel resembling a brig, but with a supplementary trysail mast close behind the mainsail.
- ⁴ The “Tobacco pipes” were situated between Whitehaven and Parton on Bransty, and were specially built for the disposal of tobacco which had been damaged in transit or seized by customs officials. Up to the 1760’s Whitehaven had been a leading tobacco port. The “Tobacco pipes” were eventually demolished in 1923. See Brian Scott-Hindson, *Whitehaven Harbour* (1994), 166.
- ⁵ Richard Farish, son of Robert, was baptised on 12 June 1666 in Abbeystown. On 3 July 1690 Richard married Jane Stamper in Holme Cultram, and together they had five children, of whom Mary the second child and Farish’s mother, was christened on 2 May 1695 at St Nicholas’s in Whitehaven. On 2 December 1702 Richard married for a second time to Jane Dixon at St Nicholas’s, and together they had four children. Richard died on 11 February 1713, leaving a net estate of £19 12s. 6d.
- ⁶ The children included John baptised 9 April 1758; Stephen 14 October 1759; Joseph 21 November 1761; Eleanor 6 July 1763; Mary 21 April 1765; and twins Elizabeth and Jane 19 October 1770.
- ⁷ On 23 May 1787 the *Cumberland Pacquet* carried this announcement in the following terms: “On Saturday at Trinity Church, Mr Isaac Robinson, Master of the *Commerce*, to Miss Mary Farish, second daughter of the late Mr Stephen Farish, of this town”.
- ⁸ The portrait is privately owned. It remains a matter of speculation as to whether the painting could read “The *Capricorn* 1768”.
- ⁹ Copy Will at the Whitehaven Record Office, MFCOP/83.
- ¹⁰ The tankard is inscribed “the Gift of the Owners of the Brig Assistance to Stephen Farish June 7th 1775”. The assay mark indicates manufacture in London in 1760. In or about 1783 Farish received another item of silverware, a teapot, also made in London, simply inscribed on the rim of its base “A Gift to Stephen Farish”.
- ¹¹ Details concerning the *Assistance* have been gratefully received from the Information Officer at the Lloyd’s Register.
- ¹² Enquiries at the Lloyd’s Register have established that between 1785-1792 (but not 1791) Joseph Farish was the Captain of the *Assistance*, and that the ship’s destination in each case was Virginia.
- ¹³ Copy Will at the Whitehaven Record Office, MFCOP/93.
- ¹⁴ Accession number: H6151, Reference YDX440/1 and YDX 440/2

5. *Sizergh Church*

BY DICK WHITE AND ANDREW PIKE

“Sizergh Church Westmoreland” is the title of a print which was found in the illustrations collection at Kendal Public Library (Plate 1). The print appears to be of some age and is mounted on card. There was no information as to its source, although there is a reference to it in Henry Hodgson’s *Bibliography of the History and Topography of Cumberland and Westmorland*,¹ and it had appeared in the *Gentleman’s Magazine*.² The illustration was accompanied by a letter giving details, and signed by a P. Woodward.

Mr Urbanus

March 28

I beg leave to inform you with a drawing of Sizergh Church, Westmoreland from the pen of a friend (fig. 2)

This antique fabrick is built of freestone, with the exception of a wing in which is a porch in imitation of the Saxon, which was added by, the good Bp. Wilson,³ whilst chaplain to William Earl of Derby, in 1692. By-the-by, the worthy and pious man did not shew himself an adept in

architecture, because the remainder of the church is built in the rude Gothic style which prevailed in the reign of Richard III, at which time the church at Sizergh was built, at least such is my opinion, but I speak it under correction.

The Youghall family (of which was Sir John Youghall who was shot by an arrow at the siege of Joppa (*Histoire de la Croix par Froisart*, at Paris, 1643) caused in memory of that event the family arms to be affixed above the South portice, of which I have sent a copy. Those of the family Martlemere (a lion couchant, Gules, with three arrows argent), are also affixed to the North entrance. As there is no irregularity about the latter, except their being superbly ornamented and painted on oak, I have not sent them.

Yours &c

P. WOODWARD

Some additional information appeared in a later edition of the *Gentleman's Magazine*,⁴ from another correspondent identified only as "B", this stated that the motto associated with the insert Fig. 3 on the print was "Cruce Vindice" and showed the arms of Youghall.

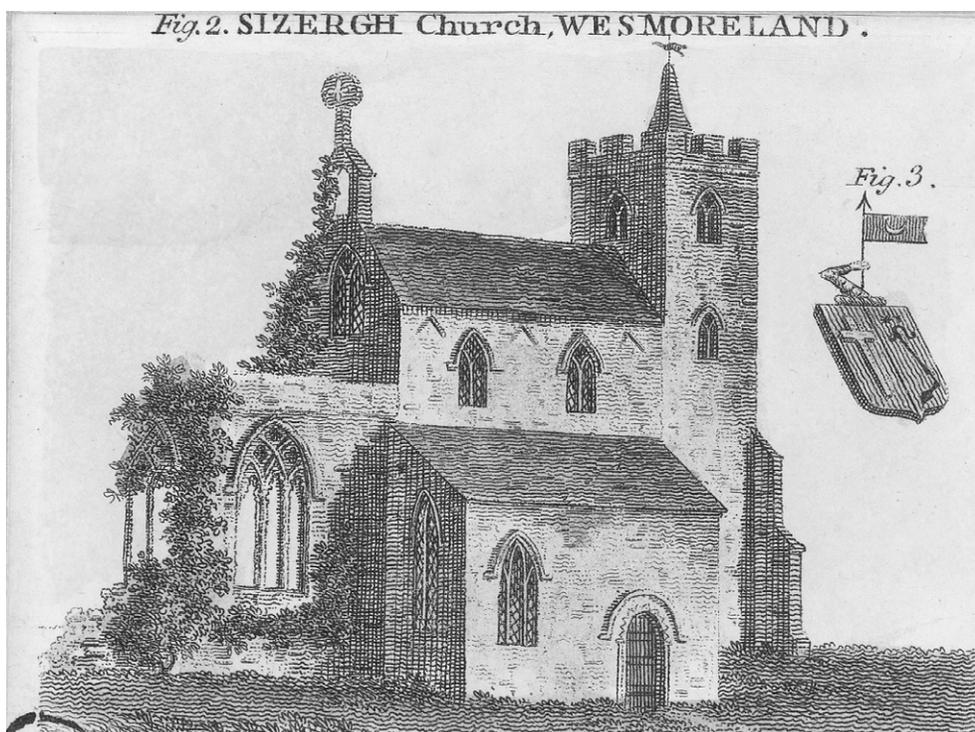


PLATE. 1. Print of Sizergh Church.

No such church exists today. There are reasons to suspect that one may have done so in the past. The ordnance survey map of the Sizergh area shows a wood lying to the south of Sizergh Castle called Chapel Wood. Machell, in his journeys through Cumbria describes the boundaries of the adjacent Crosscrake chapelry as “. . . bounded on the East with Preston chapelry, South with the parochial church (Heversham), on the North with Natland chapelry, on West-side with Sizergh Chapelry . . .”⁵

Today Sizergh lies in the parish of Helsington, but the parish church lies a mile or two north-west of Sizergh, and the church, built *de novo* in 1726,⁶ bears no resemblance to the above print.

The print and accompanying text were circulated to a number of individuals and organisations, including the Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record Officer, museum curators and Carlisle Diocese. None could confirm the existence of a church at Sizergh. No records appear to exist which might have identified a church of that name. There were suggestions that the print was a misidentification and, while the church may have existed, it was located elsewhere. Another suggestion was that it was a leg-pull.

At a later date contact was made with Mr Andrew Pike, Field Officer of the Churches Conservation Trust. His assessment of the print, made after research in the library of the Society of Antiquaries of London and discussion with a number of Fellows, is that the whole article is a spoof. He gave his reasoning as follows:

1. Architectural: the more one looks at the engraving of the church, the more odd the building appears. The nave does seem extraordinarily high compared with the rest of the building. Also the curious slightly off-centre window on the east gable below the bell-cote (presumably for a sanctus bell) is very unusual. We did wonder if the picture had been based on one of those 17th and 18th century pictures which depict romantic ruins. Many of the great 18th century landscape gardens contain sham ruins designed to be “eyecatchers” to provide a romantic image. But it does seem extraordinary that no record of a church at Sizergh appears to exist – even though it was apparently still standing as recently as 1803.
2. Heraldic: The names *Youghall* and *Marlemere* are not recorded in at least two indices of families entitled to arms. These indices are by no means exhaustive but it is curious that neither family is listed. Froissart (as is presumably meant) compiled his famous *Chronicles* but a *Histoire de la Croix* is unknown.
3. The reference to Thomas Wilson is interesting. The entry in the *Dictionary of National Biography* states that he was appointed by the Earl of Derby as his chaplain. In due course, the Stanleys (Earls of Derby), who had interests in the Isle of Man, persuaded the powers-to-be to appoint Wilson as Bishop of Sodor and Man. Initially Wilson seems to have spurned all offers of ecclesiastic preferment. However no connection can be found between the Stanleys and the Stricklands at Sizergh.
4. The *Gentleman's Magazine* was not averse to publishing occasional spoofs – both knowingly and unknowingly. There are a few documented cases of articles on archaeological discoveries being described and which have been shown to be utterly false.

It therefore appears that the print of Sizergh Church and its accompanying description represent an elaborate April Fools joke. The custom came to Britain from the continent in the 17th century, and was popular among adults. As the 19th century progressed it changed to mainly a children's game. The simplest explanation must be that Mr Woodward (if that was his real name) was carrying out a harmless prank. Or could there have been a more sinister motive? The Stricklands of Sizergh were a staunchly catholic family. In 1780 an attempt was made to burn Sizergh down apparently stimulated by the Gordon Riots in London.⁷ Was this spoof a thinly disguised dig at the family's religion?

Notes and References

1. Henry W. Hodgson, *A bibliography of the history and topography of Cumberland and Westmorland* (Joint Archives Committee for Cumberland, Westmorland and Carlisle, 1968), 265.
2. *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. LXXII (April 1803), 305.
3. Thomas Wilson (1663-1755), nominated as Bishop of Sodor and Man 1697 and was consecrated on 16 January 1698 *Handbook of British Chronology* (Royal Historical Society, 1986), 274.
4. *Ibid.* (May 1803), 413.
5. Jane M. Ewbank, *Antiquary on Horseback* (CWAAS Extra Series Vol. XIX), 14.
6. See Revd J. Whiteside, "Notes on the Chapelry of Helsington", *CW2*, viii, 113-116.
7. Letter from Jarrard Strickland to his brother in law, Charles Townley, 15 July 1780. Lancashire Record Office DDT0 Box J.

6. *Excavation of a working class court at 5-13 Netherby Street, Longtown* BY PAUL MASSER

An archaeological evaluation and further partial excavation was undertaken by Headland Archaeology at 5-13 Netherby Street, in advance of redevelopment for housing by Dennis Waggott Ltd, following the recommendations of the Cumbria County Council Archaeological Service (Dalland and Dawson, 2003, Masser, 2003).

Longtown is a notable Cumbrian example of an eighteenth century planned town. Although the settlement has medieval origins, the existing layout consisting of four streets (Bank Street, Esk Street, Swan Street and Netherby Street), branching off Bridge Street (Figs. 1 and 2), was the design of Dr Robert Graham who inherited the Netherby Estates in 1757 and set about comprehensive improvements, rebuilding most of the town in the process (Routledge, 2000, 4). Longtown was developed as the market town for the estate (Jollie, 1811; Whellan, 1860), although the Carlisle textile industry was an important employer in the late eighteenth century heyday of the hand-loom and the putting-out system (Barnes, 1978; Mannix and Whelan, 1847).

Late nineteenth and twentieth century maps, and an early photograph (Routledge, 2000, 51) show 5-13 Netherby Street as part of a row of terraced houses, most of which are still standing. They all conform to a similar pattern, but with significant variations such as construction in brick instead of stone, and the presence or absence of arched entrances providing access to courtyards. This suggests that they may have been constructed at different times, by different builders, although under the licence and control of the estate which ensured a measure of conformity. A courtyard surrounded by buildings to the rear, accessed through a vennen from the street, appears on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey (1864) (Fig. 2c). The evidence of earlier maps suggests that the buildings on the north side of Netherby Street were not part of the original mid-eighteenth century rebuilding of the town, as the area is shown as open ground on Hodkinson's map of 1771 (Fig. 2a); Crawford's map of 1804 (Fig. 2b) shows buildings on the north side of Netherby Street, suggesting that the site was developed around the turn of the nineteenth century.

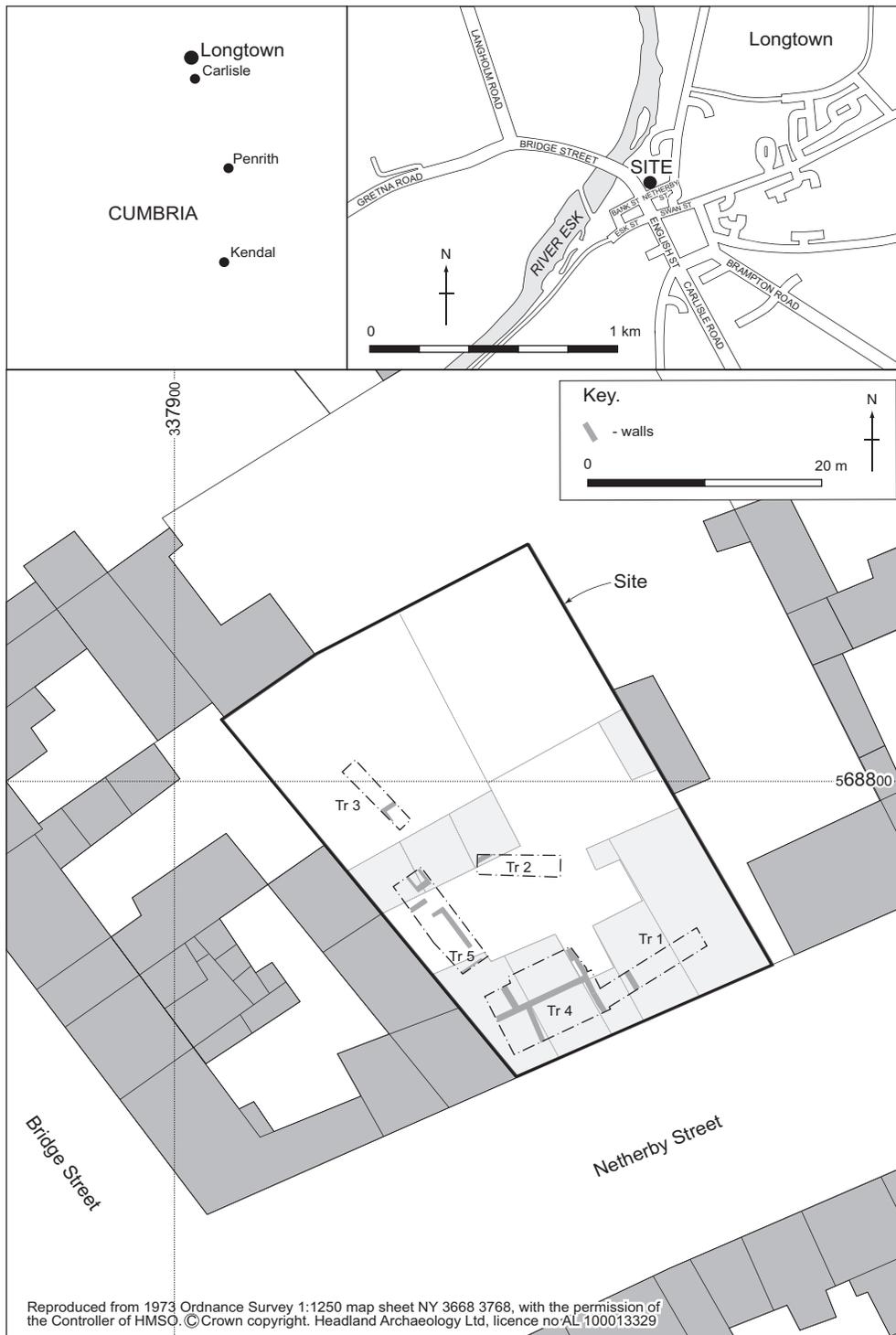


FIG. 1. Netherby Street, Longtown – site location.



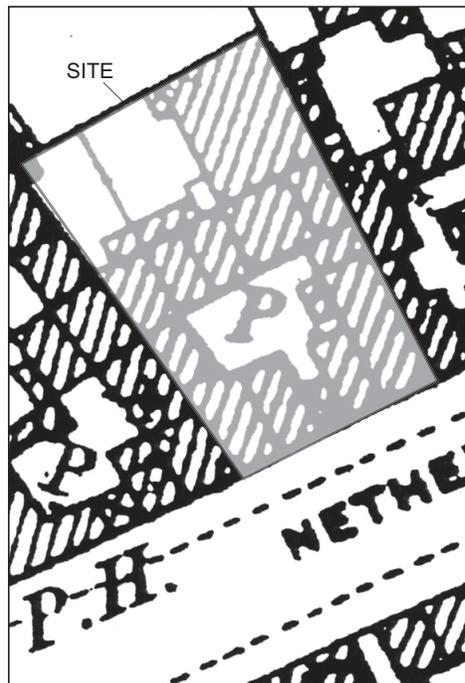
(a) Hadkinson's map of 1771.



(b) Crawford's map of 1804.



(c) OS 1st Edition, surveyed 1864.



(d) OS 2nd Edition, surveyed 1899.

FIG. 2. Early Maps.

The excavation

Trenches 1 and 4 revealed the foundations of two terraced buildings, built as a single unit facing onto the street to the west of a cobbled vennel. This original wall was well built with squared blocks of red sandstone. The dividing wall separating the original structure into two, as well as two brick-built internal walls, were added later, and further modifications consisted of two phases of extension to the rear.

The front of a building shown on Ordnance Survey mapping against the south-west wall of the site, remembered as a stable by the previous owner of the site, Mr Tuddenham, was revealed in Trench 5. The walls were roughly built, with doorways at either end into the cobbled courtyard. The floor of the north-west part was originally cobbled, with the exception of a strip along the north-east wall, which was perhaps occupied by an internal structure. Subsequently, another layer of cobbles had been laid down on top of a layer of clay, raising the floor to the same level as the courtyard. A paved area projected beyond the north-west doorway, continuing into the adjacent building to the north-west. The south-east part of the building appears to have been paved, although only a small area of the floor survived.

The north-west end of Trench 5 extended into the last one of a range of buildings shown along the north-west side of the court on first edition O.S. This building appears to have shared an entrance with the stable. The south-west wall, which was still standing when the fieldwork was carried out, was built of roughly squared red sandstone with bricks above, and putlogs indicating the level of a second storey which was, perhaps, a later addition. The central part of the wall was blackened and a small brick structure just inside the doorway may be the base of a quenching tank: this may have been a smithy, conveniently located next to the stable.

Findings recovered from topsoil cut by the foundations of the courtyard buildings date their construction to the late-18th or early-19th century, and were typical of domestic refuse, with a lack of any particularly specialised or high status items. No earlier features were encountered.

Discussion

Writing a detailed history of the court and its inhabitants has not proved possible, as the Netherby Estate papers have not been deposited in the Carlisle Record Office, and are apparently missing. Other nineteenth century documentary sources, such as trade directories and census data, do not give information about specific addresses. In the absence of detailed estate records, there is little scope to address issues such as the social and economic status of the inhabitants; the terms of their tenancy and association with the Netherby estate; and whether, how, and at what date, control passed from the estate to others and to what extent this might be reflected in the sort of alterations to buildings that can be seen.

The results of the excavation confirm the map evidence for initial development of the site around the turn of the nineteenth century – some time after Dr Graham's rebuilding – reflecting the continuing expansion and, presumably, prosperity of the town at this date. Buildings at the rear of the courtyard, which appear to have been added later, may have accommodated additional households, as seems likely from the 1901 census which lists six households between numbers 5 and 13, including two in unnumbered houses, with a total of 36 inhabitants. Other buildings in the courtyard, such as the possible stable and smithy, suggest that for many inhabitants it was a workplace as well as a home, a pattern noted for instance by Matthew (1999) in the working class courts of Chester.

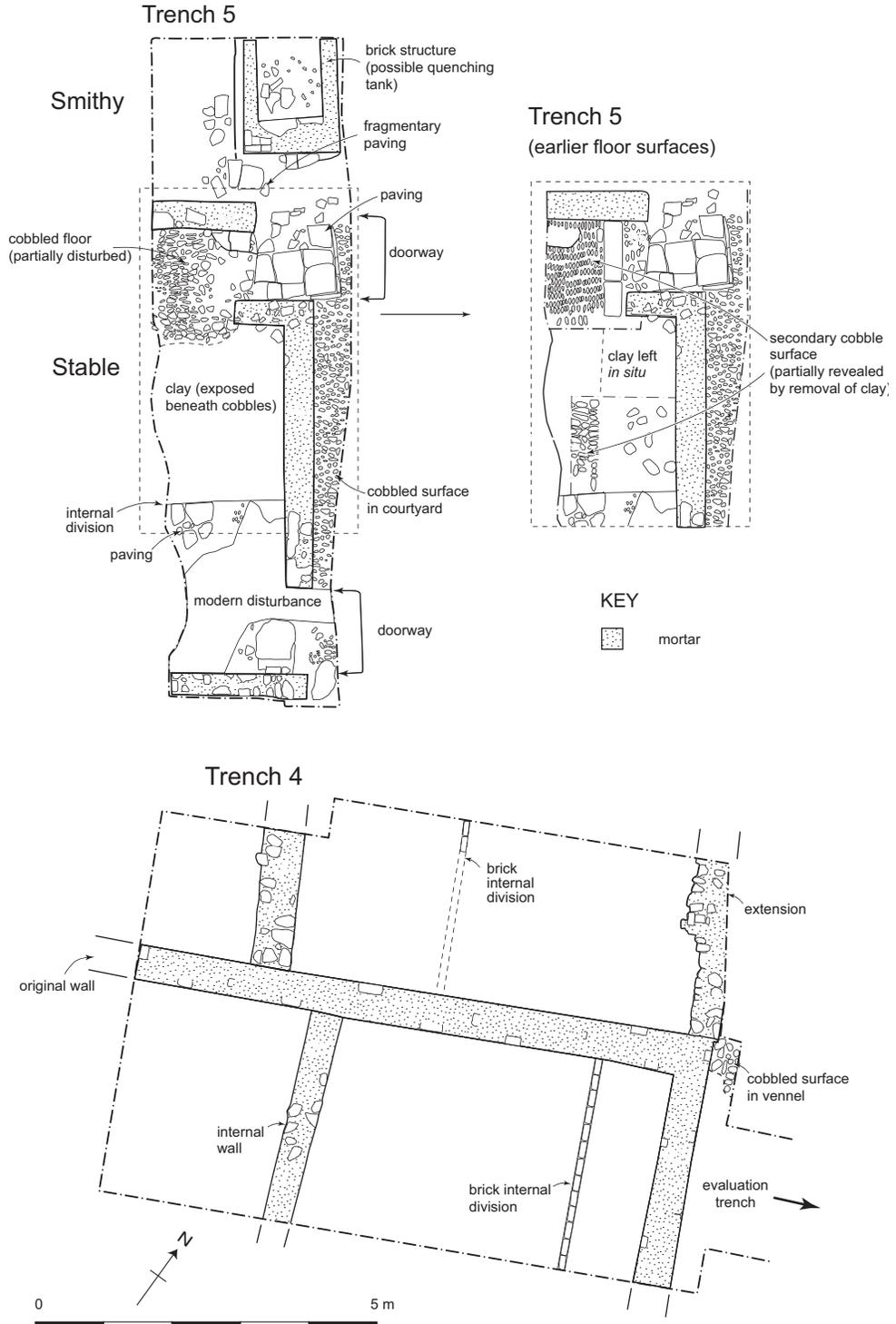


FIG. 3. Detail of Trenches 4 and 5.

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Dennis Waggott Ltd through William Faulder of Tsada Building Design Services, and the work was monitored on behalf of Cumbria County Council by Richard Newman. The evaluation was carried out by Magnar Dalland and Jo Dawson, the excavation by the author with the assistance of Mike Kimber and Samantha Hatrick, and the project manager was Simon Stronach. Finds analysis was by Julie Franklin, and the illustrations were produced by Tom Small and Linn Breslin.

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