



# **Kirkby Ings MIOS Design Review**

High-level Cultural Heritage Survey Report

26 April 2018



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# Executive Summary

Kirkby Great and Little Ings Washland Reservoir is an off-line flood attenuation reservoir constructed alongside the right bank (relative to view downstream) of the River Wharfe between Kirkby Wharfe and Ulleskelf, 3km south-east of Tadcaster. The reservoir's impounding structures were inspected under Section 10 of the Reservoirs Act 1975 to ensure they comply with safety standards.

Following inspection, a design review has been carried out of the existing reservoir structures which has highlighted locations where likely works to address the risk to reservoir safety are required.

This report forms part of the Environment Agency's Minimal Technical Requirements to understand the potential impact of the reservoir safety improvement works upon heritage assets.

Historic maps indicate the area within the vicinity of the works has remained relatively unchanged and part of natural floodplains dominated by areas of water meadows since at least 1846. The potential for unrecorded archaeological remains is low based on a walkover survey. There are no designated heritage assets within the works areas but there are six Grade II listed buildings within 1km of the locations where works are proposed. The impact on the setting of these designated heritage assets is negligible as the proposed works would not alter the context of the landscape. The settings are largely internal to the rural village of Ulleskelf making a positive contribution to their significance.

It is recommended that consultation takes place with the principal archaeologist for Selby District Council at an early stage to discuss exactly what further work may or may not be required and how a proportionate feasible strategy can be implemented prior to the improvement works. If ground works are required beyond the extents of the current impoundment structures these should be archaeologically evaluated to ascertain whether deposits are present here.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Overview

The following document is a high-level cultural heritage survey report, prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of the Environment Agency to assess the potential impacts of works associated with the likely safety improvements to Kirkby Great and Little Ings Washland Reservoir.

This report presents an archaeology and heritage assessment including methodologies employed and a review of relevant planning policy. Information is provided on the historic environment baseline as is currently understood, briefly detailing the archaeological and historical background comprising of designated heritage assets within 1km of the works and any non-designated heritage assets visible during a walkover survey. Finally, an impact assessment of the proposed works upon any heritage assets is presented.

## 1.2 Project and Description of Works

Kirkby Great and Little Ings Washland reservoir was inspected under Section 10 of the Reservoirs Act 1975 (as amended) in September 2016. The Section 10 Inspection Report includes the recommendation that a design review be carried out on the reservoirs embankments and flood wall to determine if any safety improvement works are required.

Mott MacDonald (2018) report *Kirkby Ings MIOS Review* (ref. ENV0001110C-MMD-IR-00-RP-LD-B1500\_4-S8-01-B1500-EA3-LOD3) presents a design review of the existing reservoir structures. The report outlines locations where likely works to address the risk to reservoir safety are required.

Therefore, the scope of anticipated works, and the basis of this assessment, comprise:

- Bowlam Bank – an earth filled impounding structure at the south-western boundary of the reservoir. Infilling of low spots in the crest, in order to provide an even level over the full length of the embankment and the installation of erosion protection to the faces and crest of the embankment.
- Ulleskelf flood barrier – interlinked embankments and walls at the south-eastern end of the reservoir behind properties in Ulleskelf. Remedial works to improve the condition of the flood wall and infilling of any low spots in the wall in order to restore the original design level.

The locations detailed above where works are likely to be required are hereon referred to as the 'sites', as shown in Figure 1 in Appendix A. There are five sites at Ulleskelf, and one site at Bowlam Bank.



## 2 Designation and Policy

### 2.1 National Designations and Policy

Two acts provide the overarching legislation in relation to the historic environment in Britain:

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990; and
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

### 2.2 National Planning Context and Local Policy

The importance of the historic environment in considering planning and development is set out within both national and local policies. Full details are not necessary for the purpose of this assessment but the following policies are relevant:

- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (March 2012): and Chapter 12 of the NPPF outlines policies relevant to development that effects the historic environment including paragraphs: 128, 129, 131, 132, 134, 135 and 141.
- Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (Adopted 2013).

The Core Strategy is the long-term strategic vision for how policies will guide development within the District.

## 3 Methodology

### 3.1 Guidance

The Environment Agency Minimum Technical Requirements document 801\_14 SD01 *Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Standards*, requires a high-level cultural heritage survey to be undertaken in order to understand these potential impacts.

### 3.2 Study Area

Kirkby Great and Little Ings Washland Reservoir is an off-line flood attenuation reservoir constructed alongside the right bank (relative to view downstream) of the River Wharfe between Kirkby Wharfe and Ulleskelf, 3km south-east of Tadcaster (centred SE 51910 40072). The study area covered 1km from the Bowlam Bank and Ulleskelf flood barrier Sites (see Figure 1 in Appendix A).

### 3.3 Desk-Based Research

Following the Minimum Technical Requirements, the purpose of this assessment is to:

- Undertake a search of the Historic England (HE) National Heritage List for England (NHLE) database and UNESCO database, for designated heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Parks and Gardens) within 1km of the Sites;
- Examine local, regional and national planning policies in relation to the historic environment;
- Assess relevant published and unpublished archaeological sources including the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), maintained online by the University of York; and
- Produce a high-level heritage survey assessment report considering the potential impact of the proposed works on the historic environment.

The following data sources were utilised for this assessment:

- Relevant national and local planning policy documents;
- Historic England National Heritage List for England;
- Historic England Heritage at Risk Register;
- Historic England National Monument Record;
- Historic England Register of Historic Parks and Gardens and Register of Battlefields;
- Historic England Listed Buildings;
- Selby District Council Conservation Area statements;
- An Archaeological Research Framework for North Yorkshire; and
- The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map.

Historic Environment Record (HER) information was not requested for this report due to the relatively minor works proposed and the extent of earthworks that may have impacted on buried archaeological remains.

### 3.4 Walkover Survey

A walkover was undertaken on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 by Mott MacDonald during generally sunny conditions. The survey included an inspection of the study area to establish the potential impact of the proposed works on any heritage receptors and to identify any non-designated heritage assets visible.

### 3.5 Proportionate Impact Assessment

The assessment is a high-level consideration of the potential impacts on known designated heritage assets through a search of the Historic England National Heritage List for England within 1km of the Sites. The consideration for non-designated heritage assets is limited to the walkover survey. The level of research carried out is proportionate to the level of assessment required following the Environment Agency Minimum Technical Requirements.

## 4 Baseline

### 4.1 Site Context

The area surrounding the Sites forms part of a natural floodplain dominated by water meadows within a largely open rural landscape. The village of Ulleskelf lies on the eastern edge of the reservoir and is bisected through the centre by the Leeds to York railway line.

### 4.2 Geology and Topography

The Sites are located at opposing ends of the reservoir.

Bowlam Bank is an uneven earth filled impounding structure (Photo 1 and 2) at the south-western limit of the reservoir positioned between a series of agricultural fields. It lies on relatively flat land on the Roxby Formation which the British Geological Survey records as: “Mudstone, Calcareous. Sedimentary bedrock formed 247 to 272 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods. The local environment is dominated by lakes and lagoons. The sedimentary rocks are lacustrine or shallow-marine in origin.” Information from the Kirkby Ings MIOS Review (Mott MacDonald, 2018) concluded the embankment is constructed from imported clayey material.

**Photo 1: Overview of Bowlam Bank**



Source: Mott MacDonald 2018



**Photo 2: Close-up View Bowlam Bank illustrating uneven nature**



Source: Mott MacDonald 2018

Ulleskelf flood barrier extends along the rear of properties fronting West End and Main Street as a series of walls and smaller embankments at the south-eastern end of the reservoir (Photo 3 and 4). Generally, the topography is flat and level following the course of the river with large areas of natural floodplains and open water meadows to the north. It lies on soils described by the British Soil Survey as “Sherwood Sandstone Group which consist of sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 237-272 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods. The local environment was previously dominated by rivers.”



**Photo 3: Part of Ulleskelf flood barrier**



Source: Mott MacDonald 2018

**Photo 4: Overview of riverside embankments**



Source: Mott MacDonald 2018

### 4.3 Heritage Assets

This section outlines designated heritage assets available on national registers and non-designated assets visible during the walkover survey.

#### 4.3.1 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the Sites. Ulleskelf does not lie within a conservation area. Within 1km of the Sites there are six Grade II Listed Buildings. Four are located within the village of Ulleskelf, one north-west of the Ulleskelf flood barrier within Bolton Percy and one south-west of Bowlam Bank, see Table 1.

**Table 1: Designated heritage assets**

Name	Summary	Approximate distance to Sites	Setting
Church View	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> 2 storey C17 house with later additions and alterations.	75m south of Ulleskelf flood barrier.	The setting of Church View is formed partially by its association to House adjoining Church View and Rosedene making positive contributions to the assets significance within the wider context of the village. Its setting has not been altered throughout the nineteenth century development of the village.
House adjoining Church View	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> Mid to late C18 with possible earlier origins and later alterations.	75m south of Ulleskelf flood barrier.	The setting of this asset relates to its position opposite the church and adjacent to Church View within the rural village of Ulleskelf. The setting of these assets makes positive contributions to the wider context of the village.
Rosedene	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> Mid C18 House with later additions and alterations.	95m south of Ulleskelf flood barrier	The setting of this asset relates to its position making positive contributions within the rural village of Ulleskelf. The setting of the asset has not been altered through the nineteenth century development of the village.
Manor Farm Cottages	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> Early to mid C18 with earlier origins and alterations.	110m south of Ulleskelf flood barrier.	The setting of this asset within the rural village of Ulleskelf makes a positive contribution to the significance of the asset.
Bolton Percy Lodge Estate	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> House now two dwellings. Early C19 with probably earlier origins.	660m north of Ulleskelf flood barrier	Set within its own heavily wooded area away from the village of Ulleskelf. The setting is internal to Bolton Percy and contributes to the significance of the area.
North Milford Hall	<b>Grade II Listed Building.</b> Early C18 with later additions and alterations.	225m south-west of Bowlam Bank.	The hall is positioned within the open rural landscape but set within its own enclosed grounds. The setting of the asset within walled grounds contributes to the overall significance of the asset.

Source: National Heritage List for England

#### 4.3.2 Non-designated Heritage Assets

No non-designated assets were visible during the walkover survey.

### 4.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

The reservoir lies in an area known as Ulleskelf Great Ings, Dumber Ings and Little Ings meaning meadow(s), especially water meadow near a river. A small hoard of two Bronze Age



socketed axes and a palstave were recovered during 1849 in an agricultural field 500m south-west of Bowlam Bank. Cropmarks depicted on aerial photographs illustrate an area dominated by small intermittent settlements linked by trackways during the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. The Scheduled Roman Villa at Kirkby Wharfe, lies approximately 1.4km north-west of the Sites. During 1846, two early medieval hoards were recorded on the Historic England register between approximately 470m up to 515m north of Ulleskelf flood barrier.

Little previous archaeological investigations have taken place within the study area. An archaeological evaluation at Marlborough House, approximately 145m south of the Ulleskelf flood barrier Sites did not reveal any archaeological remains, deposits or finds<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, a desk-based assessment undertaken on land at Main Street; approximately 145m south of the Ulleskelf flood barrier Sites concluded the location had limited archaeological potential<sup>2</sup>.

The Ings has remained within a largely rural landscape since the 1849 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map. The area surrounding Ulleskelf is dominated by smaller strip fields, which by 1894 have been consolidated into larger areas of pasture. The Leeds to York railway line bisects the central part of Ulleskelf and is also depicted on the First Edition Map and was opened in 1839 by the York and North Midland Railway. There has been no change around Bowlam Bank, which has remained constant from at least 1849 up until the present day.

#### 4.5 Impact Assessment

Table 2 details the potential impacts of the proposed works on the heritage assets.

**Table 2: Impact assessment of the proposed works**

Area	Heritage assets potentially impacted	Current impacts	Impacts associated with proposed works
Ulleskelf flood barrier Sites	Church View, House Adjoining Church View, Manor Farm Cottages, Rosedene and Bolton Percy Lodge Estate. <b>Medium. GII Listed Buildings.</b>	Screened from Ulleskelf flood barrier by Church and other properties. Intermittent noise pollution from the railway line; particularly within the West End of the village. Nineteenth century development has not altered the rural context of the assets and their settings.	Negligible – the settings of these properties are largely formed by their association to the rest of the other assets within the rural village of Ulleskelf which would not be altered by the proposed works. They will remain in the setting of a predominantly agricultural landscape.
Bowlam Bank	North Milford Hall. <b>Medium GII Listed Building.</b>	Man-made in origin. An inspection report concluded the bank was constructed from clayey material. Visual dominance of the asset along North Milford Road/Drive. Faint noise pollutant from New Road, to the north of the asset.	Negligible – the halls setting within its own enclosed space will not be impacted by the proposed works to Bowlam Bank. The works are in line with the current form and character therefore not altering the significance of the asset and its setting.

Source: National Record of Historic England

<sup>1</sup> McIntyre 2006

<sup>2</sup> Stenton 2005



## 5 Conclusions

There are no designated heritage assets within the site boundaries. Within 1km of the red sites there are six designated heritage assets which are all Grade II Listed Buildings.

Historic maps indicate the wider area has remained relatively unchanged and part of natural floodplains dominated by areas of water meadows since at least 1846. No non-designated heritage assets were visible during the walkover survey and following negative archaeological interventions the potential for previously unrecorded archaeological remains is low. Furthermore, due to the nature of the proposed works to both Bowlam Bank and Ulleskelf flood barrier there is considerable reduced likelihood of previously unrecorded archaeological remains to be affected by the proposed works.

The impact on the setting of the designated heritage assets is negligible as the proposed works would not alter the context of the rural landscape. The settings are largely internal to the village of Ulleskelf.

It is recommended that consultation takes place with the principal archaeologist for Selby District Council at an early stage to discuss exactly what further work may or may not be required and how a proportionate feasible strategy can be implemented prior to the proposed works. If ground works are required beyond the extents of the current impoundment structures these should be archaeologically evaluated to ascertain whether deposits are present here.

## 6 References

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### 6.2 Historic Mapping

(1846) First Edition Ordnance Survey Map

(1894) Edition Ordnance Survey Map

# Appendices

A. Figures

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## A. Figures

Figure 1 – Designated Heritage Assets (Drawing ENV0001110C-MMD-IR-00-DR-EN-C0100\_8-S8-01-C0100-EA3-LOD3)

